

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 8:30 & 11 am

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.

Introduction to The Day

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (*diakonia*). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 8:30 & 11 am

*The congregation is invited to participate at the places marked with **bold** type*

Prelude

Dialogue from *Mass for the Convents* by Francois Couperin

Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, **✝** one God, creator of darkness and light,
word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for self-examination.

P God, our rock and refuge,
We pour out our hearts before you.
We have known you but have not always loved you.
We have wounded one another
and sinned against you.
We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit
dwelling in each of us.
Remember your covenant.
Renew your creation.
Restore us,
that we might proclaim your good news to all.

C Amen.

P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters.
God has spoken:
The time of grace is now.
In Jesus, the reign of God has come near.
By the authority of **✝** Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
You are God's beloved.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn

We Come to You for Healing, Lord

ELW 617

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,

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint.
Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be
made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior
and Lord.

C Amen.

Sit

Word

First Reading

Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from
the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the
earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens
like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings
princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken
root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither,
and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the
Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them,
calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in
power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak,

O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD,

and my right is disregarded by my God?" ²⁸Have you not known? Have
you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for

the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings
like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

*Cantor/Choir sings refrain; **All sing refrain**; Cantor/Choir sings verses in alternation with Assembly; **Refrain sung by all***



¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises | to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor | God with praise!

²**The LORD re- | builds Jerusalem,
and gathers the ex- | iles of Israel.**

³The LORD heals the | brokenhearted
and binds | up their wounds.

⁴**The LORD counts the number | of the stars
and calls them all | by their names. Refrain**

⁵Great is our LORD and might- | y in power;
there is no limit | to God's wisdom.

⁶**The LORD lifts | up the lowly,
but casts the wicked | to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the LORD | with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp | to our God,

⁸**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on
the mountains. Refrain**

⁹God provides food | for the cattle
and for the young ravens | when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c}| Hallelujah! **Refrain**

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first two phrases: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff continues with 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The third staff is a repeat of the first two phrases, indicated by the instruction 'Repeat alleluia'.

Cantor/Choir: The servant of God took / our infirmities and bore / our diseases. (Matthew 8:17)*

Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

Rev. Seth Bridger

Silence for Reflection; Stand

Hymn of the Day

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

ELW 843

**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

After each portion of the prayers:

A Lord in your mercy.
C **Hear our prayer.**

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

*Greet those around you with these or similar words
Sit*

The Lord’s Supper

*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 is Received

Music at the Offering

8:30 *Choir*
11:00 *Bells*

The Only Son from Heaven
Quiet Reflection

John Behnke
Jason W. Krug (ASCAP)

Stanza 3 - As they offered gifts most rare
 at thy cradle, rude and bare,
 so may we with holy joy,
 pure and free from sin's alloy,
 all our costliest treasures bring,
 Christ, to thee, our heav'nly king.

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward

A Blessed are you, Holy One,
for all good things come from you.
In bread and cup you open heaven to us.
 Meet us at this table,
 that we receive what we seek
 and follow your Son, Jesus,
 in whose name we pray.
 Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW page 108

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord ... (the prayer continues) ...
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory,
now and forever.

C Amen.

The 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.

Lamb of God

ELW page112

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.

Sit

Communion

Distribution Hymns

*When Memory Fades
Now the Silence*

ELW 792
ELW 460

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 Canticle *O Lord, Now Let Your Servant* ELW 313

A Giver of every gift,
Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.
Raise us to life by your power
for the benefit of all and to your glory,
now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sending

P God who names you,
Christ who claims you,
And the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,
✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Arise, Your Light Has Come

ELW 314

Dismissal

A Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Plein jeu (Full Organ) from Mass for the Convents by Francois Couperin

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Plein jeu (Full Organ) from Mass for the Convents by François Couperin, published Edwin F.



ShroveFest 2024

Tuesday, February 12 11:30 am – 6:30 pm



We are excited to bring back our ShroveFest Drive-Thru Event on February 13. ShroveFest To Go will be available for sale both as lunch and dinner from 11:30 am – 6:30 pm. KidsShrove, Carry-Out, and ShroveLounge is from 4 – 6 pm. Featured entrees include Messiah's famous Cabbage Roll Meal, Pulled Pork Meal, and Combo Plates – with homemade strudel and packzis for dessert. Cabbage and Noodles will be available beginning at 4pm. Don't forget to look out for frozen cabbage sales after Sunday Church services leading up to the event as well!

For all things Shrove please visit mfp.fyi/Shrove for event details, menu, and volunteering opportunities. We are thrilled to see you again for another amazing event you only get once a year.

So what is ShroveLounge? We heard you when you said you missed the fellowship that this event has brought over many years – this is why we will be offering space to mingle amidst fellow guests while you wait for your carryout order, or while children enjoy the excitement of KidsShrove. Come inside from 4 – 6 pm for Shrove ambiance with standing tables to gather around and connect. We can't wait to see you!



Join us for Ash Wednesday Worship

February 14th at 7 pm.

Serving Today

Preaching & Presiding Today – Rev. Seth Bridger

Assisting Minister – Janice Snyder (11:00)

Acolytes –Maddie Kandrach, Isabella Russ(11:00)

Deacon – Ray Durban (8:30) Terrie Leske (11:00)

Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

Joy Ringers – Directed by Ruth King

Altar Guild –Maria Geier, Elenor Davis

Altar Flowers

Are given by in Loving memory of

Phil Neumann

by his wife Kathy and family.

This Week's Commemorations

The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597

Christianity was brought to Japan in the sixteenth century by Jesuit and Franciscan missionaries. The religion was suppressed, however, and in 1597 twenty-six missionaries and converts were crucified. Nevertheless, Christianity survived and later prospered.

In Our Prayers

- For the Epiphany season and the mission of God at work in the world.
- For all in harms way due to violence and warfare, those experiencing economic hardships, and those who serve in areas of public safety
- For the Senior Pastor Call process, that the Holy Spirit guide the discernment of candidates and those serving on the Pastoral Call Committee: Sam Gmetro, John Hayduk, Jay Machado, Kathy Neumann, Allison Younger-Waugaman, and Karen Wolf
- For those with health concerns: Jodi Hoffman, Maddie Polenz, Leo McDonald (grandson of Dianne), Sharon Raquet, Priscilla Hinsch, Kristy Younger, Cliff Preuss, Sue Nerlinger, Terri Civittolo, Linda Stoddard, Liz Dimmock, Nina Long, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Andrew Boraggina, Marc Heidmann, Officer Nickolas, Baby Miles, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), those quietly receiving medical treatments, and those experiencing mental health concerns

God's Word for Next Week Transfiguration of Our Lord

12 Kings 2:1-12, Psalm 50:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:3-6,
Mark 9:2-9

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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www.messiahfairview.org

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Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Interim Music Director – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

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.