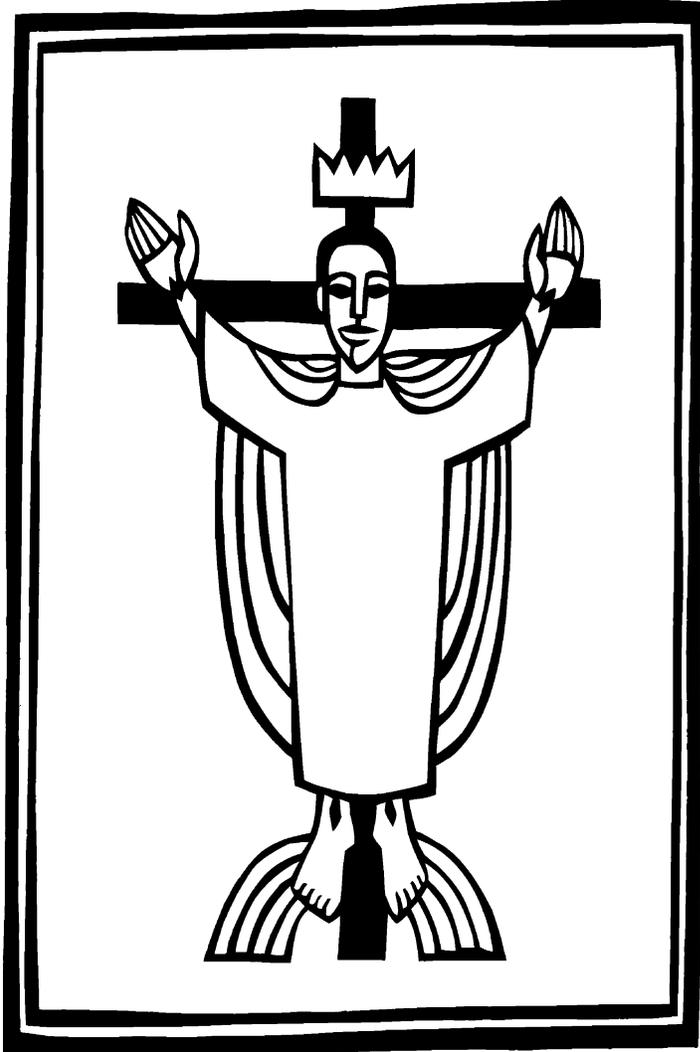


*Messiah Lutheran Church
Mechanicsville, Virginia*



*November 20, 2022
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

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. 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

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 20, 2022

**Congregation please stand if able*

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

(ELW p. 94)

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

P: 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.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: *have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG*Crown Him with Many Crowns****(ELW 855)**

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match - less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

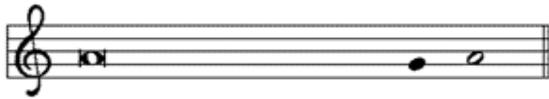
***THE GREETING**

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.*

KYRIE

(ELW p. 147)



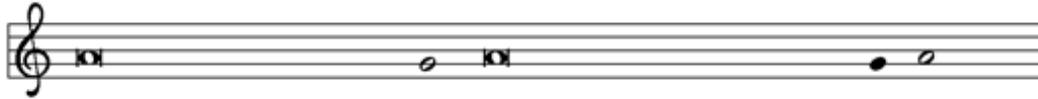
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



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 unity 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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

(ELW p. 148)

Refrain

Assisting minister



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

All



1 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

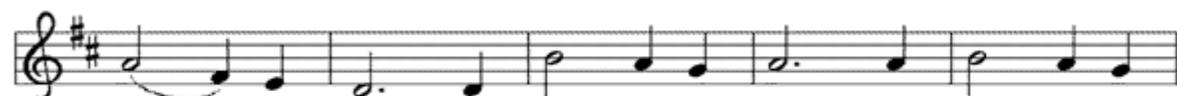


strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

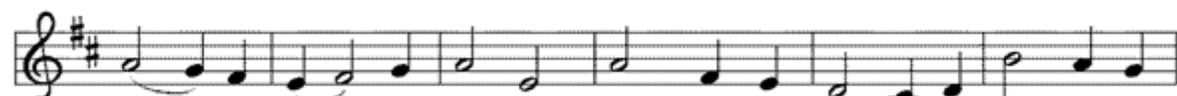
Refrain



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



2 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.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray:

C: O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Lector

A reading from Jeremiah

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock,"

to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON: Colossians 1:11-20

Lector

A reading from Colossians.

