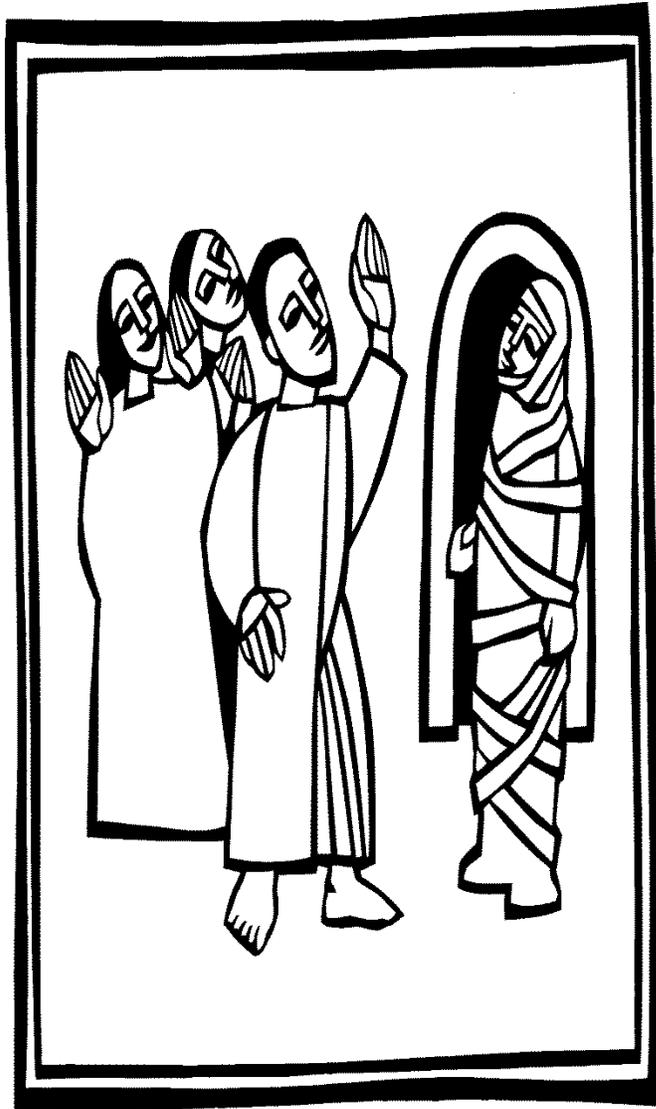


*Messiah Lutheran Church  
Mechanicsville, Virginia*



*November 7, 2021*

*All Saints Day*

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*To share the Good News of Jesus Christ  
and to invite all to join us in faith, worship, and service.*

The service will be livestreamed at 10:45 am on Messiah's FB page, and that video will be available later on the church website and YouTube. There is no pre-recording of the service on YouTube this week.

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/MessiahMech/>

## MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

8154 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23111

Pastor: The Rev. Ryan Radtke

Church: (804) 746-7134; Email: [MessiahMech@gmail.com](mailto:MessiahMech@gmail.com); Website: [MessiahMech.com](http://MessiahMech.com)

All Saints Sunday

November 7, 2021

*\*Congregation standing*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Welcome visitors! May the Spirit of Christ fill your heart as we worship today. You are invited to make Messiah your church home.*

### PRAYER FOR THE SAINTS

P: The Lord be with you.

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

P: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. (2 Cor. 1: 3-5)

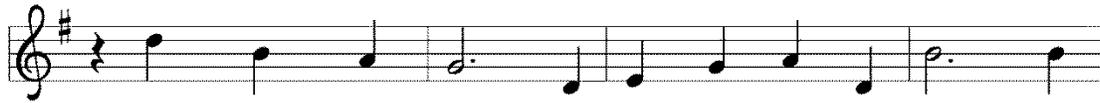
**C: *Amen.***

*As we sing the following hymn, members of the congregation are invited forward to leave a flower on the memorial wreath. Each flower serves to represent the love that we have shared and continue to share with saints in the Church Triumphant.*

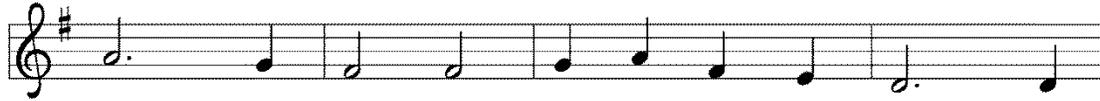
**PROCESSION AND HYMN, "For All the Saints" vs. 1-5**

