



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 5, 2026
8:30 a.m.

Come to me,

all you who are
weary and burdened,
and I will

give you rest.



Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Guest Preacher Justin Brown
Organist & Pianist Rose Ann Sochan
Sanctuary Choir Director Herb Alexander
Worship Assistants Herb Alexander, Paul Allen, Jane Costello

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

(815) 741-4488
www.mlcjoliet.org

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church

July 5, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Enter Reverently, Worship Joyfully, Live Faithfully

PRELUDE

Rose Ann Sochan

OPENING HYMN

"O God, Our Help in Ages Past," #52 v. 1-3, 6



- 1. O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
- 2. Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
- 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived her frame,
- 4. A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone;
- 5. Time, like an ev - er - roll - ing stream, Bears all its sons a - way;
- 6. O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home!
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.
They fly, for - got - ten, as a dream Dies at the op - 'ning day.
Be Thou our guard while life shall last, And our e - ter - nal home. A - men.

THE KYRIE

Leader: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader: For the peace from above, and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader: For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

All: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader: For this holy house, and for all who offer here
their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

All: 
Lord, have mer - cy.

Leader: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

All: 
A - men

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Leader: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SELF-EXAMINATION

Leader: Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Leader: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a believer in Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This Is the Feast"



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Leslie McFarland

THE OFFERING

Rose Ann Sochan

OUR RESPONSE

"Let the Vineyards"



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

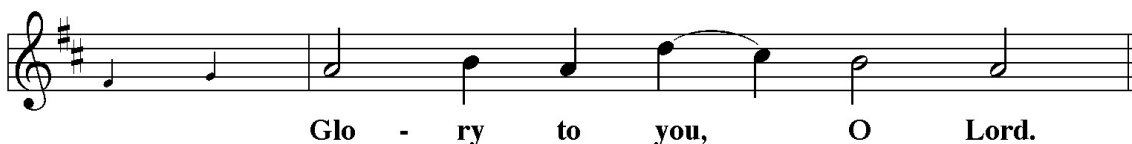
FIRST READING, Isaiah 42:1-7 (NIV)

Reader: Randy Ling

¹ "Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. ² He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. ³ A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice; ⁴ he will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching the islands will put their hope."

⁵ This is what God the LORD says—the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: ⁶ "I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, ⁷ to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

SECOND READING, Matthew 11:25-30 (NIV)

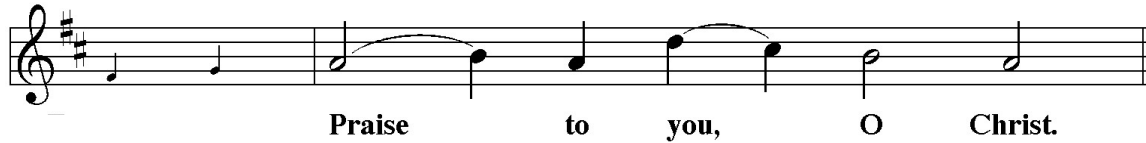


Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."



MESSAGE

**"His Heart, Our Ministry:
Ministry to the Heavy Laden"**
Worship Coordinator Justin Brown

HYMN

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus," #435 v. 1-3



1. What a Friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou-ble an - y - where?
3. Are we weak and heav - y - la - den, Cum-bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our Ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



O what peace we of - ten for - feit, O what need-less pain we bear,
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?
Do thy friends de-spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;



All be-cause we do not car - ry Ev - ery-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

WORDS OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.


PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: 
And al - so with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: 
We lift them to the Lord.


Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: 
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right and salutary...
we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:


Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:


Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.


Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes


in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Leader: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave Your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as He comes to us in His holy supper.

All: **Amen. Come Lord Jesus.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Servers: Nancy Bertnik, Jane Costello, Bev Korby

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN

"Lamb of God"



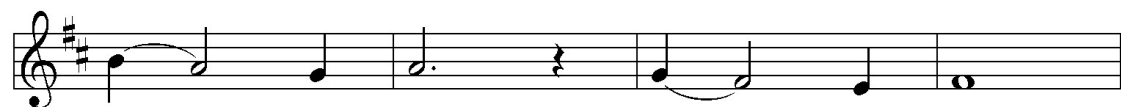
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"At the Cross," #188

"Let Your Heart Be Broken," #315

COMMUNION BLESSING & POST-COMMUNION HYMN



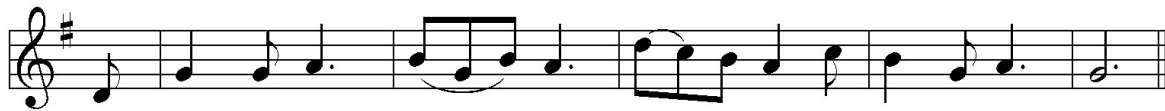
Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

"America, the Beautiful," #572 v. 1-4



- 1. O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, For am - ber waves of grain,
2. O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, Whose stern im - pas - sioned stress
3. O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved In lib - er - at - ing strife,
4. O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream That sees be - yond the years



For pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties A - bove the fruit - ed plain!
A thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat A - cross the wil - der - ness!
Who more than self their coun - try loved, And mer - cy more than life!
Thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, Un - dimmed by hu - man tears!



