

# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evening Prayer Worship

Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 7:00pm

I AM

the GOOD SHEPHERD

I know My sheep

and My sheep know Me

just as the Father knows Me

and I know the Father

and I LAY DOWN

My life

for the sheep.

JOHN 10:14-15

I remain confident of this  
I will see the goodness  
of the Lord  
in the land of the living.  
Wait for the Lord  
be strong and take heart  
and wait for the Lord.

Psalms 27:13-14

# Thy Praise Shall Sound From Shore to Shore

## THE PRELUDE

## THE GREETING

## THE OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE *"From All That Dwell Below the Skies" LSB 816*

From all that dwell below the skies, let the Creator's praise arise;  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord; eternal truth attends Thy Word.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All praise to God the Father be, all praise, eternal Son, to Thee.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Whom with the Spirit we adore forever and forevermore:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

## THE INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C** Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**P** From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C** Better is one day in Your House than a thousand elsewhere.

**P** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord. Show me Your paths.

**C** Guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are God my Savior, and my hope is in You all day long.

## THE CONFESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

**P** Assured of God's great mercy, let us speak to our God as loving children speak to their loving father, confessing that we are by nature and by deed filled with sin and are powerless to save ourselves. Let us confess that we have sinned against our gracious God and deserve His punishment now and eternally, and with repentant hearts let us ask that He would show us His unfailing mercy and love. You are now invited to kneel.

**C** Almighty God, Maker of all things, Judge of all people, we come before You and admit our sinfulness. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have failed to do what Your Word demands. We have not honored You fully with our lives, nor have we loved one another as You have first loved us. In the name of our loving Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for Your forgiveness. Because our Savior humbled Himself for our sake upon the cross, enable us in true humility to receive the forgiveness You promise to Your repentant children. 2

**P** God is gracious and forgiving. He lifts up the fallen and encourages His people by the indwelling of His Spirit. As He said to His disciples of old, our Lord Jesus says to us, "Fear not!" and promises pardon, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

**C** **From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the Lord be praised. Amen.**

### THE COLLECT

⌋ **P** Please be seated. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

**C** **Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### WE PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD *"Christ, the Word of God Incarnate" [LSB 803]*

Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham;  
Christ, the radiance of the Father, Perfect God, the great I AM;  
Christ, the Light, You shine unvanquished, light and life You bring to all;  
Light our path with Your own presence, grant us grace to heed Your call.

Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, watching all Your lambs and sheep;  
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, never-failing vigil keep.  
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, find us, lift us, bear us home;  
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us; let us hear Your voice alone.

### THE SCRIPTURE LESSON John 10:11–18

[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## WE CONFESS OUR FAITH-The Apostles' Creed

**C:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE SERMON HYMN "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want" LSB 710



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me  
2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I  
4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence  
5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He  
walk doth make With - in the paths of  
fear no ill; For Thou art with me,  
of my foes; My head Thou dost with  
fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.  
righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.  
and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.  
oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.  
ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

## THE SERMON

**i THE RESPONSE** "Thine Forever, God of Love" LSB 687



1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;  
2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!  
4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!  
Sav - ior, guard - ian, heav' n-ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!  
Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.

**THE OFFERING PRAYER**

**THE OFFERING AND HYMN OF THANKSGIVING** "Give Thanks" LSB 805



Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the



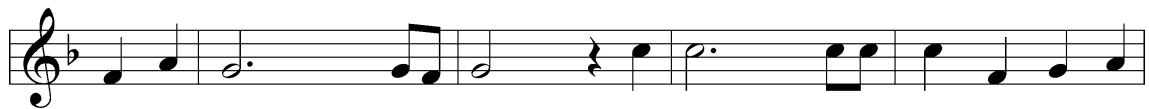
Ho - ly One, Give thanks \_\_\_\_\_ be - cause He's giv - en\_\_ Je - sus



