

Messiah Lutheran Church

MessiahFairview.org

(440) 331-2405

Welcome to worship in the community of faith known as Messiah Church & School. It is both a delight and joy that you are here to worship God today. We believe the Holy Spirit of God gathers us together as one. May each of us be strengthened through his word and the promise in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Throughout the last 3 years of Covid-living, Messiah's leadership has made decisions with the greater good in mind. 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 worship via the livestream ministry of Messiah (MessiahFairview.org; click watch services online).

Holy Communion is shared at every worship service. Instructions for communion distribution can be found in the worship bulletin at the time of communion.

After worship today, stop by the Atrium area for coffee and conversation.

A note about the liturgy – Setting Five

During the Lenten season we will be singing setting five of the liturgy, a chant based setting, that was brought forward from *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Although setting five may not be as widely known as other settings, it is dearly loved and sung regularly in many congregations of the ELCA. As a counter-balance to an increasingly high-tech and complex world, there is a renewed interest in the simplicity of chant, especially among young people. The choir, cantors, and organ will help to lead this service. You are encouraged to join in the singing as you are able.

Introduction to The Day

In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us again and again -- encountering and offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 8:30 & 11 am

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

Prelude

O Blessed Spring Setting: James Biery, Robert Buckley Farlee

Gathering

Stand and turn to face the cross of Christ at the Entrance to the Sanctuary

Confession and Forgiveness

(8:30 only)

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
 who journeys with us these forty days,
 and sustains us with the gift of grace.

C Amen.

P Let us acknowledge before God and one another
 our need for repentance and God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection

P Holy God,

C we confess to you our faults and failings.

Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word;

we take for ourselves instead of giving to others;

we spoil rather than steward your creation;

we cause hurt though you call us to heal;

we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

as we encounter you and seek to follow in your life giving ways.

Amen.

P Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God gave the only
 Son, so that all may receive life. This promise is for you!

 God embraces you with divine mercy, ✠ forgives you in Christ's name,
 and revives you in the Spirit's power.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

ELW 777

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.

Holy Baptism Hilary Jane Piteo *See yellow inserts. (11am only)*

Kyrie *(8:30 only)*

Cantor/Choir sings first part; all respond Lord have mercy



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



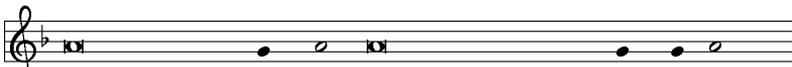
Lord, have mer - cy.



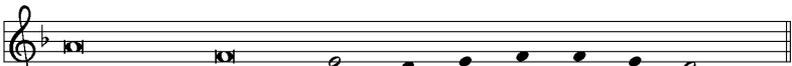
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the Lord.



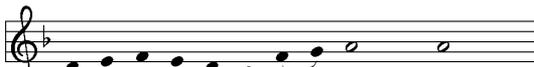
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



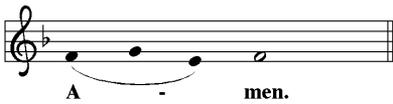
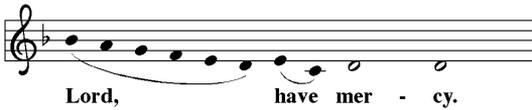
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray,
Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever..

C **Amen.**

Sit

Word

First Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 95

Cantor sings refrain; All sing refrain



*Cantor sings verses in regular print;
All sing verses in bold print and refrain*



- ¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.
- ²**Let us come before God's presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.**
- ³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler a- bove all gods.
- ⁴**In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**
- ⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.
- ⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker. R**
- ⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and
the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would | hear God's voice!
**"Harden | not your hearts,
as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**
- ⁹There your ancestors | tested me,
they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.
- ¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, "The heart of this
people goes astray; they do not know my ways."**
- ¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger, "They shall never come to my
rest." **Refrain**

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-11

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering

produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation

P The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Cantor/choir sings Refrain; then all sing refrain



Cantor: Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me this living water that I may never thirst again. (John 4:42, 15)

All repeat Refrain

Gospel

John 4:5-42

P The Holy Gospel according to John
C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?” (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and

he would have given you living water.” ¹¹The woman said to him, “Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?” ¹³Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” ¹⁵The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” ¹⁷The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” ¹⁹The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” ²¹Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (who is called Christ). “When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.” ²⁶Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you want?” or, “Why are you speaking with her?” ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹“Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?” ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, “Rabbi, eat something.” ³²But he said to them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about.” ³³So the disciples said to one another, “Surely no one has brought him something to eat?” ³⁴Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, ‘Four months more, then comes the harvest?’ But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.”

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman’s testimony, “He told me everything I have ever done.” ⁴⁰So when

the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Sermon

Pastor Bridger

Silence for Reflection; Stand

Hymn of the Day

For All the Faithful Women

ELW 419

Stanzas. 1, 8, Last

Apostles' Creed

(8:30 only)

**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.**

Prayer of the Church

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.

