



# 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

The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

# Second Sunday of Easter

April 7, 8:30 & 11 am

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

Prelude

*Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

Wilber Held

## Gathering

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

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God, the wellspring of grace,  
our Easter and our joy.

**C Amen.**

P Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P Immersed in the promises of baptism,  
let us give thanks for what God has done for us.  
We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning  
your voice thundered over the deep  
and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea  
into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official  
entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John  
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection  
you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love,  
freeing us to live as Easter people.

We rejoice with glad hearts,  
giving all honor and praise to you,  
through the risen Christ, our source of living water,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

P Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Gathering Hymn    Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

ELW 363

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

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men.


*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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

## Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray,  
Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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*

**Baptism**

Rhone Matthew Gooderham (11:00)

## Word

**First Reading**

Acts 4: 32-35

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

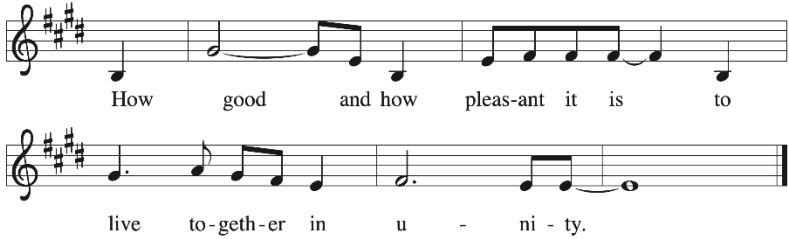
<sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 133

*Cantor sings refrain; All sing refrain*



How good and how pleas-ant it is to  
live to-geth-er in u - ni - ty.

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



How good and how pleas-ant it is,  
when kindred live togeth-er in unity!

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleas-ant it is,  
when kindred live togeth-er in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up- on the beard,  
upon the beard of Aaron,  
flowing down upon the collar of his robe. R**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.  
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life for- evermore. R

## Second Reading

1 John 1: 1--2: 2

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

P The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Gospel Acclamation**

*All sing refrain*

Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
 Al-le-lu-ia! Let us re-joice and be  
 glad! Re-joice and be glad!

*Cantor: Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. Alleluia. (John 20:29)*

*All repeat Refrain*

P The Holy Gospel according to John.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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**

O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing

ELW 386

*Stanzas 1-4, 8-9*



**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the  
Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living  
and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic  
church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. 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 *O Sons and Daughters of the King* Michael Burkhardt

*Stand as the Offerings are brought forward*

### Offertory:

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW 674



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:  
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,  
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.  
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.  
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

*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](http://tinyurl.com/giveMLC)*

A Risen One,

C **you call us to believe and bear fruit.**

**May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.**

**Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our true vine.**

**Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

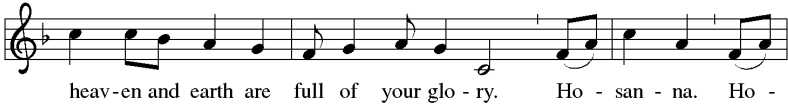
P Lift up your hearts.

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, our duty and our joy. . .we praise your name  
and join their unending hymn:



P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father. Endless is your mercy and  
eternal your reign. (*the prayer continues*) For as often as we eat of this  
bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he  
comes.



P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup  
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.  
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,  
we await his coming in power  
to share with us the great and promised feast.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**



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.

### Distribution Hymns

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises  
We Walk by Faith

ELW 535  
ELW 635

*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

P Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.

**C Amen.**

# Sending

## Blessing

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope

✠ bless you now and always.

**Amen.**

## Sending Hymn

That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright

ELW 384

**P** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**Postlude** O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing Jean Francois Dandrieu

# Serving Today

Preaching & Presiding Minister – Rev. Seth Bridger  
Organist – Deborah Zudell-Dickey

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## In Our Prayers

- For Easter joy to spread throughout the world and into our lives, making a difference in the lives of people and communities.
- For all in harms way due to violence and warfare, those experiencing economic hardships, and all 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 expectant mothers and hope filled fathers to be, for those who are new parents, and for those who long and pray for the opportunity to become parents.
- For those with health concerns: Chip Difiore, Sue Nerlinger, Maddie Polenz, Rev. Daniel Benuska, Ellie Hendrickson (Edna Martin's great-granddaughter), Karen Wolf's mother, Jim Schultz, Emerson Buskirk, Raffee Johns, Marilyn Sheerer, Leo McDonald (grandson of Dianne), Kristy Younger, Jodi Hoffman, Cliff Preuss, Terri Civittolo, Liz Dimmock, Nina Long, Evelyn and Churchill Ward, Andrew Boraggina, Marc Heidmann, Officer Nickolas, Baby Miles, Carla (friend of Rita-Ann Shaffer), Lisa (friend of Jim Huetter), those quietly receiving medical treatments, those grieving losses, and those experiencing mental health concerns.

## This Week's Commemorations

*Apr. 10*—MIKAEL AGRICOLA, d. 1577, Bishop of Turku, Finland. Agricola studied with Luther and Philip Melanchthon in Wittenberg and brought the Reformation to Finland. He also devised a system for putting Finnish into written form.

## God's Word for Next Week

### Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3: 12-19; Psalm 4, 12-19; 1 John 3: 1-7, Luke 24: 36b-48

*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](http://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.*