

Messiah Lutheran Church
Mechanicsville, Virginia



March 27, 2022
Fourth Sunday in Lent

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; Website: MessiahMech.com

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 27, 2022

**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.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

C: Amen

P: Holy One,

C: *we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.*

P: Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In ☩ Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (ELW 779)*

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

1 A - maz - ing grace!— how sweet the sound— that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt., sts. 1–4; anonymous, st. 5
 Music: NEW BRITAIN, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835; arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851–1921, alt.

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: God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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 Joshua 5:9-12

Lector

A reading from Joshua 5:9-12.

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Lector

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.]

²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have

been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Ryan Radtke

HYMN OF THE DAY *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* (ELW 588)

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
 2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
 3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
 4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
 there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
 and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
 great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
 There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
 But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
 Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
 there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
 and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
 and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended 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.

PRAYERS

A: Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *[Brief silence]*

A: Jesus formed the disciples in the ways of extravagant mercy and profound welcome. Lead your church to be a community marked by forgiveness, hospitality, and celebration. Send us to transform a world plagued by fear and condemnation. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: You make the land to produce a harvest that sustains your entire creation. Equip farmers and farm workers who till the soil. Nourish the earth with ample rainfall and abundant sunshine. Heal grounds tainted by pollution or misuse. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Countries are divided and leaders often harbor grudges. Reconcile nations that experience conflict (*especially*). Act quickly to bring an end to war. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy and foster a spirit of collaboration among political rivals. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Your people cry for help in times of distress. Resolve disagreements among family members. Save those experiencing financial hardship. Hear our prayers for those who are sick or grieving (*especially*). Console us with the promise that everything can become new. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Your love comes to us when a table is set and a feast is prepared. Bless the feeding ministries of this congregation (*especially*). Bring an end to hunger in our community and around the world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: The one who was dead is alive again. We give thanks for those who have died, confident that steadfast love surrounds them. Shelter them in your love until we are gathered at your heavenly banquet. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

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 Wightman and Williams 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. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

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: Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. 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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and 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: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**C: *Christ has died.
Christ has risen.
Christ will come again.***

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: *Amen.*

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: *Amen.*

P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, 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: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

***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.*

COMMUNION

***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, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

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 For by Grace You Have Been Saved (ELW 598)

For by Grace You Have Been Saved



1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your
2 "So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my
3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I'll ac - cept now in my -



own, it's the gift of God for you and not the works that you have
own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my
self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don't let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is
own. When you're weak, then you are strong, for this is
self. When I'm weak, then I am strong, for this is



God's great gift. A - men.
God's great gift." A - men.
God's great gift. A - men. A - men.

Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper
Music: ARMOLAULU, Kari Tikka
Text and music © Fennica Gehrman, admin. Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

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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

(Text used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #11886-S)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – SUNDAY, March 27, 2022

- Pianist: Debbie Walker
- Lay Assistants: (1st Lay Asst) Marilyn Gunn (2nd Lay Asst.) Karen Morris
- Lectors: Karen Morris
- Acolyte: Kate Radtke
- Greeters: Gladys Hubert
- Ushers: Roger Schroeder & Bill Weaver
- Altar Guild: Dianne Absher & Anita Philp
- Counters: Becky Collie & Leroy Deere

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.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Here is this week's information based on our 2022 budget.

- Contributions to the general fund averaged \$3,025.97 (down from \$3,063.88 through March 20, 2022).
- We are \$12,552.37 behind the year-to-date budget needs. (increasing from \$11,089.37)
- Weekly budget need is \$4,072.

COVID PROTOCOLS UPDATE FROM COUNCIL

As the Church Council continues to monitor the local COVID numbers, and using some new tools from the CDC, we are happy to announce a loose timetable to start bringing some of our worship practices back into the routine! We can start now with passing the offering plates. We are planning to have

Communion at the altar rail and more singing on Easter – and an Easter breakfast! (Stay tuned for more info on that.) Following Easter we will bring back a fuller liturgy, with the sharing of the peace to follow sometime later. For the time being, we will still ask Communion servers to wear masks.

Council also set some benchmarks on how to handle future surges in covid cases, if any. As long as Covid community levels stay below 10%, we will be able to proceed with all activities. Of course, anyone is still welcome to wear a mask if required to by their doctor or if they are simply more comfortable doing so. If community levels rise back up to between 10-20%, we will return to the limited worship format and some other protocols we've been doing for months, and masks will be requested. And if community levels rise above 20%, we will once again require masks, with further limits to activities. At that point Council would determine if measures like virtual or parking lot worship were necessary. Once Community levels dropped back down, Council would wait two weeks for stability before relaxing things again.

The Church Council is thankful that we've finally reached this stage. We still encourage everyone to show love and care for one another while individuals and families manage this transition in various ways. Not everyone feels the same way about this, and masks and Covid plans are part of life now. But we can handle diversity in feelings and opinions with respect and compassion and acceptance, because we are members of the body of Christ, and unity in the midst of diversity is what we are all about. Our unity is in Christ, and he taught us how to love our neighbors. Please keep your prayers and your care going. Thanks be to God!