*(see page 3 in bulletin)*

# For All the Saints



1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who  
 2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou,  
*Stanzas 3-5 below.*  
 6 But then there breaks a yet more glorious day: the  
 7 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, through



thee by faith before the world confessed, thy  
 Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; ..  
 saints triumphant rise in bright array; the  
 gates of pearl streams in the countless host, ..



name, O Jesus, be forever blest.  
 thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.  
 King of glory passes on his way.  
 singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:



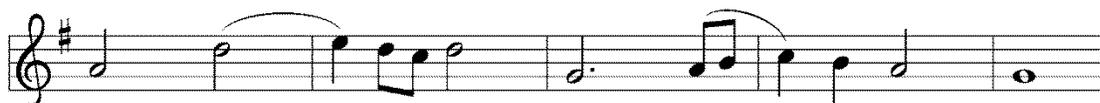
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle,  
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the  
 5 The golden evening brightens in the west; soon, soon to faithful



they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are  
 distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again and arms are  
 servants cometh rest; . . . sweet is the calm of paradise the



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 strong.  
 blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Music from *The English Hymnal* outside the USA © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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P: In the new Jerusalem, there will be no need for sun and moon,

**C: *for the glory of God will be its light.***

P: Before the Lamb is a multitude from every nation.

**C: *and they worship God night and day.***

P: Surely he is coming soon.

**C: *Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.***

P: We beseech you to give us a sense of your presence that we may feel oneness with all who have trusted you. You have declared, and we believe, that a day is coming in which you will bring to fulfillment all that you have promised to your people.

**C: *In that day, all things and every person will be made new, and our mortal nature will take on immortality. We pray that we may continue in our faith so we shall hear the trumpet call and awaken in your likeness.***

P: So on this day, we remember all your saints, those made holy by the power of the Spirit, through Christ our Savior.

**C: *Receive each of your chosen ones, O God, and give them perfect peace, holding them within your eternal love.***

**HYMN, "For All the Saints" vs. 6-7**

(see page 3 in bulletin)

### **\*THE GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray:

**C: *Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

**FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 25:6-9**

**Lector**

A reading from Isaiah.

*Isaiah sees a vision of the end of days, when God will gather all people on God's holy mountain and will prepare for them a rich feast. At this banquet*

*God will wipe the tears from all eyes. And there will be no more sorrow, for God will destroy death itself.*

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: *Thanks be to God.***

## **SECOND LESSON: Revelation 21:1-6a**

**Lector**

A reading from Revelation.

Here is a vision of the new heaven and new earth in which God resides fully with God's people so that mourning, despair, and pain have been eradicated. These renewing words from the God who spans all of time are trustworthy and true.

<sup>1</sup>I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

<sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

<sup>6a</sup>Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL: John 11:32-44**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Through the raising of Lazarus, Jesus offers the world a vision of the life to come, when death and weeping will be no more.*

<sup>32</sup>When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. <sup>34</sup>He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus began to weep. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup>When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" <sup>44</sup>The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Ryan Radtke**

This week I visited the website of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, as one does. And I learned that, above each of our eyes, there are lacrimal glands that produce tears. As you blink, tears spread across the surface of your eyes. Then the tears drain into puncta, tiny holes in the corners of your upper and lower eyelids. Your tears then travel through small

canals in the lids and down a duct before emptying into your nose. There, tears will either evaporate or be reabsorbed.

The tears across the surface of our eyes have a similar structure to saliva (remember that time Jesus spit and made mud before spreading it on a blind man's eyes to restore his sight?). Anyway, these basal tears form a constant shield to protect your eye from dirt and debris. They have an inner mucus layer to keep it connected to your cornea, a watery middle layer to keep your eye hydrated, and an outer oily layer to keep the rest from evaporating and to keep the surface of the eye smooth and clear so you can see through it all.

Besides the basal tears, you can also produce reflex tears, formed to wash away harmful irritants, like smoke, foreign objects, or the ever-popular onion fumes. Reflex tears can even contain antibodies to help fight bacteria.

There is one other type of tears: emotional tears. They are produced in response to strong feelings like rage, joy, or sadness. Some scientists say that emotional tears are evolutionary leftovers, like an appendix. Others say they are completely essential for socializing with other human beings. Some even propose that emotional tears contain additional hormones and proteins not present in other types of tears, in order to bring your body back into balance after a strong emotional reaction. Have you ever just felt better for having cried over something, even if the something wasn't better?

