

*Messiah Lutheran Church  
Mechanicsville, Virginia*



*January 11, 2026  
Baptism of Our Lord*

**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](mailto:MessiahMech@gmail.com); Website: [MessiahMech.com](http://MessiahMech.com)

Baptism of Our Lord

January 11, 2026

*Hearing Assistance Receivers are available upon request.*

*\* Please stand as you are able \**

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

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

*A brief silence is kept for reflection.*

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

**C: we confess that we are captive 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.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God 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.

**C: Amen.**



**\*GATHERING SONG – Baptized and Set Free**

**ELW 453**



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.  
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.  
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,  
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.  
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.  
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.  
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door  
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:  
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:  
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun - tain bring - ing heal - ing, and whole - ness and more.  
end - less o - cean, al - ways deep - er than all of our need.  
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.  
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956  
Music: BAPTIZED AND SET FREE, Cathy Skogen-Soldner  
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**\*THE GREETING**

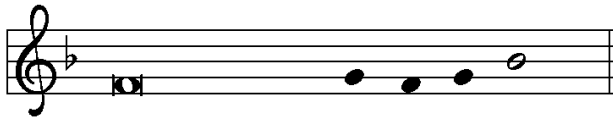
**P:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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



KYRIE

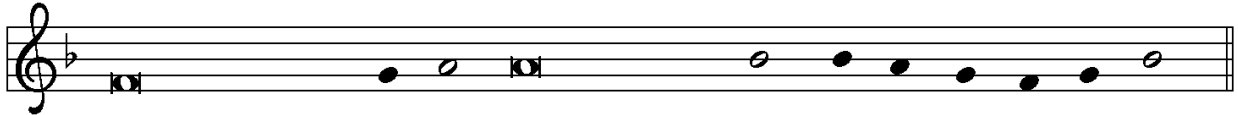
(ELW p. 165)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



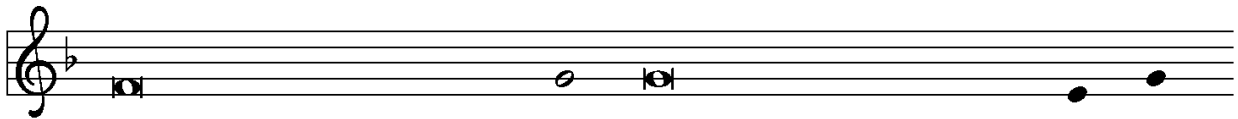
Lord, have mer - cy.



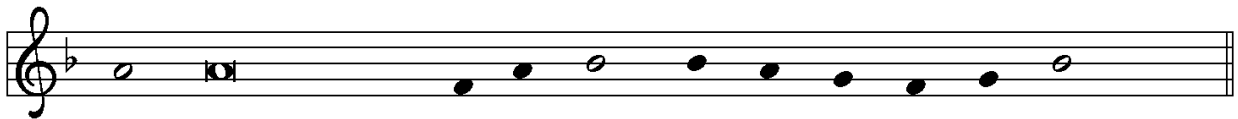
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



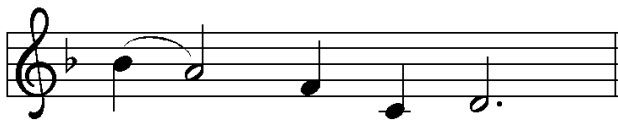
Lord, have mer - cy.



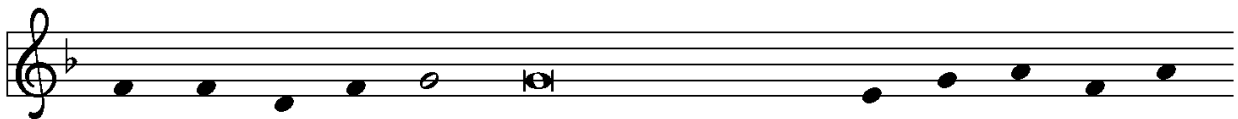
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



