

Messiah Lutheran Church

"I am the Vine, you are the branches"

April 28, 2024 11:00am Worship

Welcome to the Lord's House

Welcome to Messiah! Whether you're a member, a returning guest, or maybe this is your first time at Messiah, we welcome you to this time of worship. During our time together, we hope that you experience the presence and love of God in a profound and life-changing way! May the music we share stir you, may the prayers we offer comfort you, and may the proclaimed Word of God challenge you to live with a new passion and purpose. Again, we are honored that you have chosen to worship here today. Let's give God all glory and praise.

First-Time guests, we invite you to look through the "Welcome to Messiah" brochure found in the attendance card slot on the pew in front of you. If you have any questions, please talk to an usher. For parents of young children, there is a Cry room available at the back of the Sanctuary.

Once we enter God's House, we pray that our hearts are changed, and that His perspective becomes ours; that we release the cares of this world, and bask in the beauty of His holiness; that we give Him whatever burdens our heart, and find the Spirit's peace that passes all human understanding; that we learn more about Jesus through His Word, and the joy that comes from a closer walk with the Lord.

"Be thoughtful-be silent-be reverent; for this is the house of the Lord.

Before the service, speak to the Lord;

During the service, let the Lord speak to you;

After the service, speak to one another."

If a song is being sung, words are provided on the screens at the front of the sanctuary. We invite you to sing along, or meditate on the song's message.

O God, You are my God; earnestly I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh faints for You, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon You in the sanctuary, beholding Your power and glory.

Because Your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise You. So I will bless You as long as I live; in Your name I will lift up my hands. Psalm 63:1-4

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

When Jesus uses the image of the vine and speaks of vineyards, He is choosing something very familiar to His hearers. Viticulture is well known around the world. More than eighteen million acres worldwide is used for growing grapes—from Panama to Tajikistan to Zimbabwe! Todav. the cultivation of vinevards is still an important agricultural component in both Israel and the Jordan, lands where Jesus walked and taught. Life in the vineyard is vital! As branches grafted to the Vine that is Christ, we are vitalized by His power. As we worship, God's life -supporting power infuses us! It is time to continue growing together

P=Pastor **C=Congregation**

in Christ!

In the Invocation, we "invoke" God's presence by repeating the name in which we were baptized by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



THE PRE-SERVICE PRAISE "Nobody"

! THE GREETING

THE OPENING SONG "Here I am to Worship"

Light of the world You stepped down into darkness, Opened my eyes, let me see. Beauty that made this heart adore You; Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus: So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,

Here I am to say that You're my God.

You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,

Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days, oh so highly exalted, glorious in heaven above. Humbly You came to the earth You created; All for love's sake became poor. **Chorus**

And I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross. And I'll never know how much it cost To see my sin upon that cross. **Chorus**

THE INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES

- P: We celebrate today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.
- P: Shout for joy to God, all the earth;
- C: sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!
- P: Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds!
- C: All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name."
- P: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard,
- C: who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

- P: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!
- C: I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

THE CONFESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

- P: Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.
- C: O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.
 - P: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.
 - C: Amen.
 - P: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 - C: Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray. Risen and ascended Lord, You are the vine and we are the branches. Apart from You there is no life. By Baptism You have grafted us into Your gracious life. Cause Your Word to abide in us and make us fruitful to the glory of Your Father, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.



In the Confession,

we bare our souls before the Lord,

admitting our sins

and accepting responsibility for

the harm they

caused in our relationships with

God and with

each other. (1 John 1:8-9;

Rom. 3:23)

The pastor then speaks God's

Word to give the

forgiveness Jesus won for us on the

We call this prayer a "Collect" because it collects the themes of the lessons and puts them into a prayer.



The First Lesson today is taken from the New Testament, and is found on page 917 in the pew Bible.

The Epistle Lesson is from the first letter of John, page 1023 in the pew Bible.

The Gospel Song may change weekly or the ordinary verse is from John 6:68.

We rise for the Holy Gospel as we would stand for Jesus Himself, since the Gospel is His living Word to us.

Կ THE FIRST LESSON Acts 8:26-35

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. ²⁷ And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, gueen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship ²⁸ and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. ²⁹ And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot." 30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" ³¹ And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32 Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth. ³³ In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." 34 And the eunuch said to Philip, "About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus.

THE EPISTLE LESSON 1 John 4:7-11

⁷ Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰ In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

THE GOSPEL SONG "Ancient Words"

Holy Words, long preserved for our walk in this world They resound with God's own heart.

O let the ancient words impart.

