



Christ the King Sunday

10:30 am - November 23, 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!

GATHERING HYMN

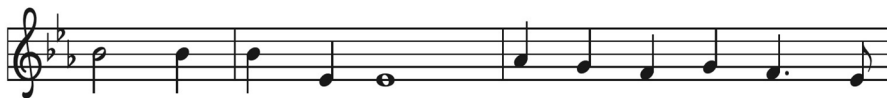
#1032 "Lift Up Your Heads"



1 Lift up your heads, all you bowed low,
2 Lift up your hands, your voices raise,
3 Lift up your hearts, your great A - men;
4 Be - hold, the Spir - it here a - bides,



hear the liv - ing wa - ter flow: quench - ing
bold in plead - ing, bright with praise. Weep no
Mer - cy feeds her guests a - gain: bread e -
bear - ing God's a - bun - dant life: peace be -



spring and cleans - ing pool, heal - ing riv - er, clear and
more, your God has come; greet the wound - ed, ris - en
nough to break and share, fes - tive wine that scents the
tween you, love with - in, grace be - side you loos - 'ning



cool. How fresh it falls up -
One, who bless - es you with
air. Oh, taste and see what
sin. Be - lov - ed, Christ a -



on your face, stream - ing from the font of grace.
joy com - plete, dwell - ing in the Word of peace.
once was lost ris - ing in this feast of love.
mong you stands, mov - ing through your hearts and hands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Faithful God,
you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth.
We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.
Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.
Amen.

Hear the good news:
God the Faithful One loves you,
✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set 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

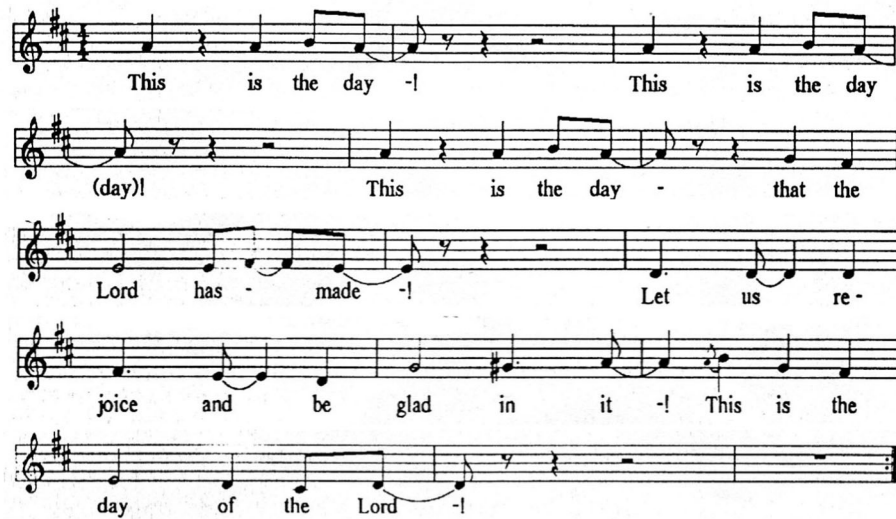
#154 "Kyrie"

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

Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Day"



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

HANDBELLS

“O, Worship the King” *Handbell Choir*

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please
be seated

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Jazz Alleluia"

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

Al - le-lu-ia, A-men! Let us hear the Word of the Lord. Sing it o-ver a - gain. Let us hear the Word of the Lord! Shout for joy, let the earth re - joice. Sing to-ge-ther with one great voice!

@J. Bell 1994

GOSPEL

Luke 23:33-43

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive

them, for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?” ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” ⁴³ He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

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

Please be
seated

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

#637 “Holy God, Holy and Glorious”



1	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	glo	-	ri	-	ous,
2	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	pow	-	er	-	ful,
3	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	beau	-	ti	-	ful,
4	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	on	-	ly	wise,	
5	Ho	-	ly	God,	ho	-	ly	and	liv	-	ing	one,	



glo	-	ry	most	sub	-	lime,	you	come	as	one	a	-	mong	us			
pow	-	er	with	-	out	peer,	you	bend	to	us	in	weak	-	ness;			
beau	-	ty	un	-	sur	-	passed,	you	are	de	-	spised,	re	-	ject	-	ed;
wis	-	dom	of	great	price,	you	choose	the	way	of	fol	-	ly:				
life	that	nev	-	er	ends,	you	show	your	love	by	dy	-	ing,				

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

APOSTLES' CREED

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,
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

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. Support equity across the globe, and heal division with accountability and truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick, especially... Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray that you would enfold in your loving embrace all those in our trans community

lost to death this year. You see each one as beloved, and call them by their chosen name. Give courage to our trans communities in the face of cruelty and harassment. Bring to justice those who perpetrate this violence. Challenge us, O Holy One, to speak out for those who are silenced, to stand with those who are bullied, and to go with those who face danger. You claim them as your children for you made us all in the image of your heart. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Please be
seated

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Ten Thousand Reasons” *Sophie Sander on Cello*

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.

