



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MADISON, ALABAMA

August 30, 2026
14th Sunday after Pentecost



The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

Good Morning and Welcome!

If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

ORDER OF WORSHIP 14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Holy Communion Setting Ten

PRELUDE “Wenn wir in Höchsten Nöten Sein” (Bach)

Melanie Payne

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK Lutheran World Relief

Mary Tereszkievich from LWR

INTERLUDE

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray,

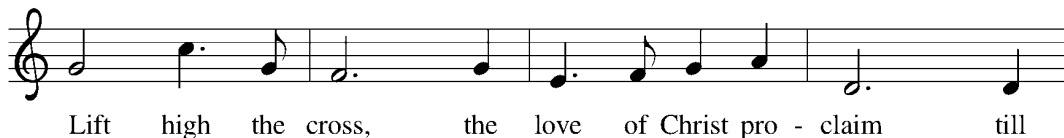
Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love.

Amen.

***GATHERING SONG** “Lift High the Cross”

ELW 660





1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

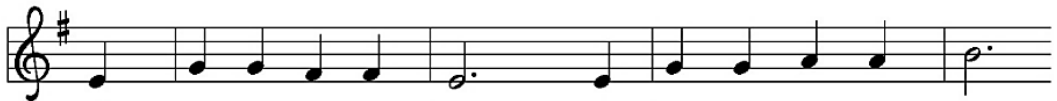
Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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*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



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

BLESSING OF THE DISASTER RELIEF TEAM

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶ **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸ **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL FANFARE

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

* GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*HYMN OF THE DAY "Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen"

ELW 548

(Stanza 1: Choir; Stanzas 2-4: All)



1 Rise, O church, like Christ a - ris - en,
 2 Rise, trans - formed, and choose to fol - low
 3 Rise, re - mem - ber well the fu - ture
 4 Ser - vice be our sure vo - ca - tion;



from this meal of love and grace;
 af - ter Christ, though wound - ed, whole;
 God has called us to re - ceive;
 cour - age be our dai - ly breath;



may we through such love en - vi - sion
 bro - ken, shared, our lives are hal - lowed
 pres - ent by God's lov - ing nur - ture,
 mer - cy be our des - ti - na - tion



whose we are, and whose, our praise.
 to re - lease and to con - sole.
 Spir - it - ed then let us live.
 from this day and un - to death.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia;
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



God, the won - der of our days.
Christ, our pres - ent, past, and goal.
Spir - it, grace by whom we live.
Rise, O church, a liv - ing faith.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
Music: SURGE ECCLESIA, Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958
Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

***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

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*PEACE

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

OFFERTORY

Anthem (8:30): “For the Beauty of the Earth” (Rutter)

Choir

Organ Solo (11:00): “Let All Mortal Flesh” (Callahan)

Melanie Payne

* PRESENTATION OF GIFTS “Oh What Shall I Render”

1 Oh, what shall I ren - der in thanks to my Lord
2 My hands take the cup of sal - va - tion you give;

for all the good gifts by which I am re - stored?
I'll praise you, O God, for as long as I live.

No trea - sure I ten - der could ev - er re - pay
My thanks will rise up as I call on your name,

God's mer - cy and faith - ful - ness, new ev - 'ry day.
with all of your peo - ple your good - ness pro - claim.

Text: Martin A. Seltz, based on Ps. 116

Music: FOUNDATION, early North American

*OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING AND PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