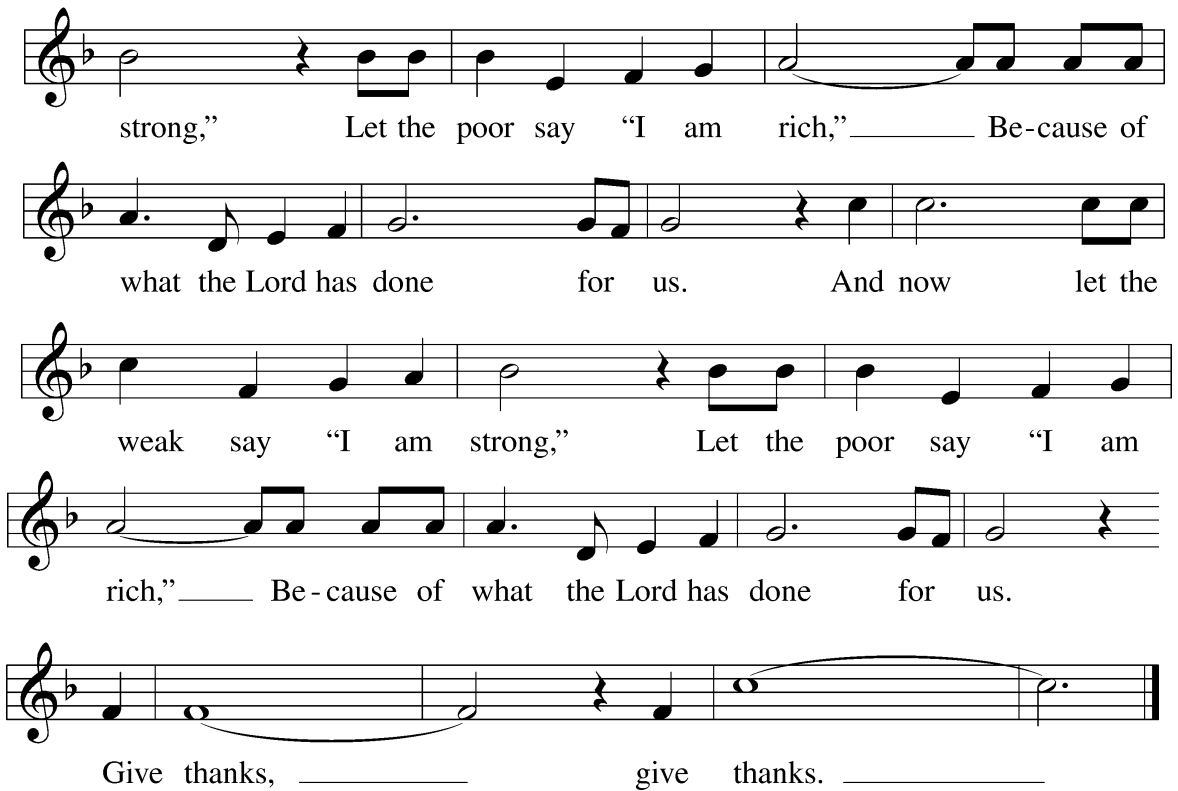
Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give



thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks \_\_\_\_\_ be - cause He's giv - en\_\_



Je - sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am



strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," Be-cause of  
 what the Lord has done for us. And now let the  
 weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am  
 rich," Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us.  
 Give thanks, give thanks.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We praise and thank You, Father, that You have given us Jesus to be our Savior and the Chief Cornerstone of our faith. You are unchangeable and Your unchanging Word is the foundation for our faith.
- C** **Thank You that He continues to build His Church, stone by living stone into a holy temple of which we are a part. Continue to fashion, form, and transform us into the likeness of Christ with each passing day.**
- P** So many are searching for the right decisions to make for their own lives or the lives of loved ones and are being presented with conflicting ideas. Many are searching for employment and looking to You for guidance. Lead them through this wilderness, show them Your truth and Your way, and give them Your peace.
- C** **Joining with Your children from all countries and walks of life, may we reflect Your love, mercy and grace to all those we meet, serving as Your light in the world.**
- P** Strengthen our Christian faith and give us the courage to reach out to our communities to deepen understanding and appreciation for one another. May we hold onto the truth that You are the One who can bring the healing and understanding that our world needs.

- C** We thank You for the assurance that we are truly members of Your Body, the Church. Grant that the incense of our prayers and our expressions of praise come before You and please You. By Your Holy Spirit, help us to continue in faith and fellowship and do the good works You desire us to do.
- P** Lord Jesus Christ, in the solemn night of Your betrayal You established the holy meal of Your body and blood for us Christians to eat and to drink. Look in mercy on those who will receive the holy Sacrament tonight.
- C** Bless those who come to Your table in true repentance and faith, that the gift of Your body and blood will sustain them in their afflictions, strengthen them in the communion of Your holy people, and be a pledge of the resurrection of their bodies to life everlasting; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### THE PREFACE AND SANCTUS

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with your spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- C** It is good and right so to do.
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd, for by His sacrificial death and glorious resurrection He has rescued Your wandering sheep and led us back into Your merciful presence forever. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way after supper He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## THE AGNUS DEI Tune: LSB 752



O Lamb of God, You come to take a - way all of our  
sin and guilt from day to day. Thro' Your true blood and bo - dy  
shed for us\_\_\_\_. We know Your grace, Your mer - cy, and Your  
love. Help us to grasp what gift we here re - ceive  
With our sins gone, for - give - ness brings us peace.

