

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!

11th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am - August 24, 2025 Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS



PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Lamb of God,
You unveil what is hidden—
not to shame us,
but to heal us.
You reveal the powers we've trusted,
the silences we've kept,

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

read the bold por-

tions.

the idols we've served—and you still call us beloved.

We confess our complicity: when we have bowed to the beasts of our day, when we have traded courage for comfort, truth for approval, faithfulness for fear.

We confess our weariness: when we have grown lukewarm in love, numb to suffering, slow to listen, quick to judge.

We confess our forgetting: when we have lost sight of you walking among us, radiant, wounded, and near.

Unveil us, O Christ.
Unbind us from all that distorts your image in us.
Open our eyes to what is real,
and remake us in the shape of your love.
Amen.

Church, hear the good news:
The One who stands among the lampstands is not ashamed to stand among us still.
The One who bears the wounds of empire has overcome it in love.
The One who holds the keys of Death and Life has never let go of you.

In Jesus Christ, we are seen. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. In Jesus Christ, we are made new.

So do not be afraid.
The Lamb reigns.
The story is not over.
You are free to live as people of hope.

Thanks be to God.

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







PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lamb of God, you unveil the lies of fear with the truth of mercy. Give us courage to follow your way of justice, and make our worship a witness to your love crucified and risen, through Jesus Christ, the faithful one. **Amen.**

Please be seated

Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians subjected the Israelites to hard servitude and made their lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and bricks and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families.

Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live."

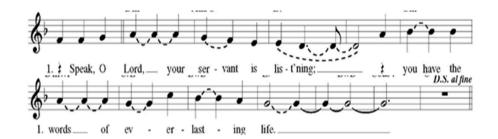
Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION



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



PRIMARY READING

Revelation 13:1-10; 14:1-5

And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, and on its horns were ten diadems, and on its heads were blasphemous names. And the beast that I saw was like a leopard, its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And the dragon gave it his power and his throne and great authority. One of its heads seemed to have received a death blow, but its fatal wound had been healed. In amazement the whole earth followed the beast. They worshiped the dragon, for he had given his authority to the beast, and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast, and who can fight against it?"

The beast was given a mouth speaking arrogant and blasphemous words, and it was allowed to exercise authority for forty-two months. It opened its mouth to speak blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. Also, it was allowed to wage war on the saints and to conquer them. It was given authority over every tribe and people and language and nation, and all the inhabitants of the earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that was slaughtered.

If you are to be taken captive, into captivity you go; if you kill with the sword, with the sword you must be killed.

Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Let anyone who has an ear listen:

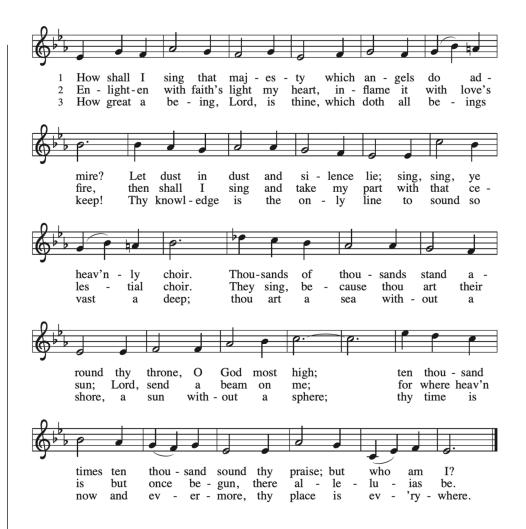
Thanks be to God.

Please be seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS #1095 "How Shall I Sing That Majesty"



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

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,

8 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

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give wisdom to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation leaders as they pursue a more just and equitable church and society. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness, especially... Manifest your healing presence in their midst. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in fresh and faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Please be seated Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

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OFFERING PRAYER

God of every beginning and every end, you are the source of all that is, and still you trust us with your vision. Receive these gifts—signs of our hope, seeds of your justice, acts of resistance against despair. Use them—and use us—to proclaim your love, to sing your song, and to make visible the world you are bringing to birth. In the name of the Lamb who reigns in mercy, we pray. **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 ...

And so with the angels and elders, with every creature and every generation, we join the unending hymn:



...So we remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await the city whose light is the Lamb.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **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.



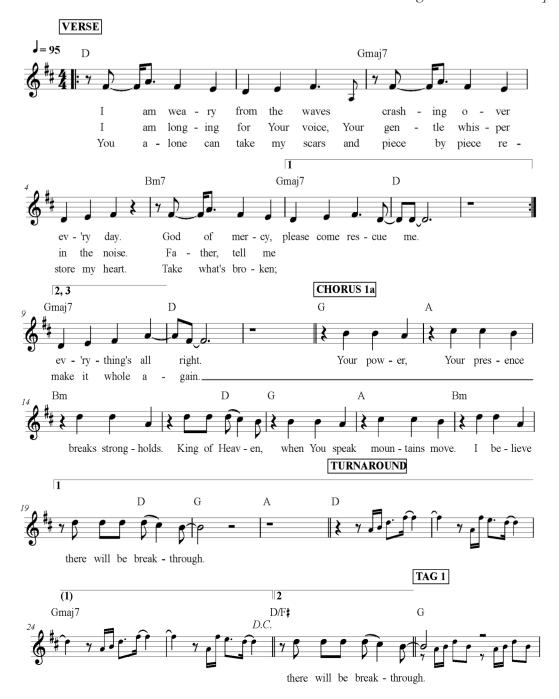
#962 ACS "In This Feast of Love" #485 "I Am the Bread of Life"

SENDING HYMN

"Breakthrough" Red Rocks Worship

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

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







SENDING

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

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. Andrew Plocher Assisting Minister: Marina Shinkarenko Reader: Jeanne Groos Ushers: Fred & Jeanne Groos

Karen Burkman, Kerry McGinley, Marina Communion Assistants:

Shinkarenko

Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko

Songleader: Sara Parks Pianist: Jacob Schmeltzer

Band Members: Tom Bronken, Darren Smith, Ross Larson

Audio Technician: Traci Zini Livestream Technician: Traci Zini Lesley Williams Projection Technician: Nursery: Mylee Muscoe

Flower Delivery:

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!

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

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