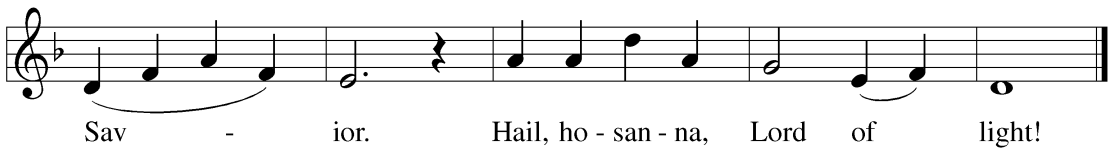
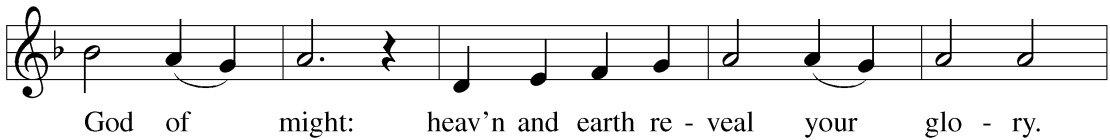
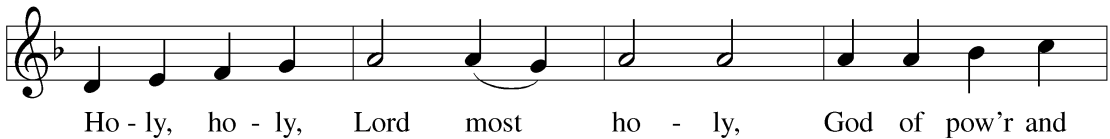
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Text: Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951, based on the Sanctus
Music: PICARDY. French folk tune, 17th cent.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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.**

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG "O Lamb of God, You Bear the Sin"



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf - fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

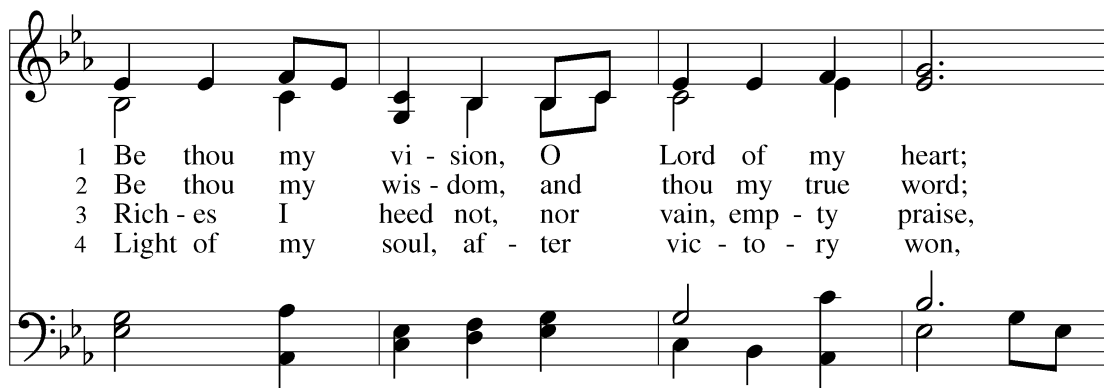
Text: Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951, based on the Agnus Dei

Music: LAND OF REST, North American

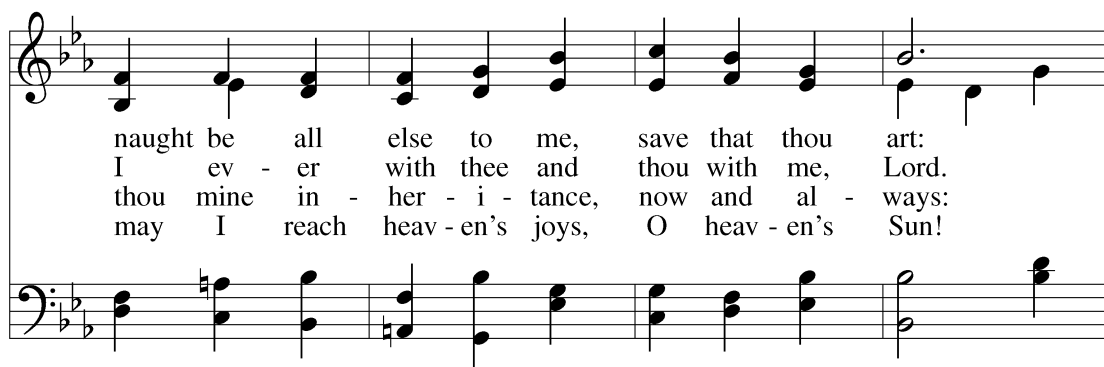
DISTRIBUTION

HYMN "Be Thou My Vision"

ELW 793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, thou my high tow'r,
 thou, and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish 8th–10th cent.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.
 Music: SLANE, Irish tune

HYMN “Let Streams of Living Justice”

ELW 710

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;
 give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.
 The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,
 the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.



Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;



a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - dian - ce, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

Text © 1989 William Whitla.

HYMN “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

ELW 543

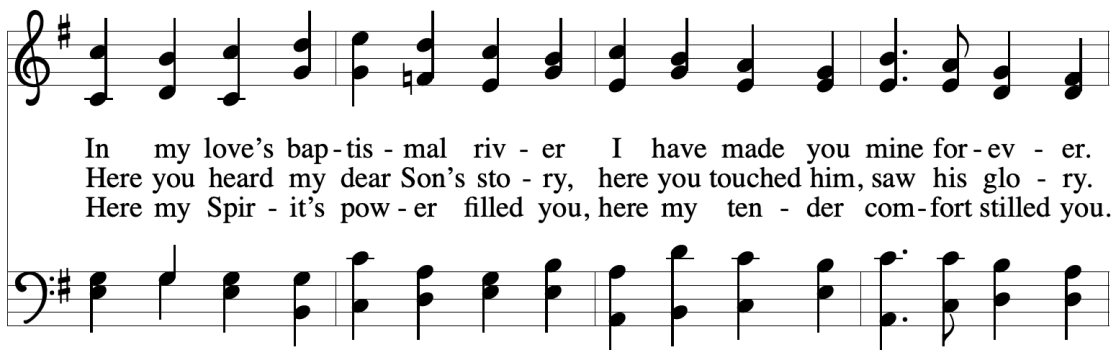


1 “Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 “Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 “Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.





In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
 Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
 Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House
 Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE “Thank the Lord, Your Voices Raise”



Thank the Lord, your voic - es raise: sing to God with high - est praise!
 Tell the won - ders God has done: free - dom, life, the vic - t'ry won.



All who seek the Lord, re - joice; proud - ly bear the name of Christ.



Go in joy where God will send. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing a - men!

Text: Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

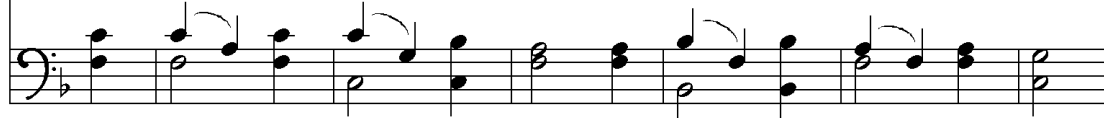
*BLESSING

*SENDING SONG “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

ELW 656



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.



Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.

Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1773–1836, adapt.

***DISMISSAL**
Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **We will! Thanks be to God.**
POSTLUDE “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (Payne)



THANK YOU TO OUR GUESTS
MARY TERESZKIEWICZ AND PASTOR KEITH COOK
We appreciate your contributions in worship today.
Thank you so much for being here with us!

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Lindsey & the Porter Family	Brittany	Linda Long
Kevin	Stephen	Paulette McNamara
Leighann	David	Steven Fesler
Connie Stanger	Rich	
Victoria Zutter	Bob Gustafson	

8:30 Worship		11:00 Worship	
Greeters	Ingram Family	Lector	Jutta DeMarsh
Lector	Timothy Pitchko	Ushers	Mark Winge, Bruce Peter
Ushers	Bobbey and Joe Huwaldt	Altar Guild	Jutta DeMarsh
Altar Guild	Janet Smith	Stream Team	Miles Bennett
Stream Team	Stephen Strand, Glen Long	Flower Guild	Claire Strand
Flower Guild	Claire Strand		

THE FLOWERS today are given by the people of Messiah in thanksgiving to God for the blessings He has bestowed on all those involved with Lutheran World Relief.

