

# 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!

# 5th Sunday in Easter

8:30 am - May 18, 2025 Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

# **PRELUDE**

# **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Please stand as comfortable, in body or in spirit.
The presiding minister will read the sections in plain text.
You are invited to read the bold portions.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia! In the name of + the One

who was, who is, and who is to come.

### Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,

we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.

Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

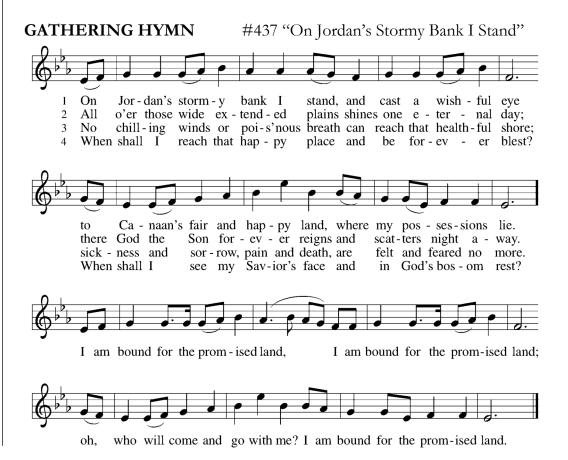
We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power.

Baptized into you, O Living One, make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you.

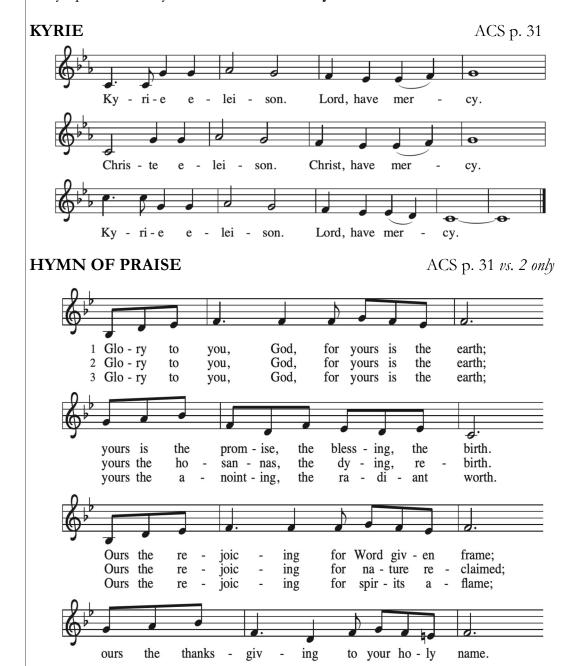
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.

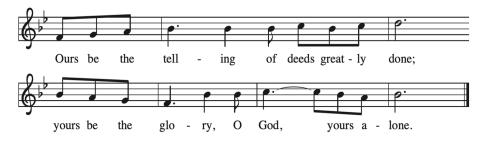
Amen.



# **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 





# PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

**BELL CHOIR** 

"O Worship the King " arranged by Sondra Tucker Bell Choir

FIRST READING

Acts 11:1-18

Please be seated.

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" 4 Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. 6 As I looked at it closely I saw fourfooted animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. 7 I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second time the voice answered from heaven, What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' 10 This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. 11 At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.'

<sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

**PSALM** Psalm 148

- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
- <sup>2</sup> Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
- <sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
- <sup>4</sup> Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.
- <sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,
- <sup>6</sup> who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.
- <sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;
- 8 fire and hail, snow and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
- <sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;
- <sup>10</sup> wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;
- <sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
- <sup>12</sup> young men and maidens, old and young together.
- <sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants,

the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

#### SECOND READING

Revelation 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

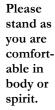
<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ACS p. 33





GOSPEL John 13:31-35

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, Where I am going, you cannot come.' 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

# **SERMON**

# HYMN OF THE DAY

#359 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

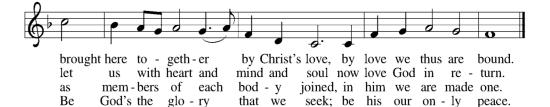
our

well in Chris-tian gen - tle - ness.