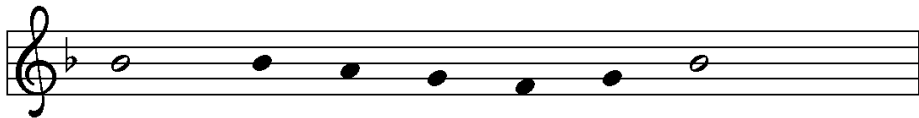
God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



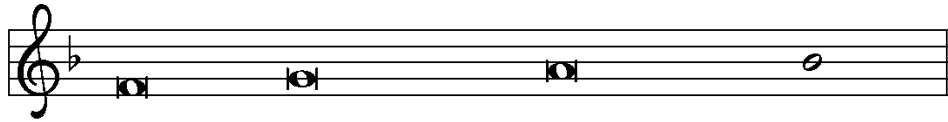
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

**(ELW p.167)**

*Refrain*



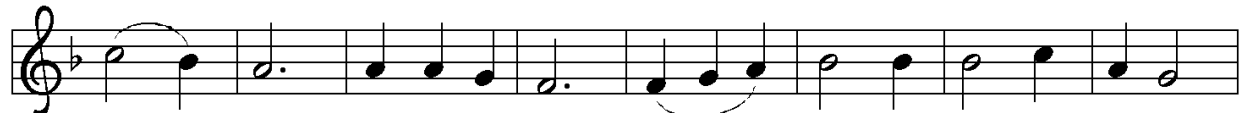
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.


*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

*Final refrain*

Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

A - men, a - men.

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray:

**C: O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

Lector

*God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.*

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.

<sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
or make it heard in the street;

<sup>3</sup>a bruised reed he will not break,  
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.

<sup>4</sup>He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth,  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

<sup>5</sup>Thus says God, the Lord,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup>I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup>to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup>I am the Lord; that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup>See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43**

**Lector**

*Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.*

A reading from Acts.

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a

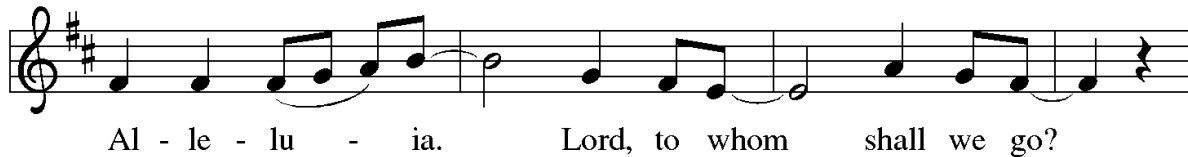
tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**(ELW p. 171)**



**\*GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17**

*Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's child.*

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew.

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

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

**CHILDREN'S SERMON AND BIBLE PRESENTATION**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Ryan Radtke**



1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,  
2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,  
3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,  
4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.  
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age— chan - nel to a life made new.  
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.  
Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: STUTTGART, attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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**\*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 OF INTERCESSION**

A: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A: Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those seeking asylum or in need of shelter. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill (*especially*). Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who are homebound. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of all relationships, bless this branch of the body of Christ that is Messiah Lutheran Church. Strengthen all its relationships and weave your love and grace into each family and household. We especially pray this week for the Griffin, Griffis, and Gunn families. Make us your people. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