LILIES FOR EASTER – ORDERS DUE APRIL 3RD

The sign-up sheet for Easter lilies is on the table in the narthex. Please help beautify our worship space. Lilies can be dedicated in memory or in honor of others if you wish. Please note next to your name and phone number the dedication you would like to have included in the Easter bulletin. Lilies are \$14.50 per plant. Please make sure you write **“Easter Lily Order”** on the memo line of your check and/or offering envelope Any questions can be directed to Donna Combs (746-1365).

M.O.M.'S NEEDED

It's that time of year again, when the **Men Of Messiah**, known affectionately as “M.O.M.,” get together to cook for all the rest of us. The traditional Easter breakfast is something that we all look forward to. It does, however, take preparation and willing hands to bring it about. Both cooks and servers are needed, with on-the-job training available. We need new help as we have lost some of our previous volunteers. If you, Man of Messiah, are willing to lend a hand, contact Bill Weaver (559-3503) or email: wweaver701@comcast.net.

QUILTERS GATHER TOGETHER (4/6, 4/20, 5/4, 5/18)

Quilters (and non-quilters) who are interested in learning about quilting and using their hands and hearts to make a Mission Quilt for Lutheran World Relief will gather in the narthex the first and third Wednesdays in April and May from 9:00 to 12:00 noon. Bring any of your favorite sewing supplies, extra cotton fabric that you may have (clean and pressed) and your enthusiasm. No special skills needed, we will gather to learn. Call Glady Hubert with any questions, 814-449-1392.

MCEF INFORMATION

During the month of February, MCEF served 94 households with food and 88 bags of clothing and linens. Seven households were assisted with utilities and/or utility bills to the amount of \$3500. Senior rides provided rides to 86 seniors for doctor's appointments and necessary personal business. The new Tools for Teachers-Hanover program has provided approximately 300 requests from teachers in the 4 middle schools in Hanover. Current inventory is low, community support is needed. A list of supplies and how to donate is on the website, 4mcef.com. Spring and summer clothing is now being accepted, needs include men's and older boy's underwear. All food items are being accepted, special needs are crunchy peanut butter.

The 3rd Monday of each month continues to be a fundraiser at Chicken Salad Chick, just say that you support MCEF and a portion of the sale is donated to MCEF. Looking for something to do? MCEF has many opportunities for volunteers. Call Pat Hubert 814-449-2612 for more information. Thank you for your continued donations and financial support.

"LETTER JOCKEYS" NEEDED ☺

Our beloved church sign has some dedicated volunteers who are coming up with the messages to put up – but they could use some help with the actual putting up. The message will change, on average, twice a month. You will receive training in how the letters are organized and how to change things out. If you'd like to be on the letter-rotating rotation, or if you would like more information, please talk to Linda Mahovtas or Pastor Ryan. Thanks!

LENTEN ACTIVITIES:

Lenten Devotions

A Lenten Devotion called *Grace Unbounded* is available to take home for a daily reading from the Gospel of Luke, as well as evocative images and brief reflections. You can find it on the sill of the bulletin board in the narthex.

Ecumenical Lenten Videos

Once again our group of local pastors from congregations (mostly) on Atlee Road will produce weekly Lenten videos. The theme this year is "At Cross Purposes: Joy and Abundance in the Season of Lent." Lent is a season where we usually talk about giving things up – where is there abundance and joy in the midst of that? Keep an eye on the YouTube channel "Mechanicsville Ministry" for the next video, from Rev. Amy Dunn of Mechanicsville United Methodist Church.

God's Global Barnyard Drive

We are again collecting your coins and more to purchase animals and other items from the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog. The piggy banks are in the narthex keeping watch over the devotional books by the bulletin board. The funds we raise will go towards a shopping spree for our Sunday school students to select small gifts with big impacts for people in many corners of our world. Thanks in advance for your support and generosity – let's fill those piggies up!

Lenten Study

Please join us during Sunday adult Christian Formation time in the Fellowship Hall for a new series: "Wrestle with the Bible: Meeting God in difficult stories from Genesis." We'll cover a number of stories that are tough to talk about, and use our scriptural stretching as a practice for deeper Lenten devotion. Each conversation will be recorded and shared for those who would like to follow along from home. This week we'll be discussing the story of the Abram, Sarai, Hagar, and Ishmael.

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

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!

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE – EASTERN EUROPE RESPONSE

Please visit the Lutheran Disaster Response website to see how you can contribute to the ongoing aid and recovery efforts for a variety of crises, both in the U.S. and around the globe. The situation is especially urgent right now in Ukraine, as well as other Eastern European countries where refugees fleeing Ukraine are seeking safety, such as Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. Just mark your donations "Eastern Europe Crisis Response."