



**May 14, 2023**  
*The Sixth Sunday of Easter*



*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**  
**LBW Setting 2 with the Lord's Supper**

\* *Please stand as you are able*

THE PRELUDE: "Allegro di Tromba" (Benedetto Marcello/arr. R. Parks) Steven Schneider,  
Guest Organist

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: "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

ELW 389

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. The cross stands  
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
 3 In ev - 'ry in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,  
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the  
 5 Christ is a - live, and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - ing,  
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet  
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the  
 this and ev - 'ry age, till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.  
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - 'ry place and time.  
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.  
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.  
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

\*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



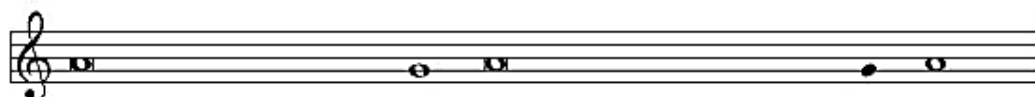
☩ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



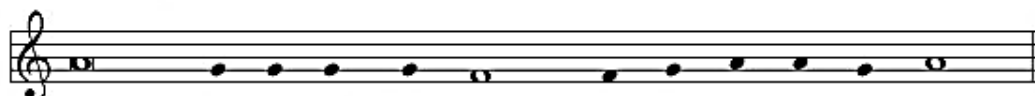
☩ For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



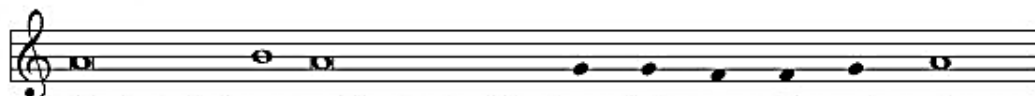
☩ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



☩ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. ☩ Lord, have mer - cy.



☩ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. ☩ A - men

\*THE HYMN OF PRAISE



Ⓐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Ⓑ Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



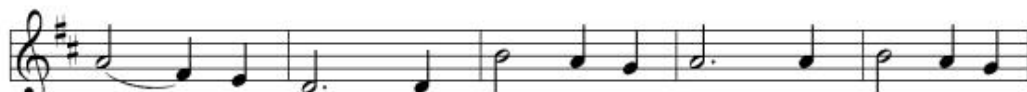
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

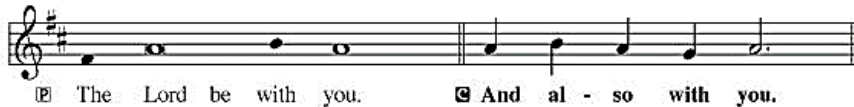


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## \*THE SALUTATION



## \*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

### THE FIRST LESSON

Acts 17:22-31

<sup>22</sup>Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup>For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.'

<sup>29</sup>Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup>While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

### THE PSALM: *Psalm 66:7-18*

<sup>7</sup>Bless our God, you peoples;

**make the voice of his praise to be heard,**

<sup>8</sup>who holds our souls in life,

**and will not allow our feet to slip.**

<sup>9</sup>For you, O <sup>1</sup> God, have proved us;

**you have tried us just as silver is tried.**

<sup>10</sup>You brought us into the snare;

**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

<sup>11</sup>You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,

**but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.**

<sup>12</sup>I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows,

**which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

<sup>13</sup>I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams;

**I will give you oxen and goats.**

<sup>14</sup>Come and listen, all you who fear God,

**and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

<sup>15</sup>I called out to him with my mouth,  
and his praise was on my tongue.

<sup>16</sup>If I had found evil in my heart,  
the Lord would not have heard me;

<sup>17</sup>but in truth God has heard me;  
he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

<sup>18</sup>Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,  
nor withheld his love from me.

## THE SECOND LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-22

<sup>13</sup>Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Children's Sermon

Lisa Bartel

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

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*THE GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my

commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

## THE SERMON

\*HYMN: “Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW 781

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa-ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;  
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;  
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.  
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.  
his the lov - ing pur-pose sole - ly to pre-serve them pure and ho - ly.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass clef staff. The first system contains four lines of lyrics. The second system contains three lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, folk-like style with block chords and moving lines.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958  
Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune  
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

\*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. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.



## GRADUATE BLESSING

Graduates, when you are far away, remember this community of faith and God's word that you have heard here.

**Listen and look for new places where God's word is faithfully spoken, shared and seeking to be told.**

Remember you are always welcome here.

**This will always be your home.**

And, when you fail, which at times you will, remember our Lord never fails.

**Turn to God for guidance and forgiveness.**

Remember to pray and you will grow in the power of prayer. Prayer connects us to God and one another. As we continue to pray for you, if there is ever something special you want us to pray for, just let us know. There are always over 60 disciples ready to respond and pray for you!