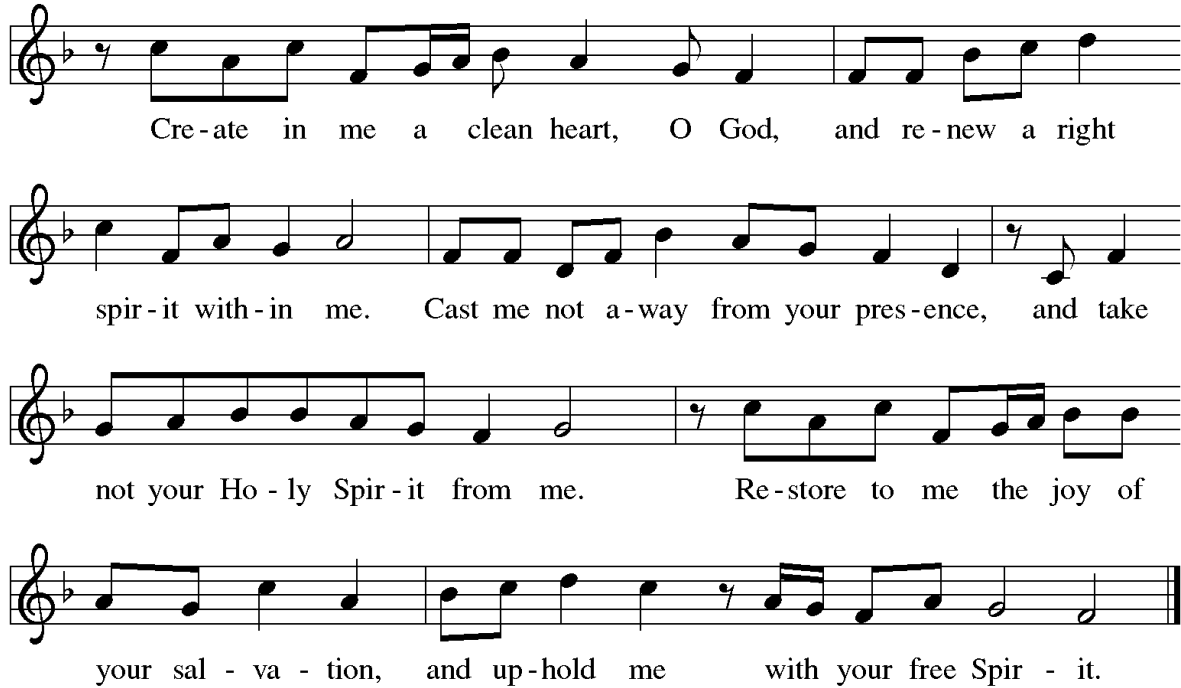
## **\*PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**OFFERING** – You may place an “I give online” card in the plate as a physical offering

**\*OFFERING SONG – Create in Me a Clean Heart**



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Let us pray:

**C: God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**THE 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.

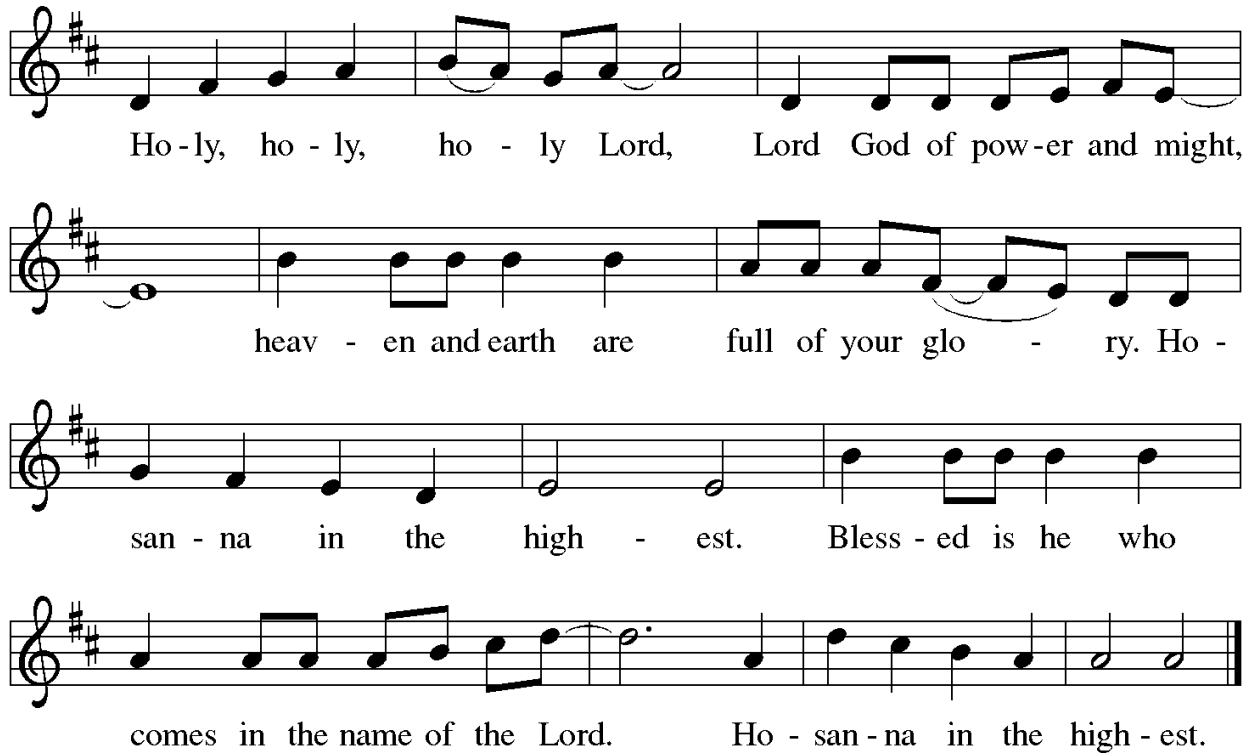
**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**\*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; 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. 173)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en 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.