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

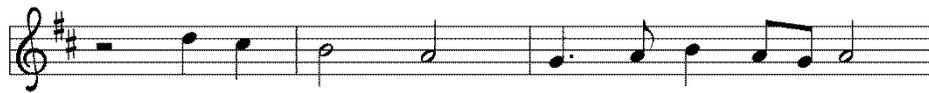
¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(ELW p. 151)



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



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴[[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Ryan Radtke

1 O Christ, what can it mean for us
to claim you as our king?
What royal face have you revealed
whose praise the church would sing?
Aspiring not to glory's height,
to power, wealth, and fame,
you walked a diff'rent, lowly way,
another's will your aim.

2 You came, the image of our God,
to heal and to forgive,
to shed your blood for sinners' sake
that we might rise and live.
To break the law of death you came,
the law of love to bring:
a diff'rent rule of righteousness,
a diff'rent kind of king.

3 Though some would make their greatness felt
and lord it over all,
you said the first must be the last
and service be our call.
O Christ in workplace, church, and home,
let none to power cling;
for still, through us, you come to serve,
a diff'rent kind of king.

4 You chose a humble human form
and shunned the world's renown;
you died for us upon a cross
with thorns your only crown.
But still, beyond the span of years,
our glad hosannas ring,
for now at God's right hand you reign,
a diff'rent kind of king!

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: United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.
[Brief silence]

A: We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Bring solace to all who are sick or in any need, especially... Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this assembly. Guide our pastor, deacon, and council members in discernment, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We give thanks for all who have died in the faith. Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of relationship, eternal three-in-one, thank You for blessing us with the families in our lives, of all configurations. When we are down, they lift us up. We know that You make Yourself known in our lives through them. This week we pray especially for the Fulop, Garbett and Gardner families as well as our Messiah family. We are never alone, because You are here with us through our loved ones. Thank You for showing us that love and care can be found anywhere, especially in our families, and help us share Your love in turn.
Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

***PEACE**

(ELW p. 152)

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

(ELW p. 152)



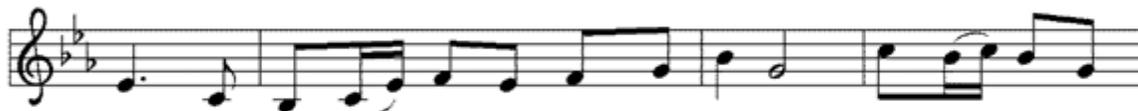
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



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.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

C: *God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen*

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

(ELW p. 152)

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.*

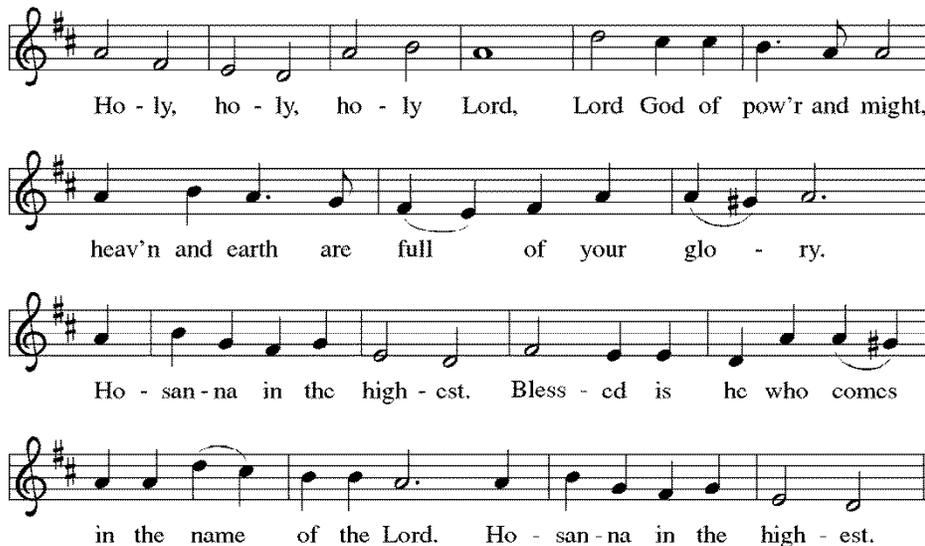
*PREFACE

(ELW p. 153)

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(ELW p. 153)



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.

