



Welcome to Messiah!

You are a beloved child of God who is unique and special. You are respected and accepted for who you are, with all your differences and gifts, including: sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, race, ability, culture, and economic status. Join us in acts of reconciliation and joyful celebration of our diversity, not only as members of our faith community but as volunteers and leaders.

We stand together against the prejudice toward members of the LGBTQIA+ community and for anti-racism, indigenous respect, environmental justice, anti-trafficking, and on behalf of all those marginalized in our society.

By working together and being open with each other, we develop our faith and follow the example of Christ by humbly loving one another as God loves all of us.

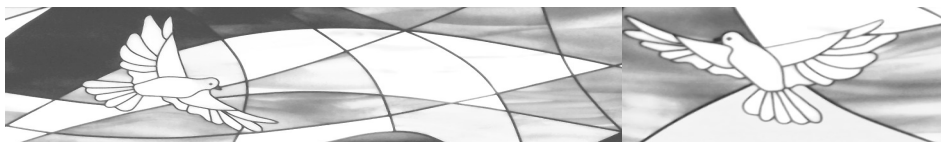
NURSERY CARE

Is available during the Summer Sunday from 10:15 - 11:45 am

Ages 6 weeks- 6 years old, downstairs Nursery.

Secure sign-in, parent pagers available

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost + September 12-13, 2026



OPENING HYMN

5:00 PM *Softly and Tenderly*

8:15 AM *Softly and Tenderly*

10:30 AM *Praise to You, O God of Mercy*

ELW Red Book **#608**

ELW Red Book **#608**

W&P Purple Book **#119**

GREETING

KYRIE

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison.

Christe, Christe eleison. Christe, Christe eleison.

Kyrie, Kyrie eleison. Kyrie, Kyrie eleison, eleison.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray....

Congregation: **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Reader: Word of God, word of Life.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 103

The Lord is Kind and Merciful



SECOND READING

Romans 14:1, 7-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your sibling? Or you, why do you despise your sibling? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Reader: Word of God, word of Life

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if my sibling sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be punished until he would pay his entire debt. So God in heaven will also hold you accountable, if you do not forgive each other from your heart."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

✠ THE HOMILY ✠

PASTOR JEFF VANDEN HEUVEL

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

All Respond after each prayer: **Hear our prayer.**

SIGN OF PEACE *Greet one another with:* **Peace be with you.**

BERAKAH (Ancient Hebrew Blessing)

Bread: Pastor: Blessed are you Lord God of all creation...

Congregation: **Blessed be God forever.**

Wine: Pastor: Blessed are you Lord God of all creation...

Congregation: **Blessed be God forever.**

GRATITUDE OF THE OFFERING

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful God...

Congregation: **We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - our selves, our time, our life and our breath, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung by All

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 pow'r and the glory are yours, now and forever.

HOLY COMMUNION

Here at Messiah, we believe that Christ is the host of this meal.

Regardless of your background or tradition, we believe that all are welcome at the Lord's Table.

If you are unable to come forward for communion, please let an usher know and communion will be brought to you.

Grape juice is available on the trays in the central cups.

Gluten-free wafers are available in the gold container on the stand between the bread distributors.

COMMUNION HYMN

5:00 PM	<i>Healer of Our Every Ill</i>	ELW Red Book #612
	<i>Change My Heart O God</i>	ELW Red Book #801
8:15 AM	<i>Healer of Our Every Ill</i>	ELW Red Book #612
10:30 AM	<i>Healer of Our Every Ill</i>	ELW Red Book #612
	<i>Come to the Table</i>	W&P Purple Book #33

5:00 PM CANDLE LIGHTING AND CLOSING SONG Page 7

*Please keep lit candles upright
and tip unlit candle to light it from another.*

BLESSING *Congregation: Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

8:15 AM *What Wonderful Love is This*
10:30 AM *Blessed, Be the Name of the Lord*

ELW Red Book #666
Page 6

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

Blessed, Be the Name of the Lord

Bless-ed be the name of the Lord, He is wor-thy to be praised and a - dored;

The first line of the hymn is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Bless-ed be the name of the Lord, He is wor-thy to be praised and a - dored;"

So we lift up ho-ly hands in one ac-cord, Sing-ing, "Bless-ed be the name,

The second line of the hymn continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are: "So we lift up ho-ly hands in one ac-cord, Sing-ing, "Bless-ed be the name,"

bless-ed be the name, Bless-ed be the name of the Lord!"