Tears – the basal kind, the pain-response kind, or the emotional kind – are natural. They are human. They serve many purposes, from shield to paramedic to empathy to outlet. They are a part of who we are. They are not a sign of weakness; they are a sign of humanity. And Jesus, the Word made flesh, Emmanuel: God-with-us...Jesus saw all those types of tears. He saw the normal blinks when the wind blew the sand around or the sun induced a squint. He saw the tears of pain from those who suffered from disease or injury, crowding around him for healing and wholeness. He saw the emotional tears from those who had been cast out, from those who were tired of Roman overseers, from those who worried over a loved one, and from those who had suffered loss: like Mary and Martha and their neighbors when Lazarus died.

Jesus saw the tears of the people. And Jesus had compassion on the tearful and the weeping, on the lamenting and the anguished, on the grieving and the hurting, on all whose faces were wet.

And then. Then! Then Jesus joined the ranks of the weeping. Jesus saw Mary weeping. He saw her neighbors weeping, and wailing. He heard them saying, "If you had been here, my brother would not have died," and "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

He saw their sorrow, slick on their cheeks and actively flowing, and he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. And Jesus began to weep as well.

Our Lord and Savior, the Word made flesh, Emmanuel: God-with us, the Son of God, the second person of the Trinity – Jesus the Christ...wept. Jesus joined the ranks of the weeping. Jesus, fully divine, expressed the fullness of his simultaneous humanity, and did a natural, normal, human thing. He cried. There is nothing – not one thing – in the human experience that is foreign to God, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

We live between the already and the not yet. We live in the time after the already of Jesus' birth, life, teaching, healing, death, resurrection and ascension. After the already of Jesus' fatal blow to sin, death, and the devil, draining them of their power. We live in the time before the not yet of Jesus' return, in glory, at the end of days, to finish what was begun before. And we live in the time before the not yet of the promises we heard about today: the power of death destroyed on the holy mountain. The great feast spread on the mountain, where God will wipe away the tears from all faces. The new heaven and the new earth, the new Jerusalem coming down to earth, God dwelling with mortals, when God will wipe every tear from our eyes, when death will be no more, and mourning and crying and pain will be no more. We live in the time before the not yet of the last part of the Creed: "the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting."

In between the already and the not yet, despite the victories and the promises, tears remain. We still need protection against the dangers of the world. We still need to see clearly. We still need to wash away that which would do us harm. We still get hurt, and we still feel. We still weep when we experience grief, like the loss of the departed saints we name today. We still weep when we suffer, when those we love suffer, when strangers suffer senselessly. We still weep when we experience or witness abuses. We still weep when ourselves or others are de-humanized, their tears deemed worthless or theatrical. We still weep when we experience or see greed running rampant, or hatred dividing, or apathy, that great sinkhole in our hearts. Our tear ducts are not blocked, nor should they be.

Lazarus being raised from death was a sign, to be sure. As Jesus said, all those there that day, and all of us still hearing the story now, would see the glory of God. Lazarus emerged from the tomb, from the stench, and came out! He walked out, and Jesus ordered them, "Unbind him, and let him go." But did you notice? It said, "When the *dead man* came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his faith wrapped in a cloth."

This wasn't the final resurrection. This wasn't the promised new life. This was a sign, a foretaste of the feast to come. Lazarus would still die again, some day. He was still bound, if not by cloth, then certainly by mortality. Still subject to weeping, and tears. Still in between.

We who are today living in between the already and the not yet: we are freed by the already. We are hope-filled because of the not yet. And, still, at the same time, we are bound. We are simultaneously sinners and saints, mortal and anticipating resurrection. We also honor the baptized saints today, inseparable from God's love for us in Christ Jesus through those *un*-salted baptism waters. And, at the same time, we are captive to the sin that still clings, both in our hearts in and this broken world.

Though we are dead in sin, we are unbound to be saints. Though we are mortal, we are unbound to truly live, to live abundantly, by the promise of resurrection and eternal life. Though weeping, we are unbound by the one who weeps with us, who joined our teary ranks, and unbound by the promise of faces wiped dry; unbound to weep with others when called upon and dry their faces when called upon. Though waiting for our Lord, lamenting – How long!? – we are unbound by the salvation already granted and still to come.

I wish that the tears weren't flowing. I wish that the tears were no more, that death had been swallowed up, and the feast was spread on the mountain and God was dwelling with us mortals, right now. I wish that we weren't in between. I wish that our celebration of saints was already a celebration *with* all the saints. I wish that, despite the miracles and signs and promises, that the suffering did not still remain. I wish I had no need for tears.