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.

P: 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**

(ELW p. 154)

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**

(ELW p. 153)

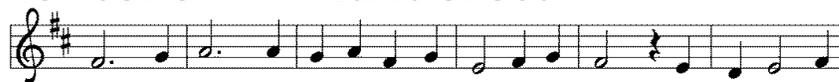
P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C: Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb Of God

(ELW p. 154)



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.

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**

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Thankful Hearts And Voices Raise* (ELW 207)



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
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*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 *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, *Psalmodia Evangelica*, 1789
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***DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – SUNDAY, November 20, 2022

- Pianist: Debbie Walker
- Lay Assistants: (1st Lay Asst) Lois Schroeder (2nd Lay Asst.) Donna Combs
- Lectors: Donna Combs
- Acolyte: Will Radtke
- Greeters: Sue Gilnett
- Ushers: Roger Schroeder & Gordon Gunn
- Altar Guild: Dianne Absher & Anita Philp
- Counters: Donna Combs & Erna Jung
- Live Streamer: Heather Williams

Altar Flowers:

*Given by Lynne and Leroy Deere in honor of
 their 56th Anniversary.*



OPPORTUNITIES FOR MESSIAH

Nov 20	Christian Formation	9:15 AM
	Worship Service (Messiah Lutheran)	10:45 AM
	Thanksgiving Dinner	11:45 AM
Nov 23	Women's Bible Study (CANCELLED)	6:30 PM
Nov 24	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)	
Nov 25	Secretary on Vacation	

Announcements

PASTOR RYAN'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Ryan will be in and out of the office this week. To set up an appointment with Pastor Ryan, please call or email 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 \$3,102.14 (down from \$3,115.41 through November 6, 2022).
- We are \$44,613.41 behind the year-to-date budget needs. (increasing from \$43,046.41)
- Weekly budget need is \$4,072.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

As we prepare to celebrate the goodness of our God for all He has done and continues to do for us this Thanksgiving, we are joining in fellowship for a thanksgiving dinner today! The fellowship hall will be set for a feast which will begin after the church service. Signups have ended, but we'll make sure we have a place for you if you didn't have a chance to sign up earlier. If you have any questions, please talk to Becky Collie or Marilyn Gunn.

READING THE TEACHER'S GUIDE – MARTIN LUTHER'S LARGE CATECHISM

Many Lutherans are familiar with Martin Luther's Small Catechism: a handy little teaching booklet that covers the basics of the Christian faith, including the Ten Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and Holy Communion. But did you know that there is also a *Large Catechism*? We will wrap up our tour of the Large Catechism today, and then move on next week to...

**WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?! – EXPLORING CHRISTMAS CAROLS
IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

Isn't it annoying how pastors always wait to do Christmas carols in worship until after Advent is over? If the stores and radio can play Christmas songs, why can't we? Pastor Ryan will talk about why that is, and also sneak some Christmas carols under the Advent radar, hearing the stories behind the songs as we prepare for the birth of Christ. Join us for the conversation during adult Christian Formation time!

FOSTER CHILDREN'S WISHLISTS

You can select gifts, from the red wishlist on the round table with the Christmas tree, in the Narthex. Please return the wrapped gift, with a post it note indicating what the gift is, to church on December 11th. If you have any questions, please call Sharon Addair at 804-543-9709. Thank You, the Social Ministry Team

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER - NO ROOM AT THE INN

Join the 15th Annual No Room at the Inn Gala and Nativities Exhibit & Benefit to End Homelessness, December 2-4, at Church of the Redeemer. A portion of the proceeds for this event is designated for MCEF to help prevent homelessness in Mechanicsville by helping our neighbors with rent and utilities as well as our other community partners serving those in need.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Congregational Business meeting will take place following worship on Sunday, December 4th. All congregation members are encouraged to attend as we discuss and vote on a proposed 2023 budget, hold an election for open church council positions, and ratify some changes to the church constitution (portions updated at the last Churchwide Assembly that all ELCA congregations must adhere to). If you have any questions please let a current council member or Pastor Ryan know.

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for an all-ages Christmas tree decorating event after service on December 11th. Crafts, carols, and cookies, and more! More information to come.