Words of life, words of hope, give us strength, help us cope.

In this world, where e'er we roam

Ancient words will guide us home.

Ancient words, ever true, changing me and changing you.

We have come with open hearts. O let the ancient words impart.

The Gospel lesson is selected according to the season or festival Sunday of the Church Year, and is found on page 901 in the pew Bible.

We respond to the Word of God with an acclamation of praise, and then by confessing our faith.

The Apostles'
Creed dates from
about 75 AD and
was used in the
instruction of
those to be
baptized. We are
confessing our
personal faith.

The Sermon Hymn may coordinate with the Gospel lesson, or with the pastor's sermon topic.

THE HOLY GOSPEL John 15:1-8

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

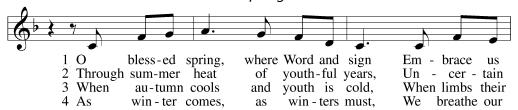
P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

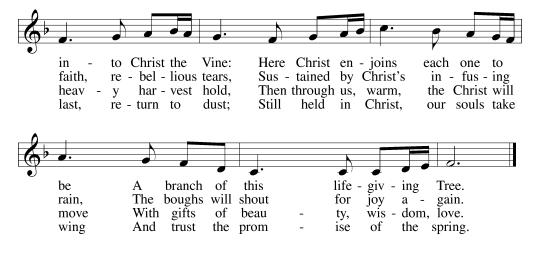
C: Thanks be to God.

WE CONFESS OUR FAITH-The Apostles' Creed

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.

5 THE SERMON HYMN "O Blessed Spring" LSB 595

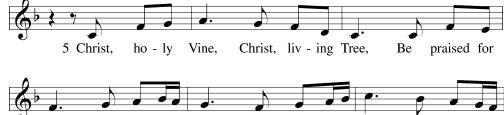


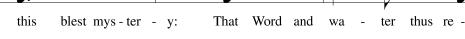


THE SERMON "Connected to Jesus" John 15:5

- 1. Jesus is the True Vine.
- 2. We are connected to Him as His branches.
- 3. Stay connected to Jesus.

¡ WE RESPOND TO GOD'S TEACHING "O Blessed Spring" verse 5







THE OFFERING PRAYER

THE ANTHEM "Believe For It"

They say this mountain can't be moved, They say these chains will never break. But they don't know You like we do-there is power in Your name!

The Sermon applies God's Word to our lives and helps to equip us to fulfill our baptismal calling to new life in Christ.

After the Offering Prayer, we ask all of those present to please fill out an attendance card.

If you are a guest with us today, please fill out the front and back of the card. If you have any special prayer requests, you will find a space for this on the back of the card. Thank you.

We present our gifts to God to symbolize the offering of ourselves to the Lord, saying thank You to God, and showing we trust Him to supply all our needs. (Rom. 12:1)

We've heard that there is no way through, We've heard the tide will never change. They haven't seen what You can do-There is power in Your name, so much power in Your name!

Chorus: Move the immovable, break the unbreakable God we believe, God we believe for it!
From the impossible we'll see a miracle.
God we believe, God we believe for it!

We know that hope is never lost,
Oh for there is still an empty grave!
God we believe no matter whatThere is power in Your name, so much power in Your name!

Chorus

You are the way when there seems to be no way We trust in You God You have the final say You are the way when there seems to be no way We trust in You God You have the final say. **Chorus**

You said it—I believe it—You said it—It is done! (4X) Chorus

God we believe for it.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P: Gracious Lord, we praise You for the blessings You bestow on us daily. We come before You now humbly in prayer, asking that You answer our prayers in Your fatherly mercy, through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Merciful God, we humbly implore You to bring healing and unity to Your Church that we may walk together in the light of Your truth and convincingly proclaim the light of everlasting life to all nations.
- P: Lord, we pray that the Word of God spread to all people from every nation, people and language. May each person on earth come to understand that though everything is fleeting and fading, the Word of the Lord endures forever.
- C: Fill us with the Easter peace and joy of Your Son, so that by

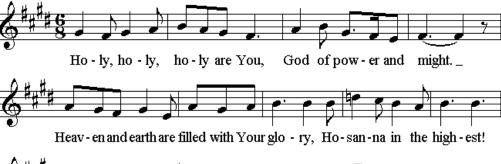
Prayer is one of the marks of the congregation gathered in worship, according to Acts 2:42.

Here the congregation, established and gathered by God according to His purpose, agrees together on earth that it may be done for them by the Father in heaven, as pravers, supplications, and thanksgivings are offered for all in authority and all sorts of human need.