**Prayer is a reminder that God goes with you wherever you go.**

## \*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

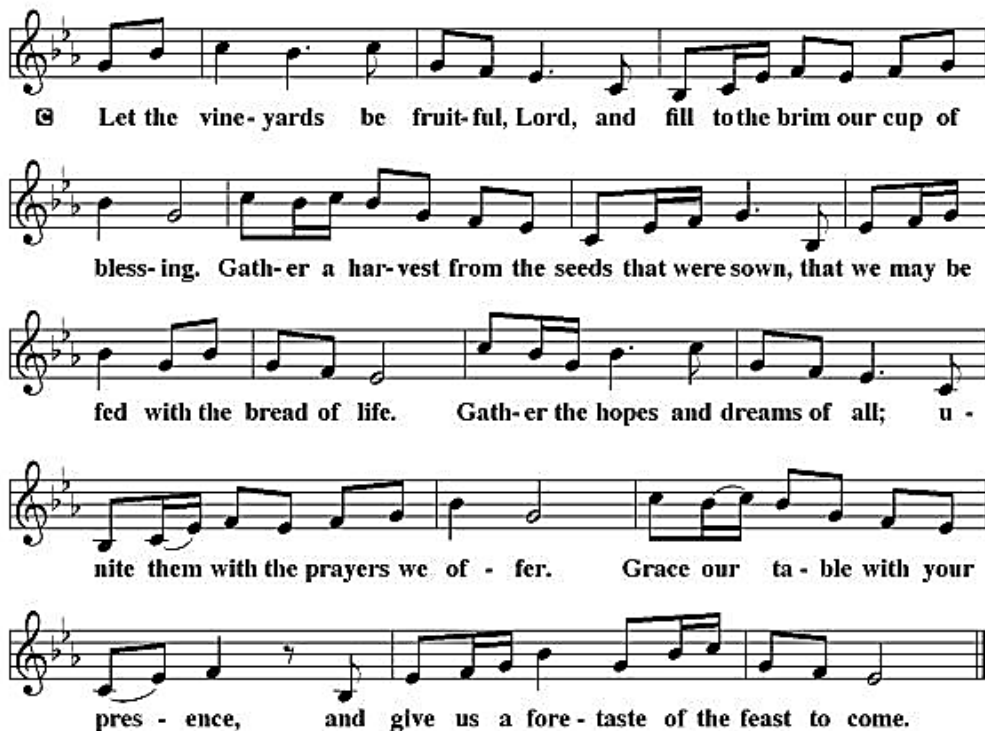
The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

## THE OFFERING

Piano Solo (8:30): "Minuet and Trio" (Ernest A. Dicks)

Choir Anthem (11:00): "If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments" (Thomas Tallis)

## \*THE OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards"



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**\*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. 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"**

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

## THE DISTRIBUTION

### HYMN: "Spirit of Gentleness"

ELW 396

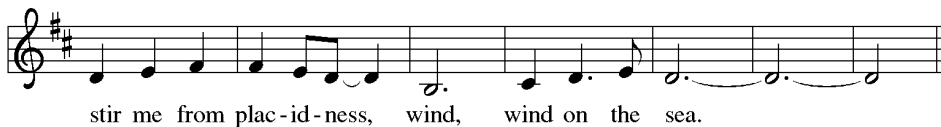


*Refrain*

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;  
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;  
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;  
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:  
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,  
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,  
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



*Refrain*

"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."  
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.  
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.  
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,  
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,  
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man!  
 robed in flow'rs and bloom - ing spring;  
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;  
 Son of God and Son of Man!

Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,  
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,  
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er  
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,

light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
 than all the an - gels in the sky.  
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

\*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

☐ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev - 'ry - one what  
he has done. Let ev - 'ry - one who seeks the Lord re -  
joice and proud - ly bear his name. He re - calls his prom - is -  
es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -  
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

\*THE BLESSING

\*THE SENDING HYMN "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

ELW 551

1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
 2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
 3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
 4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel

Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
 bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
 joy like seed and, all our days, to  
 to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -

to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
 share a dream and help the blind to see.  
 cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
 pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

\*THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: "Recessional" (F. W. Asper)

## WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

**THE FLOWERS TODAY** are given to the glory of God by Gary & Linda Heideman to honor all strong, nurturing women throughout the world, and by Art Rockett.

**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.

**THANK YOU**, Steven Schneider, for accompanying worship today. MLC continues to seek a permanent Music Director/Accompanist. Information at [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org)

**ALL ARE INVITED** to enjoy coffee and donuts in the Parish Hall after early service. Fellowship Hall, after late.

**“RUSH TO SERVE” STEWARDSHIP EXPO** is today, Sunday, May 14 in the Parish Hall. Come learn about all the ways you can serve at MLC. MLC’s missions & ministries will be on hand to answer questions. Along with signing up at each station, you can also complete your Time & Talent Form.