## THE COMMUNION

*If you are a guest with us this evening and would like to commune, please read the article on the back page of this bulletin before communing with us. Thank you.*



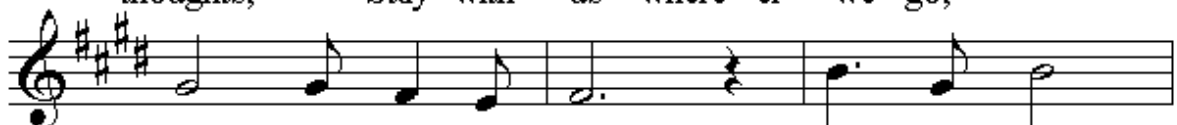
THE COMMUNION HYMN "Feed Us Now"



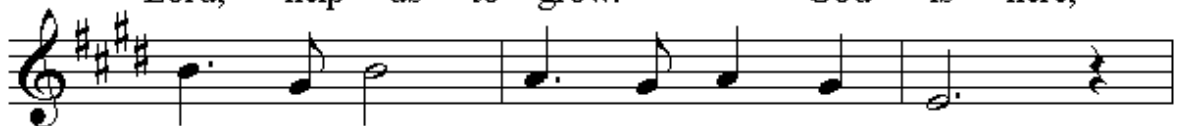
Feed us now, Bread of life, In this ho - ly  
Piece of bread, glass of wine; Lord, this food is  
God is here, O so near; Near - er than our



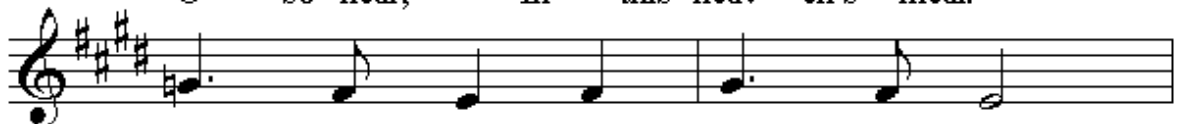
meal; Let us know Your love a - new;  
good! Love and mer - cy come to us;  
thoughts, Stay with us where - 'er we go;



We hun - ger for You. Feed us now,  
Your prom - ise we trust. Piece of bread,  
Lord, help us to grow. God is here,



Bread of life, Come and live with - in;  
glass of wine; Who can un - der - stand.  
O so near, In this heav - en's meal.