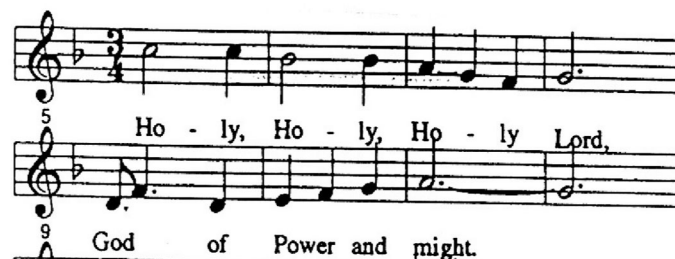
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:



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.

The musical score for the hymn "Lamb of God" is written for a single melodic line on a grand staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "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." The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (p, mp, f, ff, rit.), articulation (accents), and phrasing slurs. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

#423 “Shall We Gather at the River”

#838 “Beautiful Savior”

BENEDICTION

Please stand
as you are
comfortable in
body or spirit.

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

Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Show love to everyone. Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

10 **SENDING HYMN**

“The Earth Is Yours” by *Gungor*

VERSE 1

♩ = 136

D A Bm G

1. Your voice, it thun - ders, the oaks start twist - ing; The for - est sounds with ce - dars break - ing.

8 D/G D A/C# Bm G/B

The wa - ters see You and start their with - ing; From the depths a song is ris - ing.

PRE-CHORUS 1 **CHORUS 1**

16 D/G A G D A/C# Bm

Now it's ris - ing from the ground. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord.

26 G D F#m7 Bm G

The earth is Yours, and sing - ing: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord." The earth is Yours,

VERSE 2

36 N.C. D D/A F#m7 Bm

the earth is Yours. 2. Your voice, it thun - ders, the ground is shak - ing; The might -

44 G A/G G/A D F#m7

y moun - tains now are trem - bl - ing. Cre - a - tion sees You and starts com - pos - ing;

PRE-CHORUS 2

51 Bm G G/B A G

The fields and trees, they start re - joic - ing. And now it's ris - ing from the ground.

59 A G/B A/C# Gm/Bb Gm/D Gm/A Gm

Now it's ris - ing from the ground. Hear us cry - ing out. Hear us cry - ing out.

D A/C# Bm G D F#m7

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. The earth is Yours, and sing - ing: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,

D A/C# Bm G D F#m7

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord. The earth is Yours, and sing - ing: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,

11

78

Bm G D D/F# A/C# Bm

ho - ly Lord." The earth is Yours, and sing - ing: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord."

88

G D

The earth is Yours, the earth is Yours, the earth is Yours. —

SENDING

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
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
Liturgists:	Pr. Molly Hunter
Assisting Minister:	Jeanne Groos
Reader:	Laurel Kniskern
Ushers:	Amy Diedrich, Jill Luoma
Communion Assistants:	Evan Busick, Kerry McGinley, Karen Burkman
Greeters:	Marina Shinkarenko, Ellen Symons
Songleaders:	Sara Parks
Pianist:	Jacob Schmeltzer
Band Members:	Tom Bronken, Darren Smith, Ross Larson
Bell Choir Director:	Judy Quirk
Audio Technician:	Dan Zini
Livestream Technician:	Traci Zini
Projection Technician:	Lesley Williams
Nursery:	Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery:	Sally McQueen

Acknowledgements:

Copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All Rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS103648. Music printed by permission under OneLicense #A-703344. *Mass of Communion* by Matt Maher © 2011 Thankyou Music Ltd; Valley Of Songs Music; Worship Together Music. Scripture is from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission.

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.

Thank you for your generosity!

Messiah Evangelical
Lutheran Church

@messiahlutheranmqt



venmo