

Messiah Lutheran Church

MessiahFairview.org

(440) 331-2405

Welcome to worship! We are delighted you are here and have chosen to worship today. We believe the Holy Spirit of God gathers us together as one. May you be strengthened through his word and the promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

The mission statement of Messiah Church is: ***Drawing in to Christ, Building up in Christ, Sending out for Christ.*** Our aim is to love each other as Christ has loved us all. We continue to encourage sensible social distancing. If you wish to wear a mask, please do so. If you are feeling ill, please take precautions and consider worshipping via the livestream ministry of Messiah. Online services can be found at ***MessiahFairview.org; click "watch services" online.***

Holy Communion is shared at every worship service. The sacrament of holy communion is central to our worship life. If you are a first-time worshipper here, know that you are invited to receive and partake in the sharing of holy communion.

Today begins a new day at Messiah. Today, Pastor William joins the congregation in worship and praise of Christ our Lord for the very first time. Pastor William accepted the call extended to him after the special Congregational Meeting on June 30. We are delighted to welcome both him and his wife Linda to Messiah.

Introduction to The Day

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart.

Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

Gathering Hymn

The Night You Gave Us, God, Has Ended

ACS 994

Cantor sings stanza 3



1 The night you gave us, God, has end - ed,
2 We thank you for each glo - rious sun - rise
3 Bless those who work in hours of dark - ness,
4 We pray for en - er - gy and pas - sion
5 We praise you, God, for na - ture's rhy - thms,



the dark - ness hails the sun's bright rays;
that paints the earth a gold - en hue;
who serve and toil while oth - ers sleep;
to live our lives each day for you;
for dark and day - light, stars and sun;



as shad - ows flee and earth a - wak - ens,
each day your grace grants new be - gin - nings,
their lives of car - ing and pro - tect - ing
may all a - round us sense your pres - ence
your whole cre - a - tion sings your glo - ry,



we rise a - gain to sing your praise.
the chance to start a - gain a - new.
re - flect your love so strong and deep.
in all we say and all we do.
O Trin - i - ty, most Ho - ly One.

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.

Canticle of Praise



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;
- 2 “Wor - thy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be ex - alt - ed thus!”
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re-ceive hon - or and pow’r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou-sand thou-sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
“Wor - thy the Lamb,”our lips re - ply, “for he was slain for us!”
and bless-ings,more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Sil.

Baptism

Xander John Kocab (10:00 only)

Word

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

A The Word of the Lord.

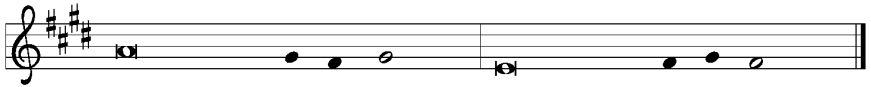
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 15

*Cantor sings Refrain; Assembly repeats and sings **bold** verses.*



LORD, who may dwell in your tab - er - na - cle?



¹LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

Refrain

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those
who | fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do
not take | back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain,
nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown.

Refrain

Second Reading

James 1: 17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel

Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 7th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.”

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit.

Sermon

Rev. William Weidenbach

Silence for Reflection; Stand.

Hymn of the Day

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW 512

Assembly sings twice

Apostles Creed

(8:30 only)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 the Church

After each portion of the prayers:

P Lord in your mercy,

C **Hear our prayer.**

Peace

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Greet those around you with these or similar words. You may be seated.

The Lord's Supper

Music at the Offering

Italian Hymn

D. Zudell-Dickey

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward.

Offertory

God of the Fertile Fields

ACS 1063

Stanzas 3 & 4



3 As grows the hid - den seed, to fruit that
4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the



serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our



toil be used, no gift of yours a - bused,
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.



no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

If the Lord so moves you, you can make an offering by text to 855-913-1744 or by visiting our online giving portal at tinyurl.com/giveMLC

Offering Prayer

- A Blessed are you, O God,
C **source of every gift of your creation.**
By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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 our thanks and praise.**
P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

- P Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer and Healer . . . all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

**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

Concerning the sacrament — 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 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. Gluten-free hosts are available for those who need them. Quietly ask the Pastor for the Gluten-free host.