But in the meantime, Jesus joined the ranks of the weeping. Jesus wept with us. And we can weep with others in solidarity, in fellowship, in shared humanity, and even, sometimes, in joy! We can share the good news and the promises. We can do the work of tears: protecting the vulnerable, removing the obstacles to clear vision, springing out in empathy and compassion, bringing a sense of peace. Our Lord who weeps with us unbinds us and lets us into the world. Thanks be to God. Amen.

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY *Death Be Never Last***

**Death Be Never Last**

1 We walk in light of count - less fac - es  
2 When sor - row's heav - y hand has weight - ed  
3 When joy re - turns with laugh - ter sing - ing

bright as beams of ris - ing sun, cer - tain as the  
loss a - gainst the great - er gain, pin - ning down that  
thanks to God for life's sweet song, let us fol - low

morn - ing chas - es night in end - less a - ges' run.  
grief sore fat - ed lad - en on the bed of pain.  
af - ter bring - ing thanks to God for those now gone.

*Refrain*  
Turn - ing eyes now to their shin - ing mem - 'ry, to their faith - ful past,  
saints be now the truth di - vin - ing: death be now but nev - er last.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943  
Music: DEATH BE NEVER LAST, Ray Makeever  
Text and music © 1993 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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**REMEMBRANCE OF ALL SAINTS**

P: Let us remember all the saints before God. O God of the pilgrim's way, we give thanks for those in generations past who have been examples for us of God's love at work in the world. As we pray, we know that we are surrounded by this great, rejoicing cloud of witnesses. Yet even as we name these holy ancestors, we thank God for others whose names we never knew or have forgotten, who showed us the meaning of life in Christ. We also pray for those newly baptized into this life of Christ, witnesses of our present generation and time. Gracious God, in this life and the next, teach us to take Jesus' words to heart:

Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;  
for I am gentle and humble in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls.  
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.  
And you will find rest for your souls.

## Honoring the Saints

**Honored Saints:** Kenny Deere, Ray Harney, Pat Motley, Helen Penkalski, Judy Schwerdtfeger, Charlie Schwerdtfeger, Erhard Tutte

**Baptized Saints: All**

Holy God, we honor these, our ancestors in faith and members of our family. We, too, seek to do your will. Guide us. We, too, desire to be your servants. Strengthen us. We, too, long to know you clearly. Teach us. And in time, bring us to our eternal home of peace and joy.

**Amen.**

## **CREED**

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **\*PRAYERS**

A: Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need. *[Brief silence]*

A: Merciful God, we give thanks for all missionaries who have brought your message of hope to new communities and wiped tears away. Continue to raise up courageous missionaries to share your gospel of hope. Hear us, O God.

**C: *Your mercy is great.***

A: Creating God, we praise you for abundant harvests and the goodness of creation. Create communities of care for your earth so that all land, water, and soil will be celebrated and cherished by future generations of saints. Hear us, O God.

**C: *Your mercy is great.***

A: God of peace, we give you thanks for nations of peace that serve as a refuge for all whose homelands are afflicted with violence. Strengthen those who continue to work for peace and support all veterans who carry the scars of war. Hear us, O God.

**C: *Your mercy is great.***

A: God of healing, we give you thanks for health care workers who labor around the clock to answer cries for help. Bring wholeness to all who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, addiction, and all who long for healing in any way (especially). Hear us, O God.

**C: *Your mercy is great.***

A: God of justice, we praise you for the feeding ministries and for all meals that bring people together for nourishment and fellowship. Bless chefs, bakers, servers, dishwashers, communion assistants, and meal ministry coordinators. Hear us, O God.

**C: *Your mercy is great.***

A: God of the ages, we give you thanks for the saints of this congregation who have inspired, challenged, loved, and taught us. Wipe away our tears and lead us by their example until we feast together on your holy mountain. Hear us, O God.

**C: *Your mercy is great.***

A: Heavenly Father, You have generously blessed us with families. Thank you for your guidance and protection. As you love and care for us, may we also always love and care for our families and keep them in our prayers. We pray this week for the Combs, Deagle and Deere families as well as our Messiah family. May You keep us all from danger and sickness and guard our hearts so that we are reminded of Your Grace. Hear us, O God.

**C: *Your mercy is great.***

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: God our protection and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray.  
Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

### **PEACE-IN-PLACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*\*\*Please share signs of peace with those in your immediate vicinity only. If any are not comfortable making physical contact during the peace, please share peace in other ways.*

### **THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*\*\*Offering baskets are located near the doors to the sanctuary. Please place your offerings in the baskets at the end of the service as you depart.*

### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

A: Let us pray.

