



## 5th Sunday in Easter

10:30 am - May 18, 2025

*Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church*

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 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!

*Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit*

### GATHERING HYMN

#1038 "God, We Gather as Your People"



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -  
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be  
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and  
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.  
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,  
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.  
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we  
that they nev - er have a rea - son to  
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your  
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.  
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.  
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.  
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.

*Refrain*



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.

The  
presid-  
ing min-  
ister will  
read the  
sections  
in plain  
text.  
**You are  
invited  
to read  
the  
bold  
por-  
tions.**



## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Beloveds in Christ,  
Through the waters of baptism,  
We are brought into the family of God.  
The body of Christ is rich in Divine creativity,  
a community of people of many genders, races, body types and sizes, abilities and hungers,  
each a glimpse of God from a different angle.

**God claims us with delight.**

**We claim one another as companions.**

In our baptismal vows, we promise to love and support each other, working together to  
resist evil, injustice, and oppression in all its forms – within us and around us.

**We need each other.**

Today, we remember that the love we encounter through these waters cannot be under-  
mined by bigotry or hate, by exclusion or injustice.

**We are children of the Holy One,  
Siblings in the life of God.**

These family ties cannot be broken.

No one and nothing has the power to turn us away from our Creator.

**The full embrace of God always extends to us.**

And so today, as we remember our baptism,

**we also remember that through this new life in Christ we are set free:**

**To love wildly and to claim the power God has given us to turn from everything that  
destroys. Through God's grace, we leave shame behind and rejoice in the Good  
News that sets the captives free.**

Let us pray, God of Life and God of Love, through this gift of water, you do miraculous  
things. The dust of past shame and guilt are washed away. The bonds of love are restored.  
The possibilities of new life emerge. May it be so for us today as we remember our bap-  
tisms. May your Spirit be upon this water and all who gather, as we celebrate this Sacred

family to which you have called us. Strengthen us in love for one another as we renew our commitment to the pursuit of the Kingdom of God, where all your creatures and creations are beloved and free. **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.**

## KYRIE

Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

Lord, have mer - cy. Chri - ste, e - le - i - son.

Christ, have mer - cy. Ky - ri - e, e - le - i - son.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria

Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and on earth peace to peo - ple of good will. 1. We praise You, we

bless you, we a - dore You, we glo - ri - fy You, we give You thanks for Your great glo - ry,

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, O God, al - might - y Fa - ther. 2. Lord Je - sus Christ,

on - ly Be - got - ton Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther. You

33 F/A B $\flat$  C F/A B $\flat$  C F/A B $\flat$  C  
 take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on us; You take a - way the sins of the world, re -

39 B $\flat$ /D B $\flat$ maj7 C Gm B $\flat$  Dm C  
 ceive our prayer; You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us. For

39 B $\flat$ /D B $\flat$ maj7 C Gm B $\flat$  Dm C  
 ceive our prayer; You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther, have mer - cy on us. For

**VERSE 3**

B $\flat$  F C B $\flat$  F C B $\flat$  F C  
 You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a - lone are the Most High,

51  
 Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men, a -

58 C B $\flat$  F C B $\flat$  F C F/A B $\flat$  C  
 men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men, a - men.

## 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.**

## FIRST READING

Acts 11:1-18

<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?” <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> “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. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ <sup>8</sup> But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has

Please  
be seat-  
ed

ever entered my mouth.’<sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’<sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.<sup>11</sup> 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.**

## 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.**

Please  
stand  
as you  
are  
com-  
fortable  
in body  
or in  
spirit.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



## 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. <sup>33</sup> 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.’ <sup>34</sup> 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!**