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: **Thanks be to God.**

**COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION SONG – *Lamb of God***

**(ELW p. 174)**

The musical score is written on four staves in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "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 melody features several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a bracket) on the notes for "a-way" and "mer-cy".

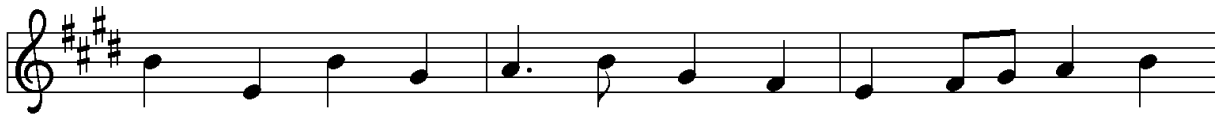
**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

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 – Praise to You, O God of Mercy**

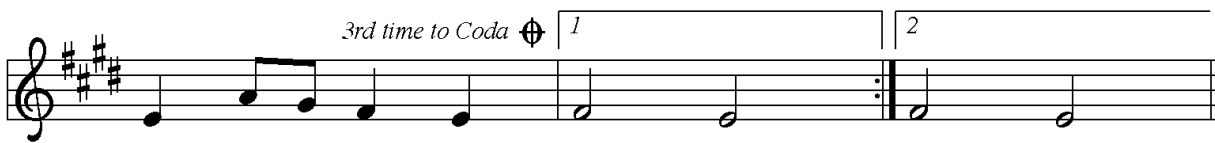
**ELW 208**



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -  
3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:  
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
thanks be to you for -



Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -



mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.

*Coda*



ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A:** Let us pray: Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen**

**\*BLESSING**

P: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise † bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen**

**\*SENDING SONG – Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters**

**ELW 445**



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleans-ing wa - ters flow.  
2 We who bring them long for nur - ture; by your milk may we be fed.  
3 Oh, how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - im - ag - ined, all your ways!



Num - ber them a - mong your peo - ple; bless as Christ blessed long a - go.  
Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of bless - ing, liv - ing bread.  
To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our lives we wor - ship, praise!



Weave them gar - ments bright and spark - ling; com - pass them with love and light.  
God, re - new us, guide our foot - steps; free from sin and all its snares,  
We your peo - ple stand be - fore you, wa - ter - washed and Spir - it - born.



Fill, a - noint them; send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.  
one with Christ in liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.  
By your grace, our lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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**\*DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

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**SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – January 11, 2026**

Pianist: Debbie Walker  
Lay Assistants: (1st Lay Asst.) Teresa Gigante (2nd Lay Asst.) Becky Collie  
Lector: Ella Anderson  
Acolyte: Dean Anderson  
Greeter: Rosalee Duke  
Ushers: Doug Duke & Daren Williams  
Altar Guild: Gladys Hubert & Andrea Alness-Tolbert  
Counters: Johnnie & Becky Collie  
Live Streamer: James Anderson

