



**December 25, 2022**

Nativity of Our Lord



**Good Morning and Welcome**

Guests, we are glad you are here.

Please fill out the yellow "Connection Card" in the pew and place in the offering.

Sound Assistance and staffed nursery available.

**[Online Guest Form](#)**

**Messiah Lutheran Church**

7740 Hwy 72 West, Madison, AL 35758 | (256)721-0041 | [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org)

# SERVICE OF WORSHIP

## Lessons and Carols

\* Please stand as you are able

THE PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*INVOCATION

\*HYMN: "Joy to the World"

LBW 39

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive its  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs em -  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow Nor thorns in - fest the  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions

King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
play, While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
ground; He comes to make his bless - ings  
prove The glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
ness And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his

sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Our Need for a Savior*

FIRST READING

Genesis 3:8-15

<sup>8</sup> They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup> But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup> He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup> He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup> The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup> The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

HYMN: “Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1,4

LBW 34



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.  
*God's Faithful Promise*

SECOND READING

Genesis 22:15-18

<sup>15</sup>The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, <sup>16</sup>and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, <sup>18</sup>and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.”

HYMN: “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” vs. 1,3

LBW 50

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 2 Shep-herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, Watch-ing o'er your flocks by night,  
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem-pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

Once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry; Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, Yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
 Seek the great de - sire of na - tions, You have seen his na - tal star.  
 Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*  
 Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, Wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

*God Promises a King*

THIRD READING

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

\*HYMN: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" vs 1,4

LBW 54

1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,  
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come With peace - ful wings un - furled,  
 3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are bend - ing low,  
 4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, By proph - ets seen of old,

From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
 And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world.  
 Who toil a - long the climb - ing way With pain - ful steps and slow:  
 When with the ev - er - cir - cling years Shall come the time fore - told,

"Peace on the earth, good will to all, From heav'n's all - gra - cious king."  
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - 'ring wing,  
 Look now, for glad and gold - en hours Come swift - ly on the wing;  
 When peace shall o - ver all the earth Its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.  
 And ev - er o'er its ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.  
 Oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road And hear the an - gels sing!  
 And all the world give back the song Which now the an - gels sing.

*The Peace that Christ Brings*

FOURTH READING

Micah 5:2-5a

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; <sup>5</sup>and he shall be the one of peace.

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won-d'ring love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heav'n.  
 Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
 No ear may hear his com - ing; But, in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
 And prais - es sing to God the king, And peace to all the earth!  
 Where meek souls will re - ceive him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
 Oh, come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

*The Annunciation to Mary*

FIFTH READING

Luke 1:26-35, 38

<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup> But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup> The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup> He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup> Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup> The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

<sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

## HYMN: "What Child Is This"

LBW 40

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?  
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to own him.

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.

This, this is Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
 Nails, spear shall pierce him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
 Raise, raise the song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

(song continues next page ➡)

Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

*The Birth of Jesus*

## \*SIXTH READING

Luke 2:1-7

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

## \*HYMN: "Away in a Manger"

LBW 67

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed, The lit - tle Lord  
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing; the poor ba - by wakes, But lit - tle Lord  
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay Close by me for -

Je - sus laid down his sweet head; The stars in the sky . . looked  
 Je - sus no cry - ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je - sus; look  
 ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

down where he lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 down from the sky And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
 your ten - der care And fit us for heav - en to live with you there.

*The Shepherds Go to See the Savior*

SEVENTH READING

Luke 2:8-20

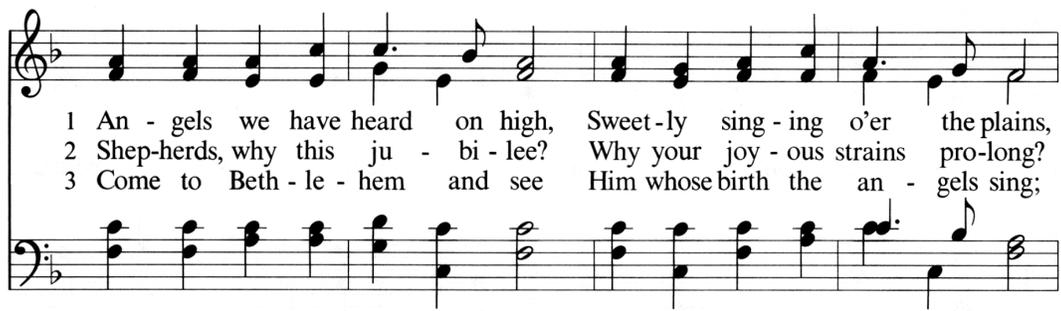
<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
 and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

HYMN: “Angels We Have Heard on High”

