



HEALING SERVICE

Pentecost

10:30 am - May 19, 2024

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

PRELUDE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

The Lord be with you,
And also with you.

Welcome to Messiah

We are a community of grace where we live out Jesus' commandment to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We also seek to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant life. We may not always be perfect, but this is our intention--all are welcome!

GATHERING

We gather now in your presence, God,
in our need, and bringing with us the needs of the world.
We come to you, for you come to us in Jesus,
and you know by experience what human life is like.
We come with our faith and with our doubts;
we come with our hopes and with our fears.
We come as we are, because you invite us to come;
and you have promised never to turn us away.

POEM FOR HEALING

“Weariness Feels Like”

by the Rev. Sarah Are Speed

Weariness feels like an ache in your bones, or a slow leak from the heart—
a leak that causes hope to pool at your feet. Weariness feels like the wind
knocked out of you—
all of a sudden, it's impossible to breathe.
Weariness feels like an oversized coat.
It catches on door handles and knocks over water glasses.
You turn into a clumsy mess.
Weariness can hit you all at once—
when the phone rings, when the bill arrives,
when the New York Times sends you an alert.
But weariness can also hem and haw its way into your life,
bit by bit, chipping away at resolve.
And one short poem cannot change this truth—
the weary state of our grief-stricken hearts.
But one short poem can remind you the one thing we so often forget:

that I can wear your jacket for a while.

And we can try to stop the leak in your heart.

And if that doesn't work, then we'll stand under the night sky to look at the stars and remember that we do not walk this valley alone.

We enter into a time of quiet contemplation and prayer. During this time please write a prayer request for your own healing on the blank sheet of paper in your bulletin. During the anthem the ushers will collect your prayer request. After the service, please take another's prayer request and pray for them throughout the week knowing that someone is also praying for you.

CHOIR ANTHEM

"We Are Not Alone"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Jesus said: ask and it will be given you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

**For everyone who asks receives,
and the one who seeks find,
and to the one who knocks it will be opened.**

Friends in Christ, God knows our needs before we ask, and in our asking prepares us to receive the gift of grace.

Let us open our lives to God's healing presence,
seeking peace with God and reconciliation with our neighbors.

Let us be mindful not only of personal evil
but also of our communal sins of family, class, race, and nation.

Let us confess to God whatever has wounded us or brought injury to others, that we may receive mercy and become for each other ministers of God's grace.

Let us confess our sin together. Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive 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.**

Hear the good news!

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Know that you are forgiven

And be at peace. Amen.

The presiding minister will read the sections in plain text. You are invited to read the bold portions.

23 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
he leadeth me beside the still waters.

3 He restoreth my soul:

he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil: for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5 Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell
in the house of the LORD for ever.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

A PRAYER FOR PERSONAL HEALING AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

Spirit of the living God, be present with you, body, mind and spirit, come to all upon whom we lay hands, that they may know your healing touch and be made whole.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

At this time, you are invited to come forward for a prayer of personal healing along with the laying on of hands by the pastors. Please come down the center aisle and stand before the pastor who will put their hand on you. If you do not wish to be touched during this time, please let the pastor know.

HYMN

#780 "Shepherd Me, O God"

Refrain
All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from
death in - to life. life.

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5 *to stanza 4*

Leader or All

1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you
3 Though I should wan - der the val - ley of death, I

rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my
fear no e - vil, for you are at my side, your

Refrain
walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.
rod and your staff, my com - fort and my hope.

Leader or All
4 You have set me a ban-quet of love in the face of

Refrain
ha-tred, crown-ing me with love be-yond my pow'r to hold.

Leader or All
5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain
All
Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Renewing God, for Jesus' sake, send your Holy Spirit upon your servant; drive away all sickness of body and spirit; make whole that which is broken. Deliver them from the power of evil; and preserve them in faith, to share in the power of Christ's resurrection and to serve you with all the saints now and evermore.

**O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to me.**

Let us pray, Living God, through the laying on of hands, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing. When they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

READING

1 John 4: 19-21

19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21 The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God

A PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF OUR NEIGHBORS

Merciful God, you give us the grace that helps in time of need. Your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Surround our neighbors with your steadfast love and lighten their burdens. Help them to receive your word with open hearts, so that, confident in your promises, they may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence.

**O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to me.**

Faithful God, we ask that your presence be with all those in need within our community especially ... and all those we name before you either aloud or in the silence of our hearts.

**O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer.
Come and listen to me.**

By the power of your Spirit, free them from distress and give them a new mind and heart made whole in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

HYMN

"There Is a Time For Silence" Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
ST. CHRISTOPHER 7.6.8.6.8.6.8.6 ("Beneath the Cross of Jesus")

There is a time for silence, a time to listen well,
a time to hear the painful stories others have to tell.
O God, may we who love to talk now hear the rage and fear,
and may we learn from neighbors who have long been silenced here.

