



# January 22, 2023

## *The Third Sunday after Epiphany*



*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 Viewer Form](#)

For guests, friends, and members to record their viewing of MLC's online services.

**Messiah Lutheran Church**

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

**SERVICE of WORSHIP**

*Now the Feast and Celebration*

*\* Please stand as you are able*

THE PRELUDE: “Prelude in D Minor” (D. Scarlatti)

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

**If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*(silence for reflection and self examination)*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

\*HYMN: "God, Whose Almighty Word"

LBW 400

1 God, whose al - might - y word Cha - os and  
 2 Lord, who once came to bring, On your re -  
 3 Spir - it of truth and love, Life - giv - ing,  
 4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, Glo - ri - ous

dark - ness heard And took their flight:  
 deem - ing wing, Heal - ing and sight,  
 ho - ly dove, Speed forth your flight;  
 Trin - i - ty, Wis - dom, love, might!

Hear us, we hum - bly pray, And where the Gos - pel day  
 Health to the sick in mind, Sight to the in - ly blind:  
 Move on the wa - ter's face Bear - ing the lamp of grace,  
 Bound-less as o - cean's tide, Roll - ing in full - est pride,

Sheds not its glo - rious ray,  
 Oh, now to hu - man-kind Let there be light!  
 And in earth's dark - est place  
 Through the earth, far and wide,

\*THE 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.

# \*THE KYRIE

*Assistant:* In peace, in peace,

**Refrain**  
*Assistant:* *Congregation:*



Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have



mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy. *to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*



Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*



God. A - men.

# \*THE HYMN OF PRAISE: "Now the Feast"

**Refrain**  
*Congregation:*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,



all of cre - a - tion sings for joy



to the God of life and love and



free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -

(song continues next page ➡)

er - more!

**Verse 1**

*Congregation or Congregation 1:*

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once

slain, whose blood has freed and u -

nit-ed us to be one great peo - ple of

God. *to Refrain*

**Verse 2**

*Congregation or Congregation 2:*

2. Pow - er and rich-es, wis - dom and

might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

for ev - er. *to Refrain*

**Verse 3**

*Congregation:*

3. For God has come to dwell with us, to

make us peo - ple of God; to make

all things new. *to Refrain*

## THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:1-4

<sup>1</sup>But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <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>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

## THE PSALM

*Psalm 27:1, 4-9*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
**The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?**

<sup>4</sup> One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

<sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,  
**hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.**

<sup>6</sup> Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.  
**Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;  
**have mercy on me and answer me.**

<sup>8</sup> My heart speaks your message— "Seek my face."  
**Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

<sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.  
**Cast me not away—you have been my helper;  
forsake me not, O God of my salvation.**

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

<sup>10</sup>Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup>For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is that each of you says, 'I belong to Paul', or 'I belong to Apollos', or 'I belong to Cephas', or 'I belong to Christ.' <sup>13</sup>Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup>I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup>so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup>(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup>For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go"

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

## \*THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

## \*THE GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-23

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the lake, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>‘Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— <sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.’ <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.’

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, ‘Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.’ <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

## SERMON

1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult Of our  
 2 As of old St. An - drew heard it By the  
 3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship Of the  
 4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, Days of

life's wild, rest - less sea, Day by day his clear voice  
 Gal - i - le - an lake, Turned from home and toil and  
 vain world's gold - en store, From each i - dol that would  
 toil and hours of ease, Still he calls, in cares and

sound - ing, Say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."  
 kin - dred, Leav - ing all for his dear sake.  
 keep us, Say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."  
 plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."

5 Jesus calls us! In your mercy,  
 Savior, make us hear your call,  
 Give our hearts to your obedience,  
 Serve and love you best of all.

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of 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

\*THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

\*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

THE OFFERING

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Here I Am, Lord" (11:00)

\*THE OFFERTORY: "As the Grains of Wheat"

**Refrain** *Congregation:*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

The musical notation for the Refrain is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the refrain, the second and third staves contain the second and third lines, and the fourth staff contains the final line and ends with a double bar line.

**Verses**

1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst  
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*to Refrain*

The musical notation for the Verses is written on two staves in G major and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first two lines of the verses, and the second staff contains the final line and ends with a double bar line. The word "to Refrain" is written above the final line of the second staff.

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Merciful God, everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ.  
Amen

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING and THE PREFACE**

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.  
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**\*THE SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!  
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

**\*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.  
Amen

# THE AGNUS DEI: "Lamb of God"

*Congregation:*                      *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,                      you take a - way the sin of                      the  
you break the chains of ha - tred                      and  
you are the way of jus - tice                      and  
you are the way of mer - cy                      and

*Congregation:*



world:                      have mer - cy on us,                      mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer - cy                      on                      us.                      Lamb of God,                      you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of                      the world:                      grant us peace,



grant us peace,                      grant us peace.

