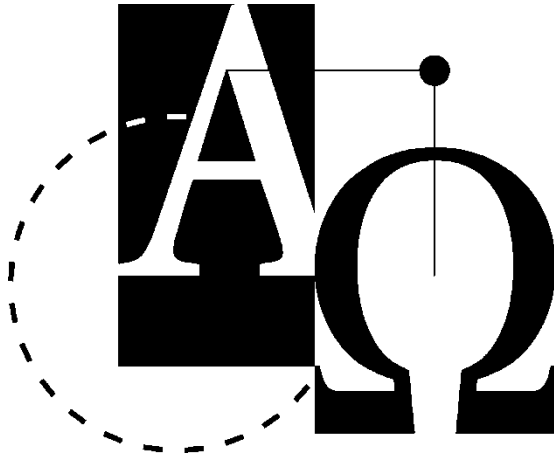


**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2018**  
7 p.m.



**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
21485 Lorain Road  
Fairview Park, Ohio 44126

**Pastor Jerome Burce**  
**Pastor Seth Bridger**

✠ NEW YEAR'S EVE ✠

December 31, 2018

7 p.m.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE..... “O God, Our Help in Ages Past,” Paul Manz

SILENCE

GATHERING HYMN ..... “O Christ the Same,” #760

✠ ✠ CONFESSION ✠ ✠

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** “If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.”

**P** Most merciful God,

**C** You have given your only-begotten Son to die for us. For his sake have mercy on us, forgive our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will, and true obedience to your Word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**P** Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**C** Amen.

**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. Eternal Father, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in this new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event which gives us joy forever – the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

# ✠ THE WORD OF GOD ✠

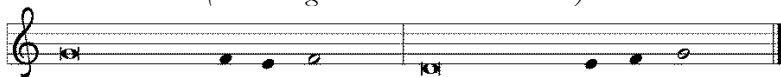
FIRST LESSON..... Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
2a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; 3a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; 4a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; 5a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; 6a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; 8a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

9What gain have the workers from their toil? 10I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. 11He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. 12I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; 13moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

## PSALM 8:1-6

*(alternating between women and men)*



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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<sup>1</sup>O | LORD our Lord,  
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—  
<sup>2</sup>you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of  
in- | fants and children;  
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the  
foe | and avenger.  
<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,  
<sup>4</sup>what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,  
human beings that you should | care for them?  
<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less | than divine;  
with glory and hon- | or you crown them.  
<sup>6</sup>You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;  
you have put all things un- | der their feet.

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

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home\* of God is among mortals. He will dwell\* with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup>he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’

<sup>5</sup>And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ <sup>6</sup>Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

*Stand*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** ..... “We Give Thee but Thine Own,” #686  
stanzas 1 and 4

**GOSPEL** ..... Matthew 25:31-46

<sup>31</sup>‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing?’ <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you

hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?”<sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.”<sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** ..... “O God, Our Help in Ages Past,” #632

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**PEACE**

*Sit*

**† HOLY COMMUNION †**

**OFFERING**..... “Noël, huron,” arr. Denis Bédard

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

- P** Let us pray. Merciful God,
- C** in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

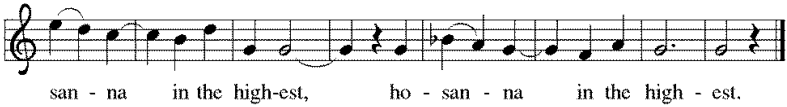
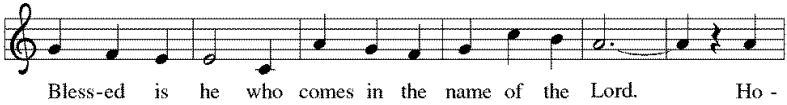
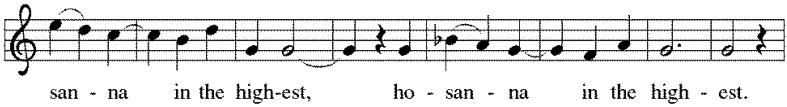
*Stand*

**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 him thanks and praise.
- P** It is indeed right, our duty and joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



- P** Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father...we proclaim the Lord's death, until he comes.
- C** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P** Therefore, gracious Father...the great and promised feast.
- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P** Send now, we pray...with all your saints in light.
- C** Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.
- P** Join our prayers...as victorious Lord of all.



## LORD'S PRAYER

- C** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*Sit*

## COMMUNION

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.

### *Concerning the sacrament—*

We confess at Messiah that Holy Communion is Christ's gift to his Church, his true body and blood given with bread and wine for us to eat and drink. Here Christ confirms in us the benefits of his death and resurrection. He forgives our sins, refreshes our lives, and promises our salvation. We welcome you to the Lord's table all baptized and communing Christians who share this faith.

In receiving, please follow the lead of the people around you. There are two cups, one for drinking, and the other for receiving by intinction, the host dipped in the cup. If coming forward not to commune but to receive a blessing, approach the pastor with your arms crossed. For a gluten-free host, quietly ask the pastor.

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** ..... "It Came upon the Midnight Clear," #282  
"Angels, from the Realms of Glory," #275

*Stand*

## **POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN** ..... “All Praise to Thee My God, This Night,” #565

**DISMISSAL**

**POSTLUDE** ..... “In dulci jubilo,” J.S. Bach



**SERVING**

Preacher & Presider *The Rev. Seth C. Bridger*

Assisting Minister & Lector:

Organist: *Linda Kempke*

Deacons:

Usher: Christian Frank, *Ed Kus*

Altar Guild: *Maria Geier, Bonnie Price*

Trustee: *David Fretthold*