More prayer requests are found in the Announcement Guide. Please take them with you to use for your prayer time this week.

- our giving and caring for each other, the needs of those around us today are met, and the world sees Your love in all we do.
- P: By Your grace, bless all who receive our Lord's body and blood in the Sacrament this day.
- C: As we receive the same body and blood given into death and raised again for our forgiveness, grant us the joy of the forgiveness of our sins and the power of an endless life. Help us by this sacrament to live out our Baptismal life, dying in repentance and being raised in faith.
- P: These things and whatever else You would have us ask, we implore You to grant us for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.
- C: Amen.

THE SANCTUS





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.

"Sanctus" is the Latin word for holy, and is the name of an important hymn of Christian liturgy. It is sung at the heart of the eucharistic praver, the prayer of consecration of the bread and wine. The text is taken from Isaiah 6:3, which describes the prophet's vision of the throne of God surrounded by six-winged, ministering seraphim. This text is also influenced by Revelation 4:8. The concluding text, "blessed is He who comes.'

The Lord's Prayer is the prayer Jesus taught to His disciples and to us in His Word. (Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4) The Words of Institution are a collection of all four Gospel accounts of the Last Supper, based on the oldest and fullest text found in 1 Corinthians 11.

The Agnus Dei is a canticle that found its way into the liturgy as early as the 8th century. Following Jesus' baptism, John the Baptist acclaims Him as the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world." John 1:36

A Prayer before Communing-Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the

Holy Spirit, one

God, now and forever. 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 also He took the cup after supper, 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



5 THE COMMUNION

If you are a guest today, please read page 15 before communing. You are welcome to stand or kneel at the communion rail.

THE COMMUNION SONGS "I Can Only Imagine"

I can only imagine what it will be like when I walk by Your side. I can only imagine what my eyes will see When Your face is before me. I can only imagine...

Chorus: Surrounded by Your glory what will my heart feel?
Will I dance for You Jesus? Or in awe of You be still?
Will I stand in Your presence or to my knees will I fall?
Will I sing, Hallelujah? Will I be able to speak at all?
I can only imagine...I can only imagine.

I can only imagine when that day comes And I find myself standing in the sun. I can only imagine when all I will do Is forever, forever worship You. I can only imagine...I can only imagine. **Chorus**

I can only imagine, I can only imagine. I can only imagine, I can only imagine I can only imagine when all I would do Is forever, forever worship You. I can only imagine.



"Goodness of God"

"Long ago, at

many times and

God spoke to our fathers by the

prophets, but in

also he created the world. He is the

radiance of the glory of God and

the exact imprint

of his nature, and he upholds the

universe by the word of his power. After making

purification for

of the Majesty

excellent than

theirs." Hebrews 1:1-4

on high, having become as much

superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more

sins, he sat down at the right hand

these last days
he has spoken
to us by his Son,
whom he
appointed the heir
of all things,
through whom

in many ways,

I love You Lord. Oh Your mercy never fails me. All my days I've been held in Your hands. From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head, I will sing of the goodness of God.

Chorus:

All my life You have been faithful. All my life You have been so, so good. With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.



I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire. In darkest night, You are close like no other. I've known You as a father. I've known You as a friend. I have lived in the goodness of God. **Chorus**

Your goodness is running after, it's running after me. Your goodness is running after, it's running after me. With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now; I give You everything. Your goodness is running after, it's running after me. **(repeat)**

11

"This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24

A Prayer After Communing:

I thank and praise You, O God, for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son. Jesus Christ. Send Your Holv Spirit that, in receiving this Holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my

Lord, Amen.

The Post-Communion Song is based on the Words of Institution. We have eaten Christ's body and drank His blood.

The personal encounter with Christ and His gifts in the Lord's Supper leads indeed to a joyful service to "share the peace, hope, and life with others!"

All my life You have been faithful.

All my life You have been so, so good.

With every breath that I am able I will sing of the goodness of God.

I will sing of the goodness of God.

"Amazing Grace, My Chains are Gone"

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now I'm found-was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

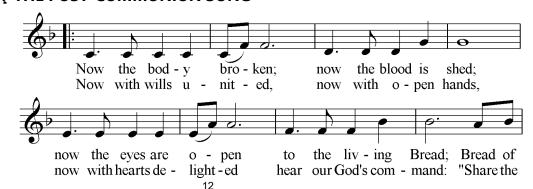
Chorus: My chains are gone, I've been set free!

My God, my Savior has ransomed me And like a flood His mercy reigns-Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures. He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. **Chorus**

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine. But God who called me here below will be forever mine. Will be forever mine. You are forever mine.