If coming forward not to commune but to receive a blessing, approach the Pastor with your arms crossed. If you are physically unable to come forward, simply let an usher or deacon know you would like to receive communion at your seat.

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Music During Communion

“Let The Bright Seraphim”

G. F. Handel

This song for solo soprano (air or aria) is from the Oratorio “Samson”, sung by an anonymous Israelite woman who calls upon the angels to hail the dead hero Samson. The trumpet sounds the fanfare.

Distribution

One Bread, One Body

ELW 496

Stand after all have communed.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

A Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

P God all mighty,
God most merciful
✠ bless you, keep you
And give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685

Cantor Stanza 3

A Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“Prelude to a Te Deum”

Charpentier/Trans. Johnson

Serving Today

Preaching Minister-- Rev. William Weidenbach

Presiding Minister – Rev. Seth Bridger

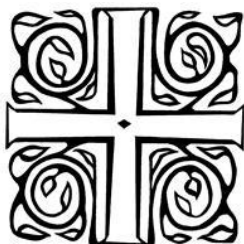
Cantor/Soloist – Claire Connelly

Trumpet – Adonai Henderson

Choir Director & Coordinator of Music Ministry – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Principal Organist – Michael Cherup

Altar Guild – Elenor Davis, Debbie Luekens



In Our Prayers

- For Pastor William Weidenbach, Messiah's newly called Senior Pastor, as he begins his pastoral ministry among the congregation. May the transition to the Cleveland area go well for Pastor William and his dear wife, Linda.
- God's speed and blessings for Kristi Hathaway as she moves to St. Paul, Minnesota to be closer to family.
- For a safe and blessed Labor Day weekend; for those who work to protect and serve throughout the holiday weekend.
- For those with health concerns: Sharon Berghaus, Tom Coughlin, Alta Renard, Helen Weber, Audrey Ruetgger, Gloria Costo, Sue Nerlinger, Nina Long, Andrew Boraggina, Ray Durban, Maddie Polenz, Cliff Preuss, Rev. Gerry Miller (former Pastor with Messiah Lutheran), Michael Miller, Liz Dimmock, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Marc Heidmann, Officer Nickolas, Baby Miles, Carla, a woman named Michelle who has entered hospice care, those quietly receiving medical treatments and those living with addictions.

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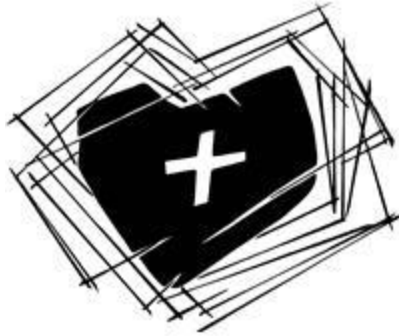
This Week's Commemorations

Sept. 2—NIKOLAI F. S. GRUNDTVIG, d. 1872, bishop, theologian, hymnwriter, and reformer of the Danish church.

God's Word for Next Week 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 35: 4-7a, Psalm 146, James 2: 1-10 {11-13} 14-17
Mark 7: 24-37

We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for worship next week.



Messiah Lutheran Church

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Connect with Messiah – text 'MESSIAHFP' to 84576 to sign-up

Messiah Lutheran School

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(440) 331-6553

Email – school@messiahfp.org

www.messiahfairview.org

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Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Senior Pastor – The Rev. William C. Weidenbach, Jr.

Associate Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Choir Director & Coordinator of Music Ministry – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Principal Organist – Michael Cherup

Minister of Youth – Adonai Henderson

Technology Manager – Jared Waugaman

Building Manager – Jason Reynolds

Messiah School Principal – Helen Casselberry

Administrator & Pierstorf College Fund Director – Darlene Waugh

Communications Coordinator – Sarah Heinsbergen

Bookkeeper & Pierstorf College Fund Business Manager – Lisa Daley

Administrative Assistant – Diane Ward



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Drawing in to Christ. Building up in Christ. Sending out for Christ.

To the glory of God, through the strength of the Spirit.