



15th Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am - September 21, 2025

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

ACS #985 "Let Us Enter In"

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



1 Let us en-ter in to the song of thanks - giv - ing and free-dom.
2 Let us en-ter in to the place where our God has pre - ced - ed.
3 Let us en-ter in to the heart of a world that is bro - ken.



Let us en-ter in to the long line of peo - ple in need.
Let us en-ter in to the face of the fear and the pain.
Let us en-ter in to the start of a hope we can share.



Let us en-ter in to the strong mind that God is still liv - ing.
Let us en-ter in to the grace of the love when it's need - ed.
Let us en-ter in to the part where we call one an - oth - er



Heal - ing, for - giv - ing— Let us en - ter in.
Death is de - feat - ed! Let us en - ter in.
sis - ter and broth - er. Let us en - ter in.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people.

welcome!

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

We trample on the needy.
We grumble about your grace to others.
We turn away from the poor.
Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.
Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.
Amen.

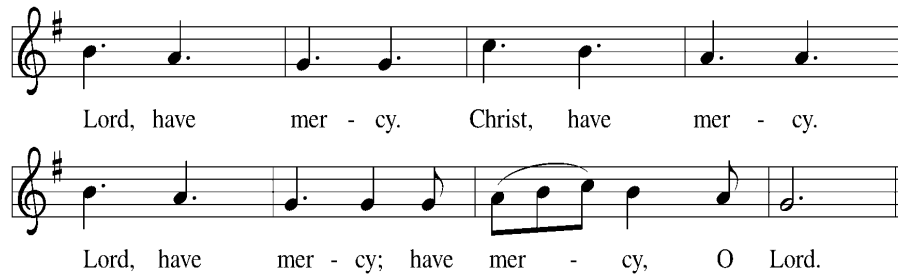
Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
 Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
 You who were lost have been found.
 In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

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

#154 "Kyrie"



HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Day"



PRAYER OF THE DAY

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please
be seated

FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵ saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,
⁶ buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For

there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all

—this was attested at the right time.⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please
stand as
you are
comfort-
able in
body or
in spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Jazz Alleluia"

1 Al - le-luia, A-men! Let us hear the Word of the

7 Lord. Sing it o-ver a - gain. Let us

13 hear the Word of the Lord! Shout for joy, let the

19 earth re - joice. Sing to-ge-ther with one great voice!

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GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³ Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶ He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷ Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰ "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?"

¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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

Please be
seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY ACS #1036 “Commonwealth Is God’s Commandment”



- 1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
- 2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
- 3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-blets set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-gether, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Refrain
Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please
stand as
you are
comforta-
ble 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,
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

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones, especially... May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Please be
seated

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand
as you are
comfortable
in body or
spirit.

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **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.

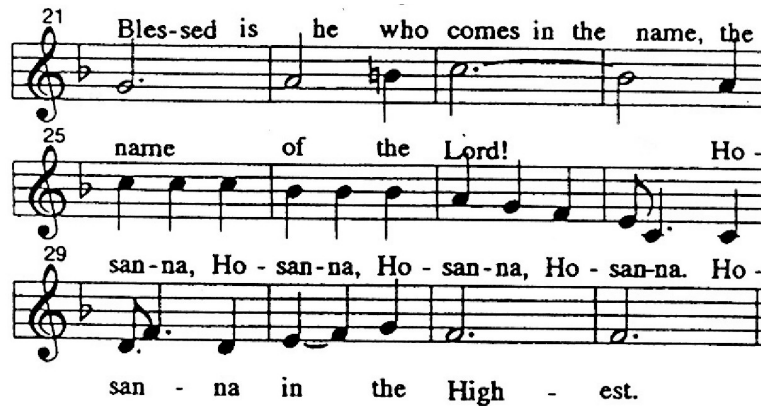
It is right —

our joy and our calling—

... we lift our hearts and join the ancient hymn:

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a five-line staff. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into five systems, each starting with a measure number (5, 9, 13, 17). The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of Power and might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glory, Ho - sa - na in the High - est.' The final note of the piece is a half note G4.

5 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord,
9 God of Power and might.
13 Hea - ven and earth are full of your glory, Ho -
17 sa - na in the High - est.



21 Bles-sed is he who comes in the name, the
 25 name of the Lord! Ho -
 29 san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho - san-na, Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san - na in the High - est.

...So we remember.
 We remember his life,
 his death,
 his rising from the grave.

We proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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,
 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.



P
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins
 of the world, have mer - cy

on us. Lamb of God,
 you take a - way the sins of the
 world, have mer - cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a -
 way the sins of the world,
 grant us peace.

#692 "We Are an Offering"

#710 "Let Streams of Living Justice"

Please stand
 as you are
 comfortable in
 body or spirit.

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

BLESSING OF THE BIBLES

Children receiving Bibles this year are invited to come forward. Pr. Molly will distribute their Bible before they return back to their pew during the sending song.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

"Go Now With God"

vs. 1 Filled	with the	Ho - ly	Spir - it	go now with God,
vs. 1 Lleno	del Es - pi - ri - tu	San - to	va - mos con Dios,	
vs. 2 Of - fer - ing	a hand	to a stran - ger	go now with God,	
vs. 3 Wa - ters	of mer - cy	have found us	go now with God,	
vs. 4 Cross - ing	ev' - ry bound'ry,	ev' - ry na - tion	go now with God,	

go now with God. In - to the world as a serv - ant
 va - mos con Dios. En - tran - do al mun - do pa - ra ser - vir
 go now with God. Trust - ing in the ris - en sav - ior
 go now with God. Grace on the jour - ney sur - rounds us
 go now with God. Danc - ing in the gift of lib - er - a - tion

go now with God, go now with God. Go now,
 va - mos con Dios, va - mos con Dios. Va - mos,

go now, go now with God.
 va - mos mos con Dios.

Go now, go now, go now with God.
 Va - mos, va - mos, va - mos con Dios.

English Verses only

SENDING

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
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
Liturgist:	Pr. Molly Hunter
Assisting Minister:	Mike Hill
Reader:	Jeanne Groos
Ushers:	Fred & Jeanne Groos
Communion Assistants:	Mike & Joan Hill, Gayle Mack
Greeters:	
Songleader:	Sara Parks
Pianist:	Jacob Schmeltzer
Band Members:	Tom Bronken, Darren Smith, Ross Larson
Audio Technician:	Dan Zini
Livestream Technician:	Traci Zini
Projection Technician:	Abby LaForest
Nursery:	Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery:	Jane Brow

Acknowledgements:

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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.

Thank you for your generosity!

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