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace on thee,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed His grace on thee,



And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea! *sea!
Con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, Thy lib - er - ty in law!
Till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, And ev - ery gain di - vine!
And crown thy good with broth - er - hood From sea to shin - ing sea!

*God will never lead you to a place
where His grace cannot keep you.*

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NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Save these dates: Saturday, September 19th - Dinner Banquet at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, September 20th - Reception Celebration between services

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY - Resumes next week!

Our Sunday morning Bible Study for adults resumes on **July 12th** at 9:40 in Fellowship Hall. Our opening topic will be "Resurrection of the Body."

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP TIME



Be sure to join us for coffee & good company on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall! Coffee will be available beginning at 8:30 a.m. and will continue until after the later service gets out. If you are an 8:30 attender - stay late! If Family Praise & Worship is your service - come early! Make new friends! If you'd like to help with Sunday morning coffee, please reach out to Joyce Pawlowski at 630-890-1203.

CONNECT WITH MESSIAH

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 Connect Card, and give online.

Scan here to connect with MLC:



Online Giving - There are two convenient ways to do it:

- 1) On our website at <https://www.mlcjoliet.org/give>.
- 2) Through the Church Center app on your phone or tablet, or scan the QR code above.

MEMORY BEARS



Messiah's Memory Bears Group normally meets the 4th Tuesday of every month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is **July 28th**. We have jobs that do not require sewing! Reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 815-931-8478 for more info.

PRAYER CHAIN

Messiah uses an email-based Prayer Chain made up of people willing to pray for our members, community, and nation in times of crisis. Prayers are shared amongst the group via email and are kept confidential as much as possible. Reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 815-931-8478 for more info.

PRAYER TEAM

Our in-person Prayer Team meets Thursday mornings in the Fireside Room from 10:15-11:15 to pray together over our prayer request list. For more info, reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 815-931-8478, or Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Items for the bulletin are due by the end of the day each Tuesday, and newsletter material is due the 20th of each month.

QUILTERS

Messiah Quilters meet the 3rd Tuesday each month from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. **Please note that we will not meet in July.** We have a lot of quilts ready to complete and if you can tie a knot, you can help us out! We even have jobs you can do sitting down. Think about stopping in and see what we do. If you are unable to join us and would like to sew at home, we have kits available and can show you how easy it is to sew a quilt top together.

Contact Kathy Mueller at 815-953-6601 or scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have. Hope to see you on **August 18th!**

SCHOOL SUPPLIES CAMPAIGN

We are collecting monetary donations for our annual School Supplies Campaign throughout the month of July. Scan the QR code to give electronically, or by cash or check using an envelope available in the Narthex.



MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW) SUMMER PROGRAM

Our summer MKW program kicked off on July 1st and will run through July 29th. We'll meet Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:45 p.m. in the upper level Kidz Club!

NATIONAL BIBLE BEE

Messiah is hosting the National Bible Bee this summer, June 10th through August 12th from 5-6 p.m.! Registration is open at biblebee.org. For more info please reach out to Leslie.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL kicks off this morning!

Our summer session for K-8th graders will run **July 5th** through August 16th. We meet upstairs in the Kidz Club.

For more info on ministries for kids pre-K through 5th grade, email Leslie McFarland, Children's Min. Director, at childrensmin@mlcjoliet.org or Megan Kuhn, Christian Ed. Director, at christianed@mlcjoliet.org.

MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES (6th to 12th grades)

BIBLE STUDY (SUNDAY MORNINGS)

Bible Study for high schoolers is in the Fireside Room and will continue year-round.

SUMMER S.A.L.T. (for both FAM and H2H groups)

This summer we're meeting in a combined format for 6th-12th graders! Our summer program will meet at church from 6-8 p.m. June 3rd through August 5th. *Please note that we will not meet on 07/22 or 07/29.*

For more info on ministries for students 6th through 12th grade, email Kersten Stier, Youth Director, at stumin@mlcjoliet.org.

Thank you to everyone for your prayers, cards, phone calls, and visits. Everything is certainly appreciated.
Blessings, Andy & Sandy Anderson

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor Altar flowers, please sign up in the Narthex or call the office at 815-741-4488. Arrangements are \$25 each.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

SUNDAY, July 5

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour
(for k-8th & high school)
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

MONDAY, July 6

n/a

TUESDAY, July 7

n/a

WEDNESDAY, July 8

5 p.m. Bible Bee
6 p.m. Summer SALT
6:30 p.m. Summer MKW

THURSDAY, July 9

10:15 a.m. Prayer Group
12 p.m. Staff Meeting

FRIDAY, July 10

n/a

SATURDAY, July 11

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

SUNDAY, July 12

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour
(for all ages - *INSIGHT*, too)
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:30: 75
10:45: 98
Online: 18

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$694,359
YTD Operating Budget: \$333,826
YTD Giving Received: \$255,243
Needed Each Week: \$13,353
Received Last Week: \$6,525

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.