**C: Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

### **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### **\*PREFACE**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. By the witness of your saints you show us the hope of our calling and strengthen us to run the race set before us, that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory. And so, with all the saints, with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

## **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.***

## **\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**C: Amen**

*\*\*Please process up the center aisle as directed by the ushers. Please maintain social distancing between family groups while processing. Bread and wine will be available from the pastor and the first lay assistant, with empty cups available on your way to the front. Prepackaged grape juice and wafer servings will be available from the second lay assistant. Baskets for empty cups will be set out. Please return to your seats down the side aisles.*

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ that you have received strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

A: Let us pray.

Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.

C: **Amen**

**\*BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen**

**\* SENDING SONG**      Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand      (ELW 441)

1 Oh, hap - py day when we shall stand a - mid the  
2 Oh, bless - ed day when Christ shall come and show him -  
3 Oh, what a might - y rush - ing flood of joy and  
4 O Lord, your grace is ev - 'ry - thing; your love has

heav'n - ly throng; and sing with hosts from ev - 'ry land the  
self as Lord, and thou - sands meet in their new home which  
love and peace will roll down o - ver us with good and  
made us free to stand a - mong the saints and sing the

new ce - les - tial song, the new ce - les - tial song,  
Je - sus has pre - pared, which Je - sus has pre - pared,  
bless - ed - ness and grace, and bless - ed - ness and grace,  
glo - ry that we see, the glo - ry that we see.

Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797-1866; tr. composite  
Music: LOBT GOTT; IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561  
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**\*DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*\*\*Please exit through either set of doors, maintaining distance between family groups. You are welcome to enjoy fellowship time outside in the parking lot.*

**POSTLUDE**

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**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – SUNDAY, November 7, 2021**

- Pianist: Debbie Walker
- Lay Assistants: (1st Lay Asst.) Marilyn Gunn (2nd Lay Asst.) Becky Collie
- Lectors: Becky Collie
- Acolyte: Max Williams
- Greeters: Donna Combs
- Ushers: Daren & Max Williams
- Altar Guild: Anita Philp & Dianne Absher
- Counters: Becky Collie

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*Announcements*

**PASTOR RYAN'S OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Ryan will be in and out of the office this week. Please call or email him to set up an appointment, at 507-360-7276 and/or messiahmechpr@gmail.com.

**THANK YOU!**

A gigantic thank you to everyone at Messiah for the wonderful and generous basket of gifts for Clergy Appreciation month! Your cards, prayers, and kind words are deeply appreciated. I appreciate you all right back! Here's to another year of ministry together!

**OUR NEIGHBOR'S FAITH**

We're continuing our discussions of various faith traditions and denominations this week by talking about our neighbors in the Reformed and Moravian churches.

**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**

The Annual Business Meeting for Messiah Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, November 21, 2021 following our worship service. We will be voting on the 2022 budget and electing council members.

### **WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Here is this week's information based on our 2021 budget.

- Contributions to the general fund averaged \$2,846.12 (slightly down from \$2,853.40 through October 31, 2021).
- We are \$50,374.76 behind the year-to-date budget needs (increasing from \$48,916.76 the last time reported).
- Weekly budget need is \$3,991.00.

### **COME ONE COME ALL: MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN!**

Would you like to learn to quilt? Are you wondering what you can do to make a difference? Even non-sewers can help make a quilt! Here are the 5 Ws and 1 P.

Who: *anyone interested*

What: *quilting*

When: **This Wednesday** – November 10, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

Where: *Messiah Lutheran Church - narthex*

Why: *With a November start, a Thanksgiving theme of gratitude and thankfulness, can illustrate our thankfulness for all the blessings God has given us by quilting for others.*

Purpose: *This fellowship activity sponsored by the evangelism team with the hope of assisting others beyond our walls.*

If you are interested but cannot attend, please contact: Glady Hubert - gladyh43@gmail.com or Cheryl Griffis - candlgriffis@gmail.com

### **COUNTERS NEEDED**

If you would be able to help count donations after services, please contact Bill Weaver at wweaver701@comcast.net or 804-908-3861.

### **MESSIAH RECEIVES .5% DONATION WHEN YOU SHOP ON AMAZON!**

Even though the most recent holiday shopping season is behind us, the Stewardship team would like to remind everyone to sign up and use Amazon Smile! Signing up is easy and does not interfere with Prime Membership benefits. Amazon donates .5% of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Step 1: visit smile.amazon.com; Step 2: sign in with your amazon account credentials; Step 3: Search for "Messiah Lutheran Church Mechanicsville"; Step 4: Start SHOPPING!

\*please remember to bookmark smile.amazon.com for easy access every time you shop. You must add the "smile" for this program. Thank you all and happy shopping!