

MESSIAH **LUTHERAN** **✝ CHURCH ♡**

March 20, 2022

11 AM Family Praise & Worship

Pastor Kurt Hoover

Pastor David Stier

Youth Director: Brian Phipps

Worship Coordinator: Lloyd Evans

Messiah Lutheran Church, LCMC

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WORSHIP TODAY

Call To Worship

Welcome/Announcements

Worship Through Songs

Worship Through Confession & Giving

Text prayer requests to 815-369-0070

Children's Message

Kersten Stier

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Message

"Refined: The Believer Refined"

By Lloyd Evans

(Copies of this sermon and others can be found in the narthex and online at mlcjoliet.org)

Worship Through Song

Prayers of Intercession

Communion

Worship Through the Lord's Prayer

Closing Song

OUR OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 48:6b-11

Reader:

"From now on I will tell you of new things, of hidden things unknown to you. ⁷ They are created now, and not long ago; you have not heard of them before today. So you cannot say, 'Yes, I knew of them.' ⁸ You have neither heard nor understood; from of old your ears have not been open. Well do I know how treacherous you are; you were called a rebel from birth. ⁹ For my own name's sake I delay my wrath; for the sake of my praise I hold it back from you, so as not to destroy you completely. ¹⁰ See, I have refined you, though not as silver;

I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

¹¹ For my own sake, for my own sake, I do this.

How can I let myself be defamed?

I will not yield my glory to another.

OUR EPISTLE LESSON

2 Corinthians 3:12-18

¹² Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. ¹³ We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. ¹⁴ But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. ¹⁵ Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. ¹⁶ But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

OUR GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 13:1-9

Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. ² Jesus answered, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? ³ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. ⁴ Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish." ⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. ⁷ So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?'

⁸ "'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.'"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MLC NEWS

CONNECT WITH MESSIAH

We have a new way that you can connect with us! You can use this QR code to let us know you're new, tell us that you're interested in next steps at MLC, submit prayer requests, fill out a connection card, and give online. Scan it now to connect with MLC.



ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is an easy way to give to MLC, and there are three ways to do it:

- 1) Go to this link: churchcenter.com/giving
- 2) Download the Church Center app on your phone or tablet.
- 3) Text your dollar amount (with a dollar sign in front of it) to 84321.

OFFICE HOURS

Our office hours will temporarily be from 9am-3pm Mon-Fri. Saturdays and evenings by appointment.

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir will practice on Wednesday nights at 6:00 – 6:30 pm (right before AWANA and Head 2 Heart). Your child ages Kindergarten – 8th grade can worship the Lord through song with their friends. Our performances will usually happen once a month at the 9:30 and 11:00 Sunday services. Please email Sherri Unyi at unyi86@comcast.net to register your child.

GET INVOLVED

MEMORY BEARS—this week!

The Memory Bears Life Group meets together once a month to make teddy bears out of clothing from people who have passed away to comfort the grieving. We also make and sell bears once a year to raise money for supplies and children's charities. With the lost time with Covid and orders having not slowed down, we really could use your help. We meet this Tuesday from 9:00 am to Noon. Join us!!

MESSIAH QUILTERS

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 19th, 2022 from 9 am – 12 pm. We have lots of quilts ready to be tied. No sewing or quilting experience is required. Please join us if you can. If you are unable to join us and would like to sew at home, we have kits ready for you to sew. Contact Kathy Mueller at scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have.

MEAL TRAIN

We all know someone who may be overwhelmed during a difficult time. Perhaps an illness, surgery, loss of a family member or a job or the challenge of a new baby. Messiah is forming a Meal Train for anyone who would like to prepare and deliver a meal or need a meal. To sign up for the Meal Train team or request a Meal Train, please visit mlcjoliet.org/meal-train.

PART-TIME POSITION AT MESSIAH

Messiah Lutheran Church is looking to hire a paid, part-time office coordinator. The job would involve 15-25 hours per week. We are looking for a commitment starting ASAP and through July. The responsibilities would involve answering the phone, interacting with pastors and other office staff, data entry, and supporting the Public Relation Teams publicity. Please contact the church office at 815-741-4488 , or email the church at hoover119@gmail.com."

MLC MESSIAH KIDS

MESSIAH KIDS REMIND GROUP

What is Remind? A texting program where can keep you updating on what's going on. Parents of Sunday School aged children (Kindergarten through sixth grade), you can join the Messiah Kids Remind group by texting the code mlcmk to 81010.

MESSIAH KIDS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Messiah Kids Sunday school continues today at 9:30 on the 2nd floor.

MESSIAH KIDS SUNDAY 11 AM

Messiah Kids happens during the 11 am service, right after the children's message. Just sign in at the kiosk in the narthex.

AWANA (Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm)

For Prek-6th grade, Awana is a great time of games and learning about the Bible. Don't miss out. Lets get back to the important things!

MLC STUDENT MINISTRY

HEAD2HEART (Wednesdays at 6:15 pm)

Middle school students confirmation class.

HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL (Sundays at 9:30 am)

HSSS continues this week.

S.A.L.T. (Sundays at 4:30 pm)

High school students, come out for a time of fellowship, fun and talking about God.