A **NURSERY** staffed by Hannah Seitz, is available through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

WE HAVE A FOOD PANTRY TEAM! Thank you for answering the call to serve those in our community with food insecurities. Our food pantry team is John and Mary Burke, Lee and Janet Smith and Bobbey Huwaldt.

PASTOR KRIS WILL BE AWAY FROM AUGUST 24 – 30, 2026. While Pastor is away, please contact the church office for emergent pastoral care needs. If you have a prayer request for the Sunday bulletin or for the prayer chain, contact the office or email prayerchain@mlutheran.org.

MESSIAH / ST. MATTHEW'S YOUTH MESSY GAMES TODAY FROM 5:00P – 7:30P. Youth Grades 6 – 12 and their families are invited to a hot dog cookout and messy games at St. Matthews. Bring a folding chair, towel, change of clothes and a dish to share. Let's get messy!

EAST TENNESSEE SES DISASTER RELIEF TRIP, SEPTEMBER 1 – 5, 2026. Our team leaves on Tuesday to serve those in Butler TN who were impacted by Hurricane Helene in 2024. Please keep the volunteers and all affected by this disaster in your prayers.

LONG RANGE PLANNING TRANSITION TEAM. Council is forming a team of three to serve in planning and defining the parameters for what our next staff position should look like. If you're interested in serving, please email Andrew King at council.president@mlutheran.net.

CARING FOR EACH OTHER. Church Council is pleased to introduce two new Caring Ministry efforts. The first is Lay Care Ministers who will offer support for pastoral care needs when the load is heavy or when Pastor Kris is away. Many thanks to Kit Baker, Chris Berry and Gretchen Perry who will be commissioned on Sunday, September 6th. The second is a Hospitality Team to welcome and follow up with visitors and get them connected to our Messiah family through Inreach. Stay tuned for more information.

SES NEW LEADERSHIP ACADEMY. Southeastern Synod now offers Continued Education and Faith (Re)formation courses. All are welcome to explore the potential God has for us to serve and lead through these courses. Scan the QR code or visit <https://sesleadershipacademy.org/> for more info. Scholarships available through SES.



WEAR YOUR WORK CLOTHES TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6. Everyone is invited to wear their work clothes to church in recognition of the many vocations through which God calls us to serve our neighbors and our world. Whether you are employed, retired, a student, a homemaker, seeking work, or in another season of life, let us celebrate together that God welcomes and values us all – regardless of our job status.

HANDMADE MARKET, SEPTEMBER 26 – 27, 2026. SAVE THE DATE. More information on how you can help coming soon.

KIT MINISTRY – Notebooks (70 pages)

FOOD PANTRY – Toilet Paper

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, August 30

Loading of LWR Truck

- 8:30 a.m. – *Service of Worship Chorale
Mass with the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Load Truck
- 9:45 a.m. - WFP Packing w/ MoMs
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School /Adult Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. - Service of Worship Chorale
Mass with the Lord's Supper
- 5:00 p.m. - Youth Cookout and Messy Games at St. Matthews

Tuesday, September 1

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters
- 6:30 p.m. - Pub Theology

Wednesday, September 2

- 7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, September 3

- 11:00 a.m. - ArtReach
- 6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

Sunday, September 6 –

- 8:30 a.m. – *Service of Worship ELW
Setting One with the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School /Adult Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. - Service of Worship ELW
Setting One with the Lord's Supper

LOOKING AHEAD

September 7 - Labor Day, Office Closed

September 9 – Wednesday Night Supper Returns

September 20 - Hispanic Heritage Month Begins

September 21 - Messiah Women's Book Club

September 26 – 27 - Handmade Market

October 4 - Blessing of the Animals

ATTENDANCE August 16 Online: 58

August 23: 8:30 – 102 11:00 – 58

Pastor Kristine Schroeder
Director of Music Randall Fields
Organist/Accompanist Melanie Payne

Communications Director Jan Morrison
Office Manager Jill Casey