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

Andante

Flor Peeters (8:30)

Surely God Is My Salvation - Hasidic Tune; arr.Zeb Highben | Choir (11:00)

Stand as the Offerings are brought forward

Offertory:

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 188

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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

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

A Let us pray. God of good gifts,
C receive these and all our offerings
 as we present them in faithful service
 for the sake of your gospel.
 Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal
 as you pour out your very presence
 through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
 Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 our joy. . .we praise your name
 and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est.

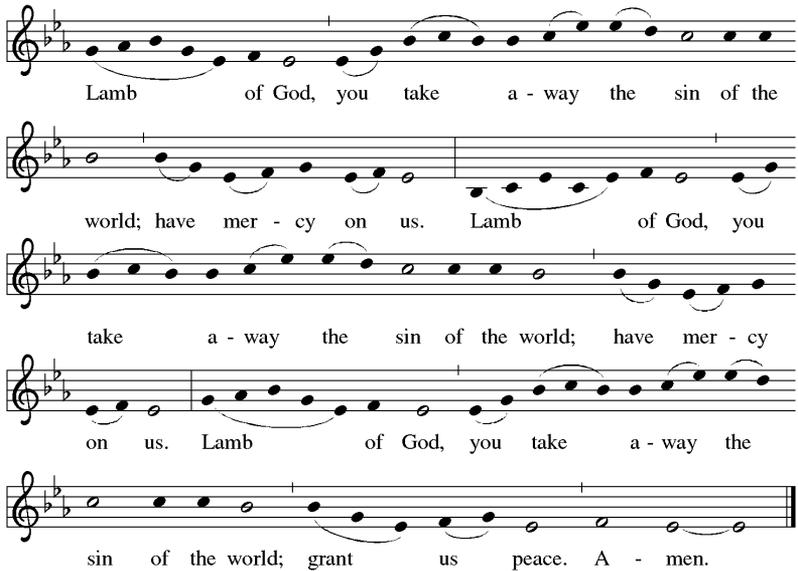
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - - na in the high - est.

P Holy, mighty and merciful Lord. . .now and forever.
 C Amen.

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

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. A - men.

Distribution Hymns

O Blessed Spring	ELW 447
Crashing Waters at Creation	ELW 455

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 Let us pray. Encountering God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love.

C Amen.

Sending

Blessing

P God, the giver of all good gifts,
✠ Christ, the resurrection and redeemer,
and the Holy Spirit of restoration,
bless you in this Lenten journey.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

Remember and Rejoice

ELW 454

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Gavotte

Camidge

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Serving Today

Preaching Minister – Pastor Bridger

Presiding Minister – Pastor Krebill

Assisting Ministers – Nancy Richter (8:30); Lindsay Baker (11)

Communion Assistant—Eric Anderson (8:30)

Acolytes – Annalies Anderson (8:30); Tyler Vance (11)

Cantor – Pastor Krebill (8:30)

Messiah Choir (11) – Directed by Linda Kempke

Organist – Linda Kempke

Usher – Brad Paton (8:30) Ken Novak (11)

Deacons – Bob Trapp (8:30); Terrie Leske (11)

Altar Guild – Marilyn Edwards, Martha Trapp

In Our Prayers

- For faith to deepen through prayer, spiritual disciplines, and experiencing the Holy during the 40 days for Lent
- In thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Holy Baptism of Hilary Jane Piteo
- For those living with health concerns: Jim Huetter, Sue Nerlinger, Shannon Brinkman, Donna Barth (sister of Kim Patton), Andrew Boraggina, Marc Heidmann, Jane Hegg, Steve Ruetschi, and Bill Russell

Altar Flowers Given

In loving memory of their parents by Wayne and Donna Fronius

This Week's Commemorations

Mar. 12—GREGORY THE GREAT, d. 604, the pope and bishop of Rome who shaped European history by sending missionaries to preach to the Anglo-Saxon invaders of Britain.

Mar. 17—PATRICK, d. 461, the great missionary to Ireland. same.

God's Word for Next Week

Third Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

We encourage you to read the lessons as part of your preparation for divine services.

Messiah Lutheran Church

21485 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, OH 44126
(440) 331-2405
E-mail – church@messiahfp.org

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

Messiah Lutheran School

4401 W. 215th St., Fairview Park, OH 44126
(440) 331-6553
Email – school@messiahfp.org

www.messiahfairview.org

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Servants and Missionaries – All MLC members

Pastor – The Rev. Seth C. Bridger

Interim Pastor – The Rev. Steven M. Krebill

Pastoral Assistant – Deaconess Ruth Mortensen

Interim Music Director – Deacon Linda Kempke

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 – Danielle Twigg

Admin. Assistant & 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.