**AN END OF YEAR CELEBRATION** for MLC’s Faith Formation students is next Sunday.

**“GOD’S NEW CREATION” Vacation Bible School** will be held on Wednesday mornings from 9 a.m. to Noon, June 21, and 28, July 12, and 19. VBS will be at Messiah and together with our friends from St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church. See e-news for registration information.

**2023 DISASTER RECOVERY MISSION TRIP** is planned for **June 21-25!** We’ll be returning to the Mayfield, KY area to assist in recovery efforts from the December 2021 tornadoes. Much work remains to be done. All those 16 years of age and older are welcome (16 and 17 year olds must be accompanied by a parent). If interested in serving in this important outreach mission, please let Andrew King know at [outreach\\_rep@mlutheran.org](mailto:outreach_rep@mlutheran.org)

**MESSIAH MUSIC CAMP IS JUNE 5 - JUNE 11** - Give your child or grandchild a memorable week of music, fun, and recreation for just \$100 (\$20 discount for each additional sibling). Register online at [www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org](http://www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org) **Adult and Youth Volunteers needed.** If interested and available, please contact Camp Director Stephanie Gillespie at [musiccamp@mlutheran.org](mailto:musiccamp@mlutheran.org)

**KIT MINISTRY ITEM** - 4 oz. Bars of Soap **FOOD PANTRY** Deodorant

<u>Pastor</u>	Kristine Schroeder	<u>Acolytes</u>	Natalie Zesinger (8:30)
<u>Director of Outreach Ministries</u>	Claire Strand		Hannah Seitz (11:00)
<u>Communication &amp; Tech Director</u>	Meredith Kilby	<u>Greeter</u>	Pitchko Family (8:30)
<u>Office Managers</u>	Bobbey Huwaldt		Dagmar Miller (11:00)
	Meredith Kilby	<u>Ushers</u>	Lee Smith, Glen Long (8:30)
<u>Choir Director</u>	Randall Fields		Matthew DeMarsh, Bruce Machamer (11:00)
<u>Interim Director/Faith Formation</u>	William Strand	<u>Lector</u>	Joe Huwaldt (8:30)
<u>Nursery Attendant</u>	Katrina Strand		William Strand (11:00)
		<u>Altar Guild</u>	Linda Peirce, Janet Smith (8:30)
			Karen Jackson (11:00)
		<u>Cantor</u>	William Strand
		<u>Stream Team</u>	Claire Davis, Craig Martin
		<u>Flower Guild</u>	Linda Heideman, Beverly Berry

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

### **Sunday, May 14**

- 9:45 a.m. - Rush to Serve, Sunday School
- 10:40 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 4:00 p.m. - 1st year Confirmation class
- 5:00 p.m. - Junior/Senior Youth Group Meetings

### **Monday, May 15**

- 6:30 p.m. - Women's Book & Social @ Diane Davis home

### **Tuesday, May 16**

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters
- 5:30 p.m. - MOM's (Men of Messiah) @Prohibition (off Zierdt, in Town Madison)

### **Wednesday - May 17**

- 7:30 p.m. - Messiah Choir

### **Thursday - May 18**

- 7:00 p.m. - Kit Ministry

### **Saturday, May 20**

- 10:00 a.m. - Contemporary Team Rehearsal

### **Sunday, May 21**

- 8:10 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal
- 8:30 a.m. - Worship: Now the Feast with the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School End of Year Celebration
- 11:00 a.m. - Worship & Livestream: Contemporary Service with the Lord's Supper
- 5:00 p.m. - Junior/Senior Youth Group Meetings

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

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**June 5-11** - Messiah Music Camp - Register Today at [www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org](http://www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org)

**June 21** - "God's Good Creation" VBS begins and continues June 28, July 12, 19

### **Attendance:**

April 30 Online: - 76

May 7 In-Person: 8:30 a.m. - 101, 11:00 a.m. - 40

### **Offerings Counted May 7, 2023**

Church Ministries  
Current Mortgages  
Senior Youth (General)

Facility Usage  
Kit Ministries  
Messiah Mugs

### **ONLINE GIVING**

Scan the QR code to give to MLC today.



### **Pastor Kris Schroeder**

Email: [pastor.kris@mlutheran.org](mailto:pastor.kris@mlutheran.org)

Pastor Cell Phone: 480-338-6519

*Please do not respond to messages or emails by Pr. Kris (staff, or council) for help or assistance with a "sensitive" matter that solicits money or help with account transfers. etc.*

SignUp Genius



- Sunday Worship Assistants
- Counters, Coffee & More!