I THE POST-COMMUNION SONG

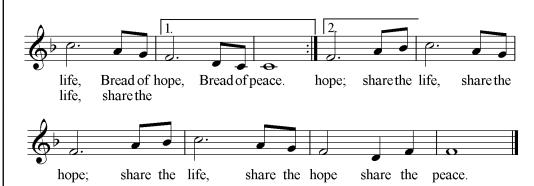


Then follows the Aaronic Benediction in which the Lord recognizes us as His people, putting His name on us, and fulfilling all promises in His name. (Numbers 6:24-25; Matt. 18:19-20)

We enter to pray and praise and we leave with a renewed commitment to serve and witness!

You are welcome to take this bulletin home and use it for personal devotions this week.

Otherwise, we ask that you return it to an usher. Thank you!



THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and give you His peace.

C: Amen.

THE SILENT PRAYER

\(\) THE MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

! THE CLOSING HYMN "Not to Us"

The cross before me, the world behind, No turning back, raise the banner high. It's not for us-it's all for You. Let the heavens shake and split the sky, Let the people clap their hands and cry. It's not for us-it's all for You.

Chorus: Not to us, but to Your name be the glory. Not to us, but to Your name be the glory.

Our hearts unfold before Your throne,
The only place for those who know-it's not for us-it's all for You.
Send Your holy fire on this offering.
Let our worship burn for the world to seeIt's not for us-it's all for You. **Chorus**

THE POST-SERVICE PRAISE



Serving in the Lord's House Today

PREACHER/LITURGIST	Rev. Matthew Lee
ELDER CAPTAIN	Maxey Buchwald
ALTAR TEAM	Team 2
USHER TEAM	Team H
ACOLYTES	Kinsey Aviles, Elizabeth Lee
ANTHEM	Lori and Knox Phelps
PRAISE TEAM	Team B, Teresa Logue, Rose Babbitt, Dorothy Sherrod, Charles Hayes
PRODUCTION TEAM	Danny Ladishew, Manager Chuck Tolsma, Sound—Steve Corley, Media

Our Response to the Lord Last Week

Weekly Worship Attendance Adult Bible Class Sunday School Attendance	525 193 77	10VC The 10R YOUR G
Church Faith Budget		with all voi
Given last week	\$ 32,163	HEART
Given year to date	\$ 755,960	Soul
Given year to date last year	\$ 784,158	and MINE
		маттне и
<u>Building Fund</u>		
Given last week	\$ 385	
Building Fund total for 2024	\$ 149,559	

In planning for the future, consider including the church in your will.

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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 in the middle sections of the Sanctuary proceed to the altar first, standing behind the usher. Then the communicants in the side sections 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 light, alcohol-free wine is offered in clear glasses in the individual trays. Gluten-free wafers are available at the usher table in the back.



Messiah Lutheran Church

1801 West Plano Parkway + Plano, Texas 75075



Services available on our Website/YouTube

- ♦ Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary: 8:30 & 11:00AM (Holy Communion every 2nd and 4th Sunday)
- ♦ Sunday School & Adult Bible Class: 9:45-10:40AM

MESSIAH LUTHERAN * Wednesday Worship in the Sanctuary: 7:00PM (Holy Communion every Wednesday)



Church Office: 972-398-7500 Lambs' Early Childhood Center Office: 972-398-7560

Rev. Dr. Victor I. Kollmann, Senior Pastor Amy Myers, Lambs' ECC Director Ellen Thorne, Celebration Ministries Jodi Sorenson, Youth Ministries Kathy Mardis, Executive Secretary Kim Johnson, Administrative Assistant Melinda Kellerman, Children's Ministry Assistant Carmen Rowan. "The Lamp" Gift Shop Manager

Rev. Matthew Lee, Associate Pastor Dorothy Sherrod, Music Ministries Amy Plenger, Children's Ministries Don Johnson, Property Ministries Danny Ladishew, Technology Director Todd Smith, Gym Manager Cyndi Scruggs, Receptionist

E-mail: messiah@messiahlutheran.com Website: www.messiahlutheran.com ♦A Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod ♦

With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will share God's light as we:

Gladly enter God's House weekly (Worship) —Psalm 122:1 Listen for God's voice. (Discipleship-Bible Study, Quiet Time, Prayer)— John 10:27 Open my heart and hands to serve God. (Ministry) -1 Samuel 12:24 Wholeheartedly love God and my neighbor. (Evangelism/Fellowship-Outreach) —Luke 10:27