\*\*\*\*\*



Altar Flowers given by John & Stephanie Shea



\*\*\*\*\*

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR MESSIAH**

January 11	Christian Formation	9:15 AM
	Worship Service	10:45 AM
	First Communion Class	12:30 PM
January 13	AA	5:30 PM
January 14	Women's Bible Study	10:00 AM
	Hanover Adult Center	12:00 PM
	Women's Bible Study	6:30 PM
January 15	Hanover Adult Center	12:00 PM
January 18	Christian Formation	9:15 AM
	Worship Service	10:45 AM
	Annual Reporting Meeting	12:00 PM
	Manna Sunday	
	Pastor Liz's Installation at Christ Lutheran	4:00 PM
January 20	Banner Team	1:00 PM
	AA	5:30 PM
	Messiah Church Council Meeting	5:30 PM
	AA	5:30 PM
January 21	PAL	9:00 AM
January 22	Hanover Adult Center	12:00 PM
January 23-25	Winter Celebration	All Day
January 25	Christian Formation	9:15 AM
	Worship Service	10:45 AM
January 25	Old Ivy Garden Club	9:15 AM
	AA	5:30 PM
January 28	Women's Bible Study	10:00 AM
	Hanover Adult Center	12:00 PM
	Women's Bible Study	6:30 PM
January 29	Hanover Adult Center	12:00 PM

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# *Announcements*

## **PASTOR RYAN'S OFFICE HOURS**

Pastor Ryan will be in and out of the office this week but aims to be in on Tuesday and Friday. As always, to set up an appointment with Pastor Ryan, please call or email at 507-360-7276 and/or messiahmechpr@gmail.com.

## **WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Numbers For the 1st Sunday of 2026:

- Average Contributions to current were \$3,037.00
- Contributions for current January 4th were \$3,037.00
- The YTD total contribution to current is \$3,037.00
- For comparison, current YTD 2025 was \$10,760.00
- Designated giving for the 1st Sunday was \$551.74

## **CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE**

Thank you to everyone who recently reviewed their information for the church directory. A draft copy of the updated directory is available for review in the Narthex. Please check your information carefully and note any additional corrections directly on the draft. All updates will be incorporated before the directory is printed. The draft will remain available for review through **TODAY**.

## **MANNA SUNDAY**

In the Bible, manna is the miraculous bread-like food that God provided to the Israelites in the desert. Today's meaning is an unexpected or gratuitous benefit. Assistance is being provided to those in our community who are in need of food. Manna Sunday at Messiah means that God is providing food (manna) through us for those who are hungry. Sunday, Jan. 18 is the date designated (3rd Sunday of each month) for MCEF to accept these donations although donations may be made at any time. Current needs include Ramen noodles, jellies, any nonperishable food item that you use in your kitchen and personal care items such as toothbrushes and bar soap. Thank you everyone for your support.

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

Next Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, will be Messiah Lutheran's Annual Reporting Meeting. Please stick around after worship to receive your copy of the Annual Report, and hear some highlights from congregation leaders about our shared ministry in 2025 and what we are looking forward to in 2026. We will also vote on the required congregation constitution updates.

## **SYNOD TAPESTRY TEAM – WEAVING OUR STORIES ZOOM GATHERINGS**

In 2026, the Tapestry Team invites you to storytelling Zoom gatherings. Weaving Our Stories invites us to tell stories and listen deeply to one another. Each of the five Tapestry Threads will host a series of three Zooms to explore participant experiences about the focus Thread. The first of the three Zooms is a kick-off night. The final two Zooms of each Thread's series will dig deeper. The first series begins tomorrow, January 12<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm. Please visit <https://vasynod.org/ministries/tapestry/> to register and for more information.

## **THANK YOU**

On behalf of the Schroeder family, I would like to thank all of you at Messiah for being so good to us. We have faced many challenges this year, and we would be worse off, still, without the love and support of our church family. To those of you who made us meals, know that they were delicious and allowed us to focus on being a family. For those of you who visited, sent cards, and called, you helped us feel less isolated in our pain, grief, and recovery. Many of you have done these things over and over. We are incredibly thankful for you all!

With love, the Schroeders

## **PAL**

We have completed 20 LWR quilts and have two more in progress. We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 9am-noon at church. Next Meeting: January 21

## **BANNER TEAM**

The Banner Team meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month. This month we will meet on 20th in the church fellowship hall at 1:00. We are making good progress on our current banner project and want to keep going. Anyone who is interested in joining us is welcome! Please bring your own scissors because I am left handed and so are my scissors (lol).