LBW 71



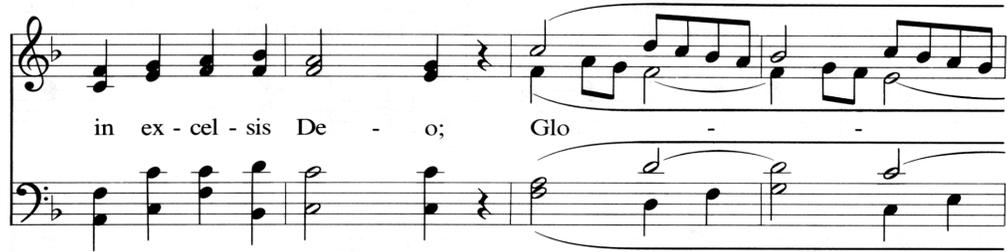
1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet-ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun-tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



*Refrain*  
Glo - ri - a



in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo



ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*The Magi Follow the Star*

EIGHTH READING

Matthew 2:1-12

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup> and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup> When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup> On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold,

frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

HYMN: "We Three Kings of Orient Are" vs 1,2

WOV 646

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a -  
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to crown him a -  
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a de - i - ty  
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of gath - er - ing  
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and Sac - ri -

far, field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 gain; king for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.  
 night; prayer and prais - ing, glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.  
 gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 face; heav'n sings al - le - lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

*Refrain*

Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty

bright; west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

*The Word Becomes Flesh to Live Among Us*

\*NINTH READING

John 1:1-14

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup> in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup> The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

<sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

HYMN: "I Wonder As I Wander" vs. 1,2

WOV 642

1 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how  
 2 When Mar - y birthed . . . Je - sus, all in a cow's stall, came  
 3 If Je - sus had . . . want - ed for an - y wee thing, a  
 4 I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky, how

Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord' - n'ry peo - ple like  
 wise men and farm - ers and shep - herds and all, and high from the heav - ens a  
 star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's an - gels in  
 Je - sus the Sav - ior did come for to die for poor ord' - n'ry peo - ple like  
 you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.  
 star's light did fall; the prom - ise of the a - ges it then did re - call.  
 heav'n for to sing, he sure - ly could have had it, 'cause he was the king.  
 you and like I. I won - der as I wan - der, out un - der the sky.

OFFERING: *Away in a Manger* (11:00)

Instrumental Ensemble

\*OFFERTORY: "Holy Child within the Manger" vs 3

WOV 638

3. Holy Child within the manger, lead us ever in your way,  
 So we see in ev'ry stranger how you come to us today.  
 In our lives and in our living give us strength to live as you,  
 That our hearts might be forgiving and our spirits strong and true.

\*RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Glory to God in the highest,  
 And peace to God's people on earth.

Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.  
 Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You are the hope of humanity.  
 Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.  
 Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

\*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" vs 1

LBW 60

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;  
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ - teous - ness!  
 Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
 Late in time be - hold him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, Born that we no more may die,

With an - gel - ic hosts pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el!  
Born to raise each child of earth, Born to give us sec - ond birth.

*Refrain*

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

\*THE BLESSING and DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE

**THE FLOWERS** today are given to the glory of God by members and friends of MLC to honor and remember loved ones as we celebrate the birth of our Lord. Names of those honored and remembered were in the Christmas Eve bulletin insert.

If you purchased a poinsettia, please take yours home following the 11:00 a.m. service today. Thank you for helping beautify our Sanctuary for Christmas worship.

**A NURSERY**, staffed by Katrina Strand, is through the double doors in the narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms.

**ALL ARE INVITED** to enjoy coffee, tea, and fellowship after worship in the Fellowship Hall.

**THANK YOU LOIS FOR 33+ YEARS OF EXCEPTIONAL MUSIC MINISTRY AT MLC** Tomorrow is Lois' last day accompanying worship at MLC. Lois accompanied MLC's first service of worship on April 23, 1989. Through her gifts in music and Christian discipleship she has led, encouraged, and helped us all to "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow." **AN APPRECIATION & CELEBRATION FOR LOIS GRAFF** is scheduled for Sunday, January 8, 2023 and will include a reception between services in the Parish Hall. A card for all to sign is located in the Narthex. You may also leave cards, gifts in the basket or donate to her farewell gift fund through Jan 1. Details in the Narthex.

**HEARTFELT APPRECIATION FOR PASTOR DIANA** who has served MLC as the Interim Pastor since February. Pastor Diana has been reassigned to St. Mark's in Huntsville starting in January. Until our next pastor arrives, Pastor Diana will provide pastoral care for urgent matters that may arise. Please contact Claire or the Church Office if you need Pastoral Care