There is a time for asking, a time to pause and pray,
 there is a time to hear the prophets speak of God's new day,
 to hear the words of Jesus who taught welcome, truth and love,
 to hear the Spirit speaking through the ones who shout, "Enough!"

There's time for humble study — for reading and for thought.
 God, may we learn from others of the justice they have sought,
 And may we learn from those who bravely stand against the hate,
 So when we're called to justice, we, your church, won't hesitate.

And there's a time to work now — to boldly say their names,
 To advocate and organize for change in God's new reign
 to use our voices and to stand with those who are oppressed.
 As we seek justice, hand in hand, Lord, may your world be blessed today.

READING

Luke 4: 16-21

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

A PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF RACISM TOWARDS PERSONS OF COLOR AND PREDJUDICE TOWARDS LGBTQIA+ PERSONS

God of healing, systemic racism has plagued our country for too long. We pray for an end to the racism which permeates our society's structures. We pray for an end to racism but also to the festering of apathy within many hearts who are not touched by the pain and suffering that racism inflicts. We pray for our faith communities, that they may not succumb to indifference or accept the status quo but be guided by Christ's work for justice of for those who are oppressed.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

Limitless God, we pray for the healing of deep wounds the world and faith communities have inflicted upon our LGBTQIA+ siblings: judgement, exclusion, hate crimes and the limiting of rights. May we always appreciate the dignity of each person: straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual and all your extravagant artistry of each beloved individual who you have created good. Help us to celebrate your divine imprint upon each heart, and recognize how you fashion each human being with purpose and wonder.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

God of hope, help us to celebrate our diversity and the distinctive and rich contributions to every fiber of our cultural fabric. We pray for wise and decisive action on the part of local and national leaders. We pray that you engage us in conversations that challenge us and help us to grow so that we may be the change that your world longs for.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

Gracious God, guide us in our actions and thoughts so that all may be truly equal in your world. Amen

READING

Acts 2: 1-21

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” 14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning.

16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,

and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. 20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. 21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

A PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF LEADERS AND NATIONS

Eternal God, our only hope, our help in times of trouble: show nations and people the way to work together so that our life together may be enriched and made truly abundant. Do not let threats multiply or power be used without compassion. Imbue the world's leaders with patience and guidance as they seek peaceful resolutions to today's challenges: especially the wars in Palestine and Israel and also Ukraine and Russia. Let your wisdom counsel all leaders and your hand guide them.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

You are the source of all health and healing; you alone can bring calmness and peace to the nations. We pray for healing of the brokenness of fragile leaders. Your world is full of inward looking beings who put themselves first, turn their minds and grant them the courage to transform all communities, caring for the poor and standing up for the oppressed, so all nations may be peaceful, loving examples of your compassion.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

Gracious God, may leaders have the courage to shape the world as a reflection of your kingdom and may you be their strength. Amen.

HYMN

#703 "O God Why Are You Silent"



1 O God, why are you si - lent? I can - not hear your voice;
 2 My hope lies bruised and bat - tered, my wound - ed heart is torn;
 3 Through end - less nights of weep - ing, through wea - ry days of grief,
 4 May pain draw forth com - pas - sion, let wis - dom rise from loss;



the proud and strong and vio - lent all claim you and re - joice;
 my spir - it spent and shat - tered by life's re - lent - less storm;
 my heart is in your keep - ing, my com - fort, my re - lief.
 oh, take my heart and fash - ion the im - age of your cross;



you prom-ised you would hold me with ten - der - ness and care.
will you not bend to hear me, my cries from deep with - in?
Come, share my tears and sad - ness, come, suf - fer in my pain,
then may I know your heal - ing through heal - ing that I share,



Draw near, O Love, en - fold me, and ease the pain I bear.
Have you no word to cheer me when night is clos - ing in?
oh, bring me home to glad - ness, re - store my hope a - gain.
your grace and love re - veal - ing, your ten - der - ness and care.

READING

Ezekiel 36: 26-28

26 A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you, and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put my spirit within you and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. 28 Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God

A PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF CREATION

Mothering God, You are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists. Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

God of all creation, bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

O Lord hear our prayer. When I call answer me. O Lord hear our prayer. Come and listen to me.

God of the earth, we give you praise, grant that we may cherish the earth, our home, and live in harmony with this good creation. **Amen.**

HYMN

“When We Face an Unknown Future”

by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D ("God Whose Giving Knows No Ending")

When we face an unknown future that we can't imagine yet,
when the closeness we have treasured turns from blessing into threat —
As we miss our friends and loved ones, as we crave community,
may we look, God, in this season, for a whole new way to be.