## **Y.O.U.T.H. IN ACTION (YOUTHFUL OUTREACH TO UPLIFT AND THRIVE IN HOLINESS)**

The Youth Group would like to thank all the shoppers who visited the Christmas Shop last month. Over \$500 was raised for the youth program! Thank you all for your generosity and support!

## **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

The Women's Bible Study groups meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. This month we will meet on Wednesdays January 14th and 28th. We are continuing to study the women in A Lineage of Grace book. This month we are starting on Rahab reading pages 103 – 130. If you have any questions talk to Nancy Berg, Marilyn Gunn or Donna Combs.

## **MIDWINTER POWER IN THE SPIRIT**

Registration is open for the Midwinter Power in the Spirit, an online gathering February 2-4, 2026. We will learn how the words of 2 Timothy 1:7, "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline," relate to the foundations of Lutheran faith. The event will feature Bible study leaders from around the Synod. Visit <https://vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit/> for more information, registration, and an event flyer.

## **INSTALLATION SERVICE FOR REV. LIZ RADTKE**

The Rev. Liz Radtke will be installed as pastor at Christ Lutheran Church in Richmond on Sunday, January 18th, 2026, at 4:00 pm, at Christ Lutheran. Messiah members are invited to attend. Any Messiah singers are invited to join a pop-up choir for the service. Please talk to one of the Pastors Radtke with any questions.

# Prayer List

## WE PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

Jake Addair  
Debbie Anton  
Annette Buckholtz  
Lynn Deere  
Adam Dworak, Sr.  
Bonnie Dworak  
Angel Fernandez  
Ted Ford  
Jackie Garbett

Family and Friends of Steve Gilnett  
Sue Gilnett  
Geoffrey Honan  
Karen Jones  
Jean Martin  
Roberta McMillen  
Mark Philp  
Patrick Reagan  
Family and Friends of Ruth Schroeder

## WE PRAY FOR OUR EXTENDED FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS

**Emily and Justin Aheimer**,  
granddaughter and grandson-in-law of  
Marilyn Gunn  
**Jessica Cassidy**, friend of the Andersons  
**Pastor Paul Christian**, colleague of Pastor  
Ryan  
**Dwayne Collie**, brother of Johnnie  
**Griffin Deere**, brother-in-law of Lynn  
Deere  
**Tripp Dillard**, son-in-law of Karen  
Umberger  
**The Fraser Family**, family of Mark & Anita  
Philp  
**Jameson Gilnett**, grandson of Steve and  
Sue  
**Family and Friends of Ann Glenn**  
**Family of James Griffis**, grandson of Lee  
& Cheryl  
**Michelle & Tevin Harris**

**Lars Honan**, brother of Geoffrey Honan  
**Becky Kuhn**, aunt of Liz Radtke  
**Eric Lawrence**, friend of Linda Mahovtas  
**Iris Locke**, mother of Davina Winn  
**Lydia & Christian**, family of Mark & Anita  
Philp  
**Sandy Nelson**, sister of Cheryl Griffis  
**Ruth & Rod**, family of Mark & Anita Philp  
**Tim Schroeder**, nephew of Roger  
Schroeder  
**Addison Senters**, friend of the Andersons  
**Brad Shinault**, friend of the Whirleys  
**Stacie & Todd**, friends of Mark & Anita  
Philp  
**Danny Street**, brother-in-law of Donna  
Shaw  
**Sandy Street**, sister of Donna Shaw  
**Barbara Townsend**, friend of the Whirleys

**Our veterans, their fellow soldiers & their waiting families**  
**All law enforcement, firefighters & first responders**  
**The people and pastor, Rev. Katherine, of All Souls Episcopal & our shared ministry**  
**All those impacted by acts of violence, at home and abroad**  
**All who travel**

### **\*\* Prayer List Has Been Reset \*\***

Please contact the church office with names that need to be ADDED or REMOVED from the list. Send emails to [MessiahMech@gmail.com](mailto: MessiahMech@gmail.com) or phone 746-7134 with your requests.