**KIT MINISTRY ITEM** - 4 oz. Dark Towels **FOOD PANTRY** - Canned Soup /Toothpaste

**COORDINATORS ARE NEEDED** for Coffee Makers & Wednesday Night Dinners in 2023.

<u>Interim Pastor</u>	Pastor Diana Bottin	<u>Acolytes</u>	(8:30)
<u>Director of Music Ministries</u>	Lois Graff		Hannah Seitz (11:00)
<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u>	Claire Strand	<u>Greeters</u>	Jeanette Beamer (8:30)
<u>Communication &amp; Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby		Jack Mast (11:00)
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt	<u>Ushers</u>	Virgil & Susan Burrer (8:30)
	Meredith Kilby		Dorothy Seitz, Matt DeMarsh (11:00)
<u>Choir Director</u>	Randall Fields	<u>Lectors</u>	Dennis Fry, Rachel Fry (8:30)
<u>Nursery Attendant</u>	Katrina Strand		Jutta DeMarsh, Joe Stuart (11:00)
<u>Instrumentalists</u>	Anna Flowers, Bonnie Flowers	<u>Altar Guild</u>	Gretchen Perry, B. Huwaldt(8:30)
	Larry Frakes, Mary Mast, Rebecca Mast		Pat Esteppe (11:00)
	Emily Reed, Mary Ann Stasiak	<u>Stream Team</u>	Daniel Hopkin, Lee Seitz (11:00)
	Jackie Sullivan, Olivia Sullivan	<u>Flower Guild</u>	Linda Heideman & Team

**\*\*CHURCH CALENDAR\*\***

**Sunday, December 25 - Blessed Christmas!**

9:45 a.m. - Christmas Day Fellowship Coffee

**Monday, December 26** - Church Offices Closed

**Tuesday Dec. 27 - Thursday, Dec. 29** Church Office Limited Staffing

**Friday, December 29** - Church Office Closed

**Sunday, January 1, 2023** - New Year's Day

8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: Service of the Word

9:45 a.m. - Fellowship Coffee (No Sunday School)

11:00 a.m. - Service of Worship: Service of the Word

*\*These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

**Monday, January 2**

Church Office Hours resume, M-F, 8:30 - Noon.

**Sunday, January 8**

8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: *LBW Setting 2* with the Lord's Supper

9:45 a.m. - Appreciation & Farewell Reception for Lois Graff

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for ages (abbreviated due to reception)

11:00 a.m. - \* Service of Worship: *LBW Setting 2* with the Lord's Supper

4:00 p.m. - 1<sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation

*\*These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**January 8, 2023** - Resumption of 1st Year Confirmation

**January 11, 2023** - Resumption of Music Rehearsals, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation, Wed. Dinners

**January 15 & Feb 5, 2023** - Town Hall Meeting / Parsonage Discussions

**February 12, 2023** - Special Congregation Meeting (Parsonage)

**Attendance:**

December 11: Online - 102

December 18: 8:30 a.m. - 117, 11:00 a.m. - 77

**Offerings Counted December 20, 2022** (Includes Advent offering from 12/14)

Church Ministries

Current Mortgages

Kit Ministries

Outreach

Messiah Mugs

Advent

Comforters

Kids to Love - Ktech

Wednesday Night Dinner

Property

Handbells

**ONLINE GIVING**

Scan the QR code to give to MLC today.



*Merry Christmas and New Year's Blessings  
from MLC Staff and Church Congregation Council*

*Holy-day Giving 2022*

Thank you for being the hands and feet of Christ this holiday season! Your prayers for Advent Hope guided the world through the darkness!

You also...

- ♥ helped provide 100 turkey dinners to local families in need
- ♥ provided warm clothing and coats for clients at the *Downtown Rescue Mission*
- ♥ cheered 20 children from the *Salvation Army Angel Program* on Christmas morning with gifts of toys, clothing, and a handmade blanket
- ♥ collected an abundance of toys and necessities for *Christmas Charities Year Round*, including many purchased with children's Sunday School offerings.
- ♥ provided warm clothing, coats, and sundries to women and children at *Owen's House*
- ♥ collected 12 lbs of pop tabs for *Ronald McDonald House* in Birmingham (1 lb= 1,430 tabs)
- ♥ donated \$300 to the Madison Library from the Ring and Sing concert
- ♥ fed children in Honduras by purchasing homemade jams and tree ornaments
- ♥ shared excess greeting cards and notepads to clients of *Enable* (formerly CASA)
- ♥ assembled 54 gift boxes for *Operation Shoebox*
- ♥ brought beauty to the sanctuary and honor to loved ones with purchases of poinsettias
- ♥ made felt Christmas trees and bead wreaths for clients of *Enable* (formerly CASA)
- ♥ funded numerous missions through Messiah's giving mall
- ♥ and supplied precious resources, such as bees, goats, and chicks worldwide through the ELCA's *Good Gifts* program.

Welcome all! If you would like more information about Messiah's missions and ministries that take place throughout the year, please visit [www.mlutheran.org/outreach](http://www.mlutheran.org/outreach), email Andrew King, Congregation Council Rep for Outreach at [outreach\\_rep@mlutheran.org](mailto:outreach_rep@mlutheran.org), or Claire Strand, Director of Outreach Ministries at [claire@mlutheran.org](mailto:claire@mlutheran.org). You do not need to be a member of MLC to help us in these missions and we welcome you.