



# Messiah Lutheran Church

Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2019 8:45 am

## Mission Statement

*“At Messiah Lutheran Church, we seek to answer God’s call to love”*

Welcome to all worshipping with us today. Please complete the **Welcome Card** and *place it in the offering plate, during the offering*. **Prayer Petitions** may be included on the back of the Welcome card. Please turn your cell phones to silent during the service. There are activity bags for children to enjoy during worship, which can be found on a rack just outside the worship space. Thank you.

## **Prelude**

## **Welcome & Announcements**

## **Call to Worship**

## **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, O Living One,  
for you have created all, and you water the earth abundantly.  
Oceans and aquifers praise you. Rivers and streams bless you.

All life is sustained by you, our Source.  
We praise you for Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
who frees us from sin and raises us up to new life.  
Here at this font we touch the river of the water of life,  
bright as crystal, flowing through the city of God.  
Here, death is washed away forever.  
Here, we are grafted into the tree of life,  
with leaves for the healing of the world.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on this assembly,  
into this community, and throughout all creation.

Cleanse us from our fears and drown our divisions.  
Grant that all may drink of your mercy and peace,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn

### #855 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

## Greeting

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

## Hymn of Praise p. 122

## Prayer of the Day

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, 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: Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, “Please come to us without delay.” So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, “Tabitha, get up.” Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 23** *(read responsively)*

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**Second Reading: Revelation 7:9-17**

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

“Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

“Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?” I said to him, “Sir, you are the one that knows.” Then he said to me, “These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **i** Gospel Acclamation p. 124

### **Gospel: John 10:22-30**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **h** Sermon

### **Hymn of the Day**

**#764 "Have No Fear, Little Flock"**

## **i** Apostles' 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**

Each petition will end with: "Lord, in your mercy,"

The assembly will respond with: "**hear our prayer.**"

Trusting God's promise of new life, we pray for the renewal of the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Giver of light, let your light shine through this congregation and all the places where your people gather. Reveal to us the light of your salvation, at work in places of hopelessness and decay. Anoint us with goodness and mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for gentle rains that nourish green pastures and fill rivers and streams. Provide clean water for thirsty people, animals, and crops. Heal places which suffer destruction caused by floods, typhoons, storms, and mudslides. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lead those in authority to be faithful shepherds who lead nations in pathways of righteousness and peace. Block the violence of terrorists, religious and political extremists, and all who would choose the way of violence over the way of mercy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give strength and perseverance to those who face hunger or thirst, unemployment or homelessness, chronic illness or anxiety. Be our never-failing voice of comfort through all the trials of this life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Raise up faithful women as witnesses to your strength and compassion. Bless mothers and all who offer mothering care. Protect victims of sexism, abuse, and gender-based violence. Restore dignity to those marginalized because of their gender identity or sexual orientation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Today we pray for Herb Grenke, Jen Bleckiner, Rose Collins, Bill Maki, Irving Riutta, Kathy, Lois, Jan Summersett, Jim Shelby, John, Valerie, Kendal, Sandy, Bill, Mike, Karen, Cindy LaValley, Marilyn Voce, Larry, Don Dreisbach, Gary, Sierra, Charlene Avery, Nai, Cam & his family, Liz Kro,

Katelin Bingner. Salvation belongs to you, O God. You promise to wipe away every tear. Give us the assurance that all who live and die in you will rest forever beside the river of life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God. Come near to us with your saving help, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

## Sharing of the Peace

**Senior Choir Anthem** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

## Offering

### **Offering Prayer**

Risen One, as you broke bread with the disciples on the shore, meet us now in this meal. Nourish us to follow you, using our gifts to feed the hungry and tend the weary, and all for your love's sake. **Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving** p. 129

**Holy, Holy, Holy** p. 130

## Words of Institution

### **The Lord's Prayer**

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 & Distribution**

The table of life is spread before you. Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.

### **Communion Hymns**

“Lamb of God” p. 135

#638 “Blessed Assurance”

#789 “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

### **Blessing**

### **Prayer After Communion**

Living God, you have greeted us in our brokenness and nourished us with the body of Christ, broken for us. Risen to new life with you, send us now to bear your healing love into the wounded world, in the name of our risen Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Benediction**

The blessing of the living God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen.**

### **Choral Benediction**

“The Resurrected Christ Be Your Guide”

### **Sending**

You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### **Postlude**

## Serving Us Today:

Preacher:	Pr. Andrew Plocher
Liturgist:	Pr. Allan Johnson
Organist:	Kathy Strazzinski
Music/Choir Director:	Dave Dagenais
Acolyte:	
Ushers:	Mark Petrie, Anne Rydholm
Reader:	Larry Pagel
Communion Assistants:	Peggy Sager, Beth Krznarich, Terry Langenberg
Greeters:	Jan Vickstrom, Joan Tasson
Assisting Minister:	Terry Langenberg
Sound Technician:	Larry Pagel
Video Technician:	
Nursery Attendant:	Jaime Davis
Flower Delivery:	Pearl Larson
Coffee Hour:	Judy Quirk

## Welcome

Messiah Lutheran Church seeks to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant and eternal life. We may not always be as welcoming as we should be, but this is our intention—all are welcome!

## The Means of Grace

As Lutherans, we believe that God comes to us in love through the means of grace: the preaching of the Word and the gift of two Sacraments--Baptism and Communion. Christ Jesus is the host at the Holy Communion table, welcoming all people to be fed. If you haven't been baptized, we also invite you to consider baptism. The pastors would be delighted to speak with you about this.

Acknowledgments:

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