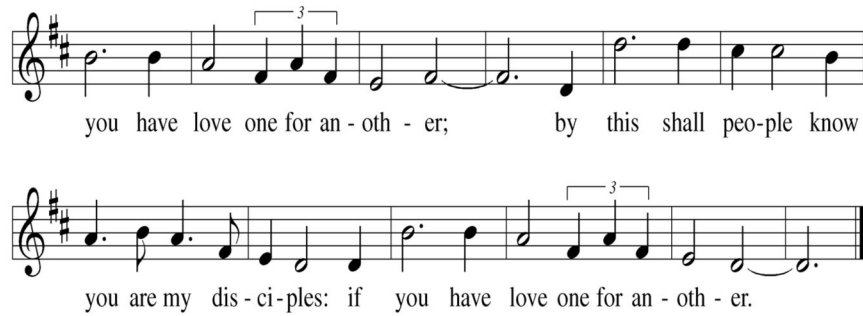
Please  
be  
seated

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

WOV #644 “A New Commandment” *sing twice*





Please  
stand as  
you are  
comforta-  
ble in body  
or spirit.

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God above us,  
maker and sustainer of all life,  
of sun and moon, of water and earth, of all people.  
We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ,  
the word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor,  
tortured and nailed to a tree.  
A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.  
He descended into the earth to the place of death.  
On the third day he rose from the tomb.  
He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,  
and His kingdom will come on earth.  
We believe in God within us,  
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,  
life-giving breath of the Church,  
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,  
source of resurrection and of eternal life.  
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.**

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

## SPECIAL MUSIC

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

Please  
stand as  
you are  
comfortable  
in body  
or spirit.

## OFFERING PRAYER

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Heav - en 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

So today, we are full of Alleluias.

... 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. Amen.

### COMMUNION HYMNS

“Lamb of God”

Please be  
seated.

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world, mi - se - re - re

no - - bis. Lamb of God, You take a - way the

sins of the world, mi - se - re - re no - - bis.

Please stand  
as you are  
comfortable  
in body or  
spirit.

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

13 *Bbmaj7 Bb/D F Dm C/E F C*  
Lamb of God, You take a - way the sins of the world, do - na no - bis pa -

17 *Bb C F*  
cem, do - na no - bis pa - - - cem.

#708 “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

#1043 “Spirit, Open My Heart”

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING

### BLESSING OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

#### BENEDICTION

Go now in the joy of the Risen Christ.

Live as those made new—

blessed by the Creator,

claimed by the Christ ✝,

and stirred by the Spirit.

Alleluia. **Amen.**

#### SENDING HYMN

“God Who Moves the Mountains”

1. He is not con - fined; He con - founds. He will not re - sign; He re - sounds. He is not re - strained;  
2. He is not sur - prised; He sur - rounds. He can - not be stopped; He a - stounds. He is draw - ing near;

10 hear the sound, oh hear the sound. Rocks are fall - ing, the bro - ken call -  
hear the sound, oh hear the sound.

14 *G2*  
ing to the God who moves the moun - tains. You got - ta move this moun - tain. The earth is shak -  
17 ing, the wea - ry wak - ing to the God who moves the moun - tains. You got - ta move this

20 1 2 D G2  
 moun - tain. moun - tain.

26  
 You say, "Speak;" and we say, "Move." You say watch what You can do.

31  
 You say, "Trust," and then You prove You're the God who moves the

34 Bm7 A G G  
 moun - tains, the God who moves the moun - tains. You say, "Speak;" moun - tains. Rocks are fall-

ing, the bro - ken call - ing to the God who moves the moun - tains. You got - ta move this

41  
 moun - tain. The earth is shak - ing, the wea - ry wak - ing to the God who moves the

44 G2 1 2 D  
 moun - tains. You got - ta move this moun - tain. Rocks are fall moun - tain.

## 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.

Preacher:	Pr. Molly Hunter
Liturgist:	Pr. Andrew Plocher
Assisting Minister:	Marina Shinkarenko
Reader:	Josh MacIvor-Andersen
Ushers:	Nancy Raisanen
Communion Assistants:	Kerry McGinley & Karen Burkman, Marina Shinkarenko
Greeters:	Marina Shinkarenko
Songleaders:	Sara Parks
Pianist:	Jacob Schmeltzer
Band Members:	Jason Parks, Tom Bronken, Ross Larson
Audio Technician:	Traci Zini
Livestream Technician:	Traci Zini
Projection Technician:	Lesley Williams
Nursery:	Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery:	Jill Luoma

### Acknowledgements:

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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!

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**venmo**