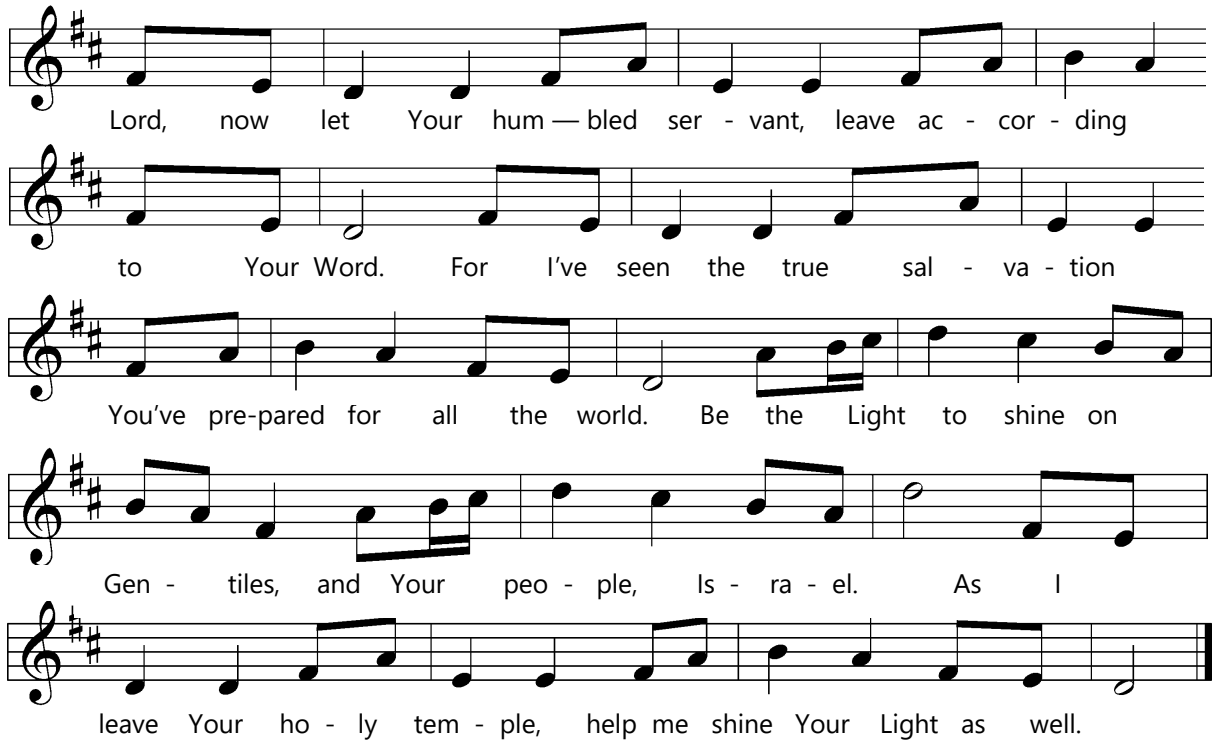


Let Your peace be ours to - day,  
How His mer - cy works in these?  
May we al - ways feed on You -



Lord Je - sus, we pray.  
Yet, Lord, we be - lieve.  
On the bread that's true.

## THE POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING



Lord, now let Your hum—bled ser - vant, leave ac - cor - ding  
to Your Word. For I've seen the true sal - va - tion  
You've pre-pared for all the world. Be the Light to shine on  
Gen - tiles, and Your peo - ple, Is - ra - el. As I  
leave Your ho - ly tem - ple, help me shine Your Light as well.

- P** Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.
- C** **Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## THE BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord's mercy for you is inexhaustible. Fight the good fight. Finish the race. Keep the faith.

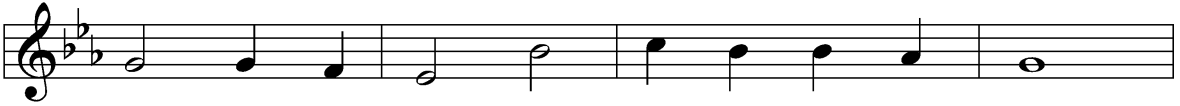
As you go on your way, may Christ go with you. May He go before you to show you the way. May He go behind you to encourage you. May He go beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** **Amen. Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace. Amen.**

## THE SILENT PRAYER

*Loving Good Shepherd, how great is Your love for me. You, Jesus, are my beacon of unwavering faith and my fortress against the winds of evil. In the shadowy valleys of life, guide me by Your heavenly light. Let my heart find solace in Your powerful protection and loving kindness. Into Your hands, I entrust my soul; in You alone I find true serenity. Amen.*

## THE CLOSING HYMN "Abide With Me" LSB 878



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.  
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
I tri - umph still if Thou a - bide with me!  
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me. Amen.

## THE POSTLUDE



*Go in the joy of sins forgiven  
to serve the Lord with gladness!  
Make a difference in this world  
through Christ by sharing His Light*

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

As You come to the Lord's Supper, you are affirming with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord, that with Lutheran Christians, you believe His Body and Blood are present and you desire to serve Him as a dynamic disciple in the fellowship of all believers. Our Holy Communion practice is called "CLOSE" communion, not "CLOSED" communion. "Close" communion invites all those who answer the following questions in the affirmative. We DO seek to help each visitor and member, to prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament. If you have not communed with us before, or if you cannot answer yes to the questions below, please speak to our Pastor or an Elder before communing.

1. Have I been baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
2. Do I believe that I am a sinful human being without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ?
3. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?
4. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is personally present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion with His true Body and Blood?
5. Do I intend, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to live a Godly life?

At Messiah, Communion is distributed in a manner whereby the individual cup, followed by the common cup, are offered at the same table. Communicants seated on the left side of the Chapel proceed to the altar first, standing behind the usher. Then the communicants on the right side will proceed to the altar, also standing behind the usher. This will provide a prayerful setting surrounding the significance of receiving Christ's body and blood.

A wine that has been chemically treated to remove all alcohol and sulfites is the white wine. Gluten free wafers are available at the usher tables in the back.

## Those Serving Us in Worship Tonight

PREACHER	Rev. Matthew Lee
ELDER	Larry Redding, John Robinson
ORGANIST	Teresa Logue
A/V TEAM	Danny Ladishew, Chuck Tolsma
USHERS	Bruce Kofoed, Chris Trimpe

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