Jesus faced the lonely desert as a time to look within.
There he met such trial and conflict; there he knew you were with him.
In our time of separation when we miss the life we've known,
may we hear your voice proclaiming: "I am here! You're not alone."

May we cherish those around us as we never have before.
May we think much less of profit; may we learn what matters more.
May we hear our neighbors' suffering; may we see our neighbors' pain.
May we learn new ways of offering life and health and hope again.

God, when illness comes to threaten, and when so much here goes wrong,
may we know this thing for certain — that your love is sure and strong.
You're beside us in our suffering — and when times are surely tough,
we may face an unknown future, but it's filled, Lord, with your love.

Please
stand as
you are
comfortable
in body or
spirit

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you

And also with you

We bring our Sacred Bodies to the Beloved

It is healing to bring our Whole Selves to God

Let us give thanks to God who cares about our fleshly flourishing;

To the Spirit who joins us in our suffering and redemption

God...

As we remember your body, broken,
we honor the suffering of our own beloved bodies too.

From the cruelty and shrapnel of war,
Inadequate and inaccessible healthcare,
Inevitable accidents and illness of life:

Our bodies and hearts break, oh God.

From work that bows our backs and wears our resilience,
Violence directed towards gender oppressed people,
Violence aimed at Black and Brown beloveds:

Our bodies and hearts break, Oh God.

Guns in the hands of the vengeful,
Laws in hands of the out of touch,
Prison systems that rip families apart:

Our bodies and our hearts break, Oh God.

Corporations who profit at the expense of the earth
 Species suffering through climate collapse
 People, fleeing and fighting storms, fires, and drought:
Our bodies and our hearts break, Oh God.
 ... Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

COMMUNION HYMNS

#612 "Healer of Our Every Ill"
 #614 There Is a Balm in Gilead"

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

BLESSING POEM

by Jan Richardson

I know how long you have been waiting for your story to take a different turn,
 how far you have gone in search of what will mend you and make you whole.
 I bear no remedy, no cure, no miracle for the easing of your pain.
 But I know the medicine that lives in a story that has been broken open.
 I know the healing that comes in ceasing to hide ourselves away with fingers clutched
 around the fragments we think are none but ours.
 See how they fit together, these shards we have been carrying— how in their meeting
 they make a way we could not find alone.

BENEDICTION

Family of faith, as you leave this place, you go into a weary world. So speak tenderly.
 Do the good that is yours to do. Choose connection. Hold onto hope.
 And remember that Christ took on flesh for you. You are God's beloved. So go re-
 joicing. The world needs it. Amen.

SENDING

Go in Peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please be
 seated.

Please stand
 as you are
 comfortable
 in body or
 spirit.

Benediction:
*God blesses us
 and sends us in
 mission to the
 world.*

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church



Children belong in worship!
Worship kits and a nursery space is available. God rejoices in the joyful noise of children and so do we!



God calls us to welcome everyone!
Messiah seeks to be a welcoming community and to share the love of God with our neighbors. If you are new, please introduce yourself to our pastors.



Worship should be accessible!
Hearing devices (and T-Coil) and large print bulletins are available. We invite you to sit or stand as you are comfortable. All gender and family restroom facilities are available on the first level, please see signs in the Narthex.



All are welcome at Jesus' table!
During communion grape juice and gluten-free options are available. Those not wishing to commune may come forward for a blessing. Those not able to come forward may receive communion in their pew, please notify the usher.



God calls us to pray!
Private prayer requests may be made by writing them on the back of the Welcome Card. If you would like to be added to the prayer list or receive a pastoral care visit, please contact the church office.

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

305 W. Magnetic St., Marquette Michigan
906.225.1119 — www.messiahlutheranmq.org

- Presiding: Pr. Andrew Plocher
- Pr. Molly Hunter
- Ushers: Bev Evans, Marina Shinkarenko
- Greeters: Sherry Labbe, Penny Streeter
- Communion Assistants: Dave Blomquist, Larry Pagel, Sandy Lindberg
- Songleader: Sara Parks
- Pianist: Jacob Schmeltzer
- Organist: Kathy Strazzinski
- Band Members: Tom Bronken, Jason Parks, Darren Smith
- Audio Technician: Dan Zini
- Livestream Technician: Tracie Zini
- Projection Technician: Lesley Williams
- Nursery: Maddie Dykema
- Flower Delivery: Bev Evans

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or on our website at:
messiahlutheranmq.org/give

If you wish to designate your donation to a specific fund, please be sure to do so. Any undesignated donations automatically go to our general fund which supports the entirety of our ministry.

Thank you for your generosity!

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
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