own con-fess,



- Where char i ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
- With grate-ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
- 3 Let re - call that our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly in
- strife a-mong us 4 Let be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease. 5 Let for - give each oth - er's faults



oth - er

# **APOSTLES' CREED**

that

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,

may love each

suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Fill the church with the spirit of your redeeming love. Make us steadfast in our proclamation of your grace for all people without exceptions, especially those often overlooked in our communities. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Awaken joy in the beauty and abundance of your creation. Show us the wonder of your presence from the smallest flower to the tallest tree. Recommit us to preservation of wild places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Instruct all world leaders to protect the most vulnerable among us. Guide those in power toward equitable and just economic policies, so that all might have sufficient resources to live safely and with dignity. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Pour out your love on all in need of care: those mourning losses, enduring trauma, experiencing broken relationships, yearning for companionship, or facing illness, especially... Wipe away every tear. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.** 

Abide with all who are victims of racism, especially people who are doubly marginalized because of gender, sexuality, or ability. Destroy all forms of systemic oppression, and renew our commitment to healing the wounds of our collective body in this community and beyond. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**  9

We give thanks for all the saints whose lives bear witness to your redeeming love. Guide us by their example, until we join them in your eternal home. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.** 

# SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Please be seated.

#### SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM

"A New Song"

# OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

God, we have been made in your image. So, in your generosity, make us generous. In your faithfulness, make us faithful. With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for your kingdom come. **Amen.** 

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

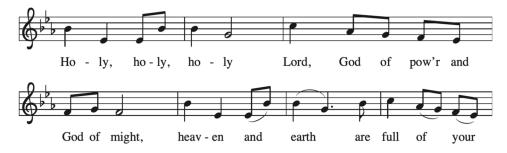
We lift them to the Lord.

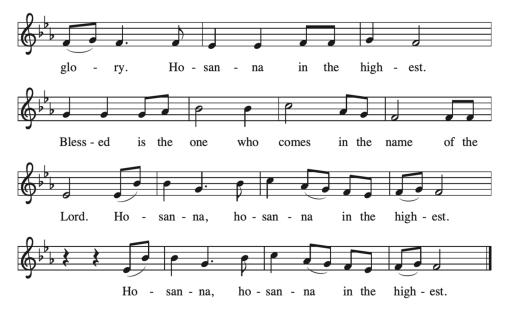
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell;

with every breath.

# We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

# We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

# We thank you, O God.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

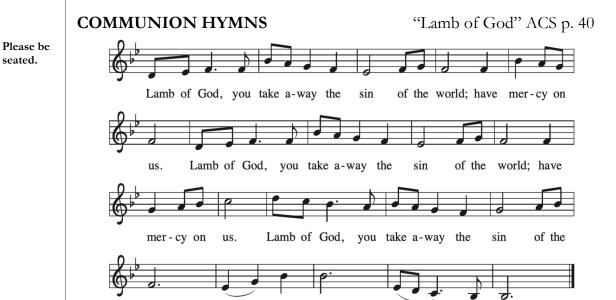
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Amen.

# 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.

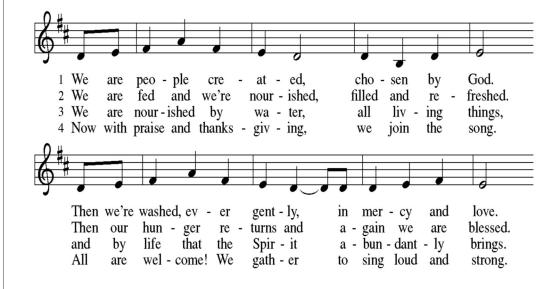


peace,

#453 "Baptized and Set Free"

grant

world;



grant

us

peace.



Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirt.

# **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
Amen.

# **SENDING HYMN**

#664 "A New Commandment"



# 14 **SENDING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

# **POSTLUDE**

# 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.messiahlutheranmqt.org

Preacher: Pr. Molly Hunter Liturgist: Pr. Andrew Plocher

Assisting Minister: Brenda Blett
Reader: David Echelbarger

Ushers: Cathy Seblonka, Sten Taube Communion Assistants: Beth Krznarich, Larry Pagel

Greeters: Darlene Martin
Organist: Kathy Strazzinksi
Senior Choir Director: Sara Parks
Audio Technician: Traci Zini

Livestream Technician: Traci Zini
Nursery: Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery: Jill Luoma
Refreshments: Nancy Skoog

No cash or checkbook? No problem. You can donate through Venmo or on our website at: messiahlutheranmqt.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.

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