# THE DISTRIBUTION

1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion At our Sav - ior's in - vi -  
 2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, Fill our hearts with ho - ly  
 3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion As one fam - 'ly of God's

ta - tion, Dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, Clothed in - stead in  
 rap - ture! For this bread and cup of bless - ing Are for us the  
 chil - dren, Rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, One in you with

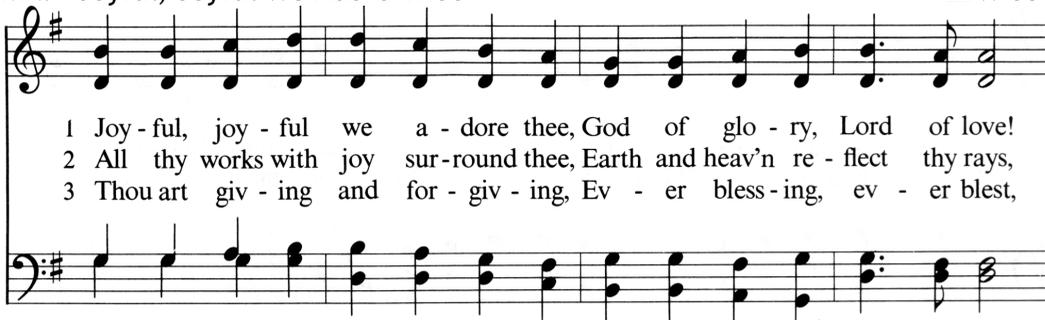
joy and won - der; For the Lord of all ex - is - tence,  
 sure pos - sess - ing Of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry,  
 God our Fa - ther. Give us grace to live for oth - ers,

Put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence, Stoops a - gain in love to  
 Of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry, Pledge of your un - fail - ing  
 Serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers, Seek - ing jus - tice, love, and

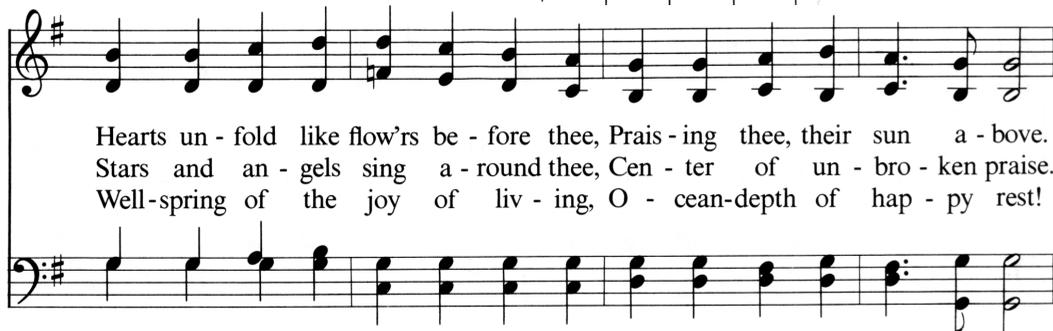
meet us, With his ver - y life to feed us.  
 pres - ence, Fore - taste here of heav'n - ly glad - ness.  
 mer - cy Till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