CENTER LAKE BIBLE CAMP PARENT MEETING (Today after 11 am service)

If you have kids in 5th-9th grade, join us for a parent meeting about summer camp. The dates for camp this year are June 26th-July 1st CLBC in Tustin, MI. Parents, come and find out more about this exciting student event!

IGNITE YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE (April 8th & 9th)

Students, join us at Harvest New Beginnings in Oswego. For 7th-12th grades. Students need money for Chick-Fil-A after Saturday's session. Early bird price is \$40 before March 1st. After March 1st is \$50.

CENTER LAKE BIBLE CAMP (June 26th-July 1st)

For 5th-8th grade. This is where students go to learn about the Bible while experiencing God in nature. Be sure to come to the parent info meeting March 20th or sign up online at <https://www.centerlake.org/middleschoolcamps>.

HIGH ADVENTURE TRIP (July 17th-July 23rd)

For 9th-12th grade. This is a time for the High school to go to WV. to Alpine Ministries to experience God in nature and adventure. We will go white water rafting, repelling, and traverse a high ropes course. Need more info? Reach out to Brian at brian@mlcjoliet.org

EVENTS

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR STACIE WALTERS

March 27th at 2:00pm in the basement of the First Methodist Church in Morris.

CHRIST IN THE PASSOVER: A PRESENTATION

Jews for Jesus will be here on April 3rd at all three services to present the link between the Jewish feast of Passover and the last supper Jesus shared with His disciples.

STAY AND PLAY (Tuesdays 9:30 -11:30)

Stay and Play is a weekly playgroup for kids 5 and under. Bring the kids and enjoy coffee on us, Feel free to bring snacks and drinks., Parent/caregiver must stay, Waiver required. Large open space to run and play Lots of toys and ride-ons. Check out the group on Facebook: facebook.com/groups/mlc.playgroup . Volunteers needed!

PRAYER GROUP (Thursdays at 10 am)

In the Fireside Room. Email pastor.stier@mlcjoliet.org for more information.

INSIGHT ADULT BIBLE STUDY (Sundays at 9:30 am)

Join us for a great time of fellowship and study of God's word in the fellowship hall.
The teachers for March are: 20 Harold Stier & Donna Stier, 27 Doug Potts

FIRST COMMUNION (Sundays during 9:30 am Service)

All grades are welcome but please plan on attending if your student is in 4/5 grade or has not received instruction. At least one parent is to attend the class with the child, and the class will run for five weeks. On Maundy Thursday April 14, at 7pm, the class will receive their first communion. Please register at bit.ly/1stCommMLC if you plan to attend. Contact Dave Stier for questions at pastor.stier@mlcjoliet.org

WEDNESDAY HAPPENINGS

FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Fellowship Board is in desperate need of volunteers to both help in the kitchen... as well as bring in soup, bread, and dessert for the Lenten Soup Dinners. You can drop off your soup in the church fridge anytime from Sunday morning up until 5:00 Wednesday before food service. Sign-up is in the Narthex during the week and in Fellowship Hall on Wednesday Nights. Call or text Fellowship Director Julie Ferenzi if you have any questions about how you can help the Fellowship Ministry with "Family Dinner Nights" and "Sunday Coffee" as well, at 630-673-6233! We are thankful for every opportunity to join members of the congregation together.



Joy through Pain

Wednesday Lent Series

Lenten Soups- 5:30pm-6:30pm

Worship Service- 7:00pm

March 2-April 6, 2022

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY (March 20)

8:00 am Worship
9:30 am Worship/Online Worship
9:30 Insight Life Group
9:30 Mosaic Life Group
9:30 Sunday School
9:30 am HS Sunday School
9:30 1st Communion Class
11 am Worship
11 am Messiah Kids
Noon Parent Meeting
(Center Lake Bible Camp)

MONDAY (March 21)

9 am CCHC Homeschool

TUESDAY (March 22)

9:00-noon Memory Bears
9:30 Stay and Play

WEDNESDAY (March 23)

9 am Classical Conversations Homeschool
5:30 pm Dinner
6 pm Children's Choir
6:15 pm Head2Heart
6:30 pm Awana
7:00 Lenten Service

THURSDAY (March 24)

10 am Prayer Group
11:30 am Staff Meeting

FRIDAY (March 25)

N/A

SATURDAY (March 26)

9 am Worship Team Rehearsal

NEXT SUNDAY (March 27)

8:00 Worship
9:30 am Worship/Online Worship
9:30 Insight Life Group
9:30 Mosaic Life Group
9:30 Sunday School
9:30 HS Sunday School
9:30 1st Communion Class
11 am Worship
11 am Messiah Kids
4:30 pm S.A.L.T.

STEWARDSHIP & ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:00 am: 62
9:30 am: 51
11:00 am: 73

Online: 133

MSM: 8

Messiah Kids SS: 44

Insight/Mosaic: 10

SALT: 4

Awana Clubbers: 23

Awana Volunteers: 8

All online counts are estimates only.

2022 BUDGET

Yearly Operating Budget: \$622,145

Average Need Each Week: \$11,964

Received last week: \$8,646

Received year-to-date: \$115,433

Needed year-to-date: \$131,607

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Hebrews 13:6

"So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to purchase altar flowers, call the office at 815-741-4488. We will not be posting it on the wall anymore. We are just a phone call away!