## HYMN: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

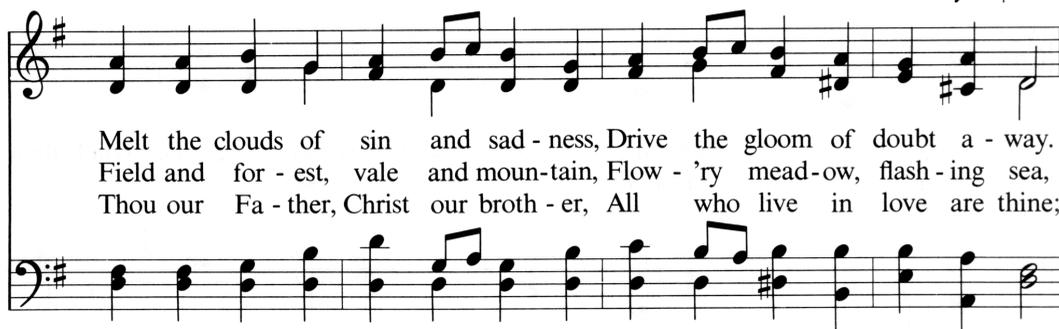
LBW 551



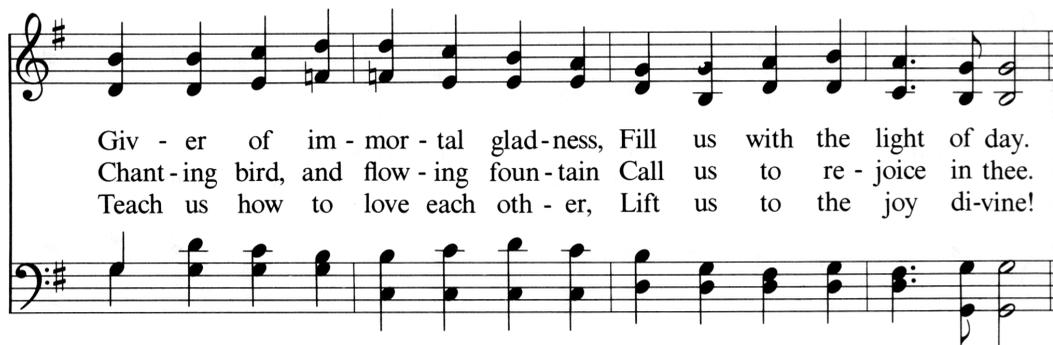
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, Prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, All who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.  
 Chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain Call us to re - joice in thee.  
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, Lift us to the joy di-vine!

\*THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

\*THE BENEDICTION &amp; DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: "Variations on *Le Cantique de Simeon*"

## WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

(Please refer to the names lifted up during Prayers of the Church)

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Chris Fossum in loving memory of husband Jim.

THANK YOU to Pastor Keith Cook for preaching and leading worship today and Randall Fields for accompanying.

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

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

JAN 25 - COME MEET MLC's PRIMARY CANDIDATE, PASTOR KRIS We hope you will attend one of two meet and greets events planned for Wednesday (Jan 25). Please feel free to bring a dessert or baked item to either of these events. A free will offering will be taken for each event.

- **12:00 p.m. - Soup & Sandwich Luncheon.** Members please RSVP at the welcome center if you plan to attend. Pastor Kris will make introductory remarks. After lunch there will be time to mingle, meet, and socialize.
- **5:00 p.m. - Social & Wednesday Night Dinner** Pastor Kris will make introductory remarks just prior dinner which will be served at 5:30 p.m. after dinner there will be some time to mingle, meet, and socialize.

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING TO CALL A PASTOR is scheduled for Sunday, January 29 at 9:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall. All confirmed members of MLC should attend in person if possible so quorum is reached quickly and the meeting can proceed. Members may attend via Zoom. *Please see the Special E-News sent this past Thursday. Additional copies available at the Welcome Center.*

THROUGH THIS TRANSITION Pulpit Supply has been secured through the end of February. Until our next pastor arrives, Pastor Diana Bottin 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 - Pasta & Sauce

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

<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u>	Claire Strand	<u>Acolytes</u>	Olivia Sullivan (8:30)
<u>Communication &amp; Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby		(11:00)
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt	<u>Greeters</u>	Ellie Nelson (8:30)
	Meredith Kilby		(11:00)
<u>Choir Director &amp; Accompanist</u>	Randall Fields	<u>Ushers</u>	Owen Wasmoen, Mark Zesinger (8:30)
<u>Nursery Attendant</u>	Katrina Strand		Bruce Machamer, Bruce Peter (11:00)
		<u>Lectors</u>	Joe Huwaldt (8:30)
			Jutta DeMarsh (11:00)
		<u>Altar Guild</u>	Lee Linda Baggett (8:30)
			Pat Esteppe (11:00)
		<u>Stream Team</u>	Meredith Kilby, Lee Seitz (11:00)
		<u>Flower Guild</u>	Beverly Berry, Linda Heideman

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

### **Sunday, January 22**

- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School for all ages
- 4:00 p.m. - 1<sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth - Fourth Sunday (Breakfast for Dinner)

### **Monday, January 23**

- 6:30 p.m. - Womens' Book & Social Club at Bartel Home

### **Tuesday, January 24**

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters

### **Wednesday, January 25**

- 12:00 p.m. - Soup & Sandwich Lunch with Pastor Kris
- 5:00 p.m. - 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation Class
- 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Night Dinner/Meet & Greet with Pastor Kris
- 6:00 p.m. - Cherub Choir
- 6:00 p.m. - Seraph Choir
- 6:30 p.m. - Notabella
- 7:30 p.m. - Messiah Choir

### **Thursday, January 26**

- 7:00 p.m. - Kit Ministries

### **Sunday, January 29**

- 8:30 a.m. - Service of Worship: Bread of Life w/the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Special Congregation Meeting of Call to Pastor
- 11:00 a.m. - \*Service of Worship: *Now the Feast* w/the Lord's Supper
- 4:00 p.m. - 1<sup>st</sup> Year Confirmation
- 5:00 p.m. - Jr/Sr Youth

*\*These services are live streamed on [mlutheran.org](http://mlutheran.org)*

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**February 2** - AARP Tax Services resume in Parish Hall (M & Th. through April 13)

**February 5** - Town Hall Meeting / Parsonage Discussions

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

### **Attendance:**

January 8 Online: - 126

January 15: 8:30 a.m. - 102, 11:00 a.m. - 64

### **ONLINE GIVING**

Scan the QR code to give to MLC today.