The third line of the hymn concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "bless-ed be the name, Bless-ed be the name of the Lord!"

At Evening



1. Now it is eve - ning: Lights of the cit - y
 2. Now it is eve - ning: Food on the ta - ble
 3. Now it is eve - ning: Lit tle ones sleep - ing
 4. Now it is eve ning: Here in our meet ing



Bid us re - mem - ber Christ is our Light.
 Bid us re - mem - ber Christ is our Life.
 Bids us re - mem - ber Christ is our Peace.
 May we re mem ber Christ is our Friend.



Man - y are lone - ly Who will be neigh - bor?
 Man y are - hun - gry Who will be neigh - bor?
 Some are ne glect - ed Who will be neigh - bor?
 Some may be stran gers, Who will be neigh bor?



Where there is car - ing Christ is our Light.
 Where there is shar - ing Christ is our Life.
 Where there is car - ing Christ is our Peace.
 Where there's a wel come Christ is our Friend.

Flowers Given By

Clare Gensch
 In Memory of Her Mother's Birthday
 and Her Parents' Wedding Anniversary

Jim Alsmo
 In Memory of Dorothy Alsmo

THIS WEEK

September 14-20, 2026



Monday, September 14

Pastor Jeff's Day Off

Tuesday, September 15

Boomerang Bag Workshop..... 10:00 AM

Wednesday, September 16

Thursday, September 17

Men's Fellowship Breakfast..... 9:00 AM

Pew Keepers 900 AM

Women's Conversation Group..... 10:30 AM

Choir Rehearsal Begins 7:30 PM

Friday, September 18

Pr. Dan's Day Off

Family Camp Weekend Friday - Sunday

Saturday, September 19

Worship Service 5:00 PM

Dignity Project Workshop 9:00 AM

The Road Home co-preach

Sunday, September 20

Worship Service 8:15 AM

Worship Service 10:30 AM

The Road Home co-preach

LOOKING AHEAD

SAM Second Harvest Open House.....Sept. 21

Community Outreach Team MeetingSept. 24

Spirit WeekendSeptember 26-27

Sunday School Begins.....September 27

Prayer Shawl MeetingSeptember 28

SAM Opening LuncheonSeptember 30

Women's Conversation Group..... October 15

Counters 9/13 Nancy Schmidt, Dan Battist

Lawn Mowing Team 9/13-9/19John Nerad

.....Kyle & Kelli Weisinger

Office and Contact Information

OFFICE PHONE.....608-222-3833

EMAIL.....ourchurch@messiahchurch.com

WEBSITE.....messiahchurch.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday.....8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Friday.....8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE DROP BOX

to the left of the main front entrance

5:00 PM SERVICE

Altar MinistryThe Remiker Family

GreeterJeff & Gina Poster

ReaderJohn Marchewka

Communion.....Pete & Kat Wingier

.....Melissa Remiker, Shannon Marchewka

Ushers.....Bernice Day, Kelli Weisinger

Musician.....Amy Ziebell

Vocalists.....Clyde Nyhus, Cara Musick

.....Mike Digman, Dave Down, Tara Von Dollen,

.....Donna Buchert

Streaming.....Jenna Shinstine

LL&LKim Radovan, Pete & Kat Wingier

8:15 AM SERVICE

Altar MinistryKathy Lukens

Coffee MinistryKim Radovan

.....Pete & Kat Wingier

Greeter.....Lamont & Corinne Liefke

Reader.....Sara Mainquist

Communion ..Cynthia McVay, Joseph Green

.....Karen Wenger, Pam McGranahan

Ushers.....Cindy Ellis, Joseph Green

Glen Schmitz, Jonah Schmitz, Violet Schmitz

Musician.....Marian Korth

Vocalists.....Senior Choir Members

Streaming.....Steve Cheramy

NurseryKalli Selchert

10:30 AM SERVICE

Altar Ministry.....Susan Whitish

Communion Cups.....Becky Skibo

Coffee.....Susan Whitish

Greeter.....Steve & Kathy Lyons

Reader.....Becky Skibo

CommunionCeline Curley, Karen Clark

.....Gary Dalgaard, Suzanne Warborg

....Organ - Grace Kylo - Lectern - Ed DeMeo

UshersJody Dahmen

.....Lee Nelson, Walt Herrod

MusicianMelissa Vanden Heuvel

Vocalists.....Celebrate Group

StreamingClark Kellogg

NurseryKalli Selchert



LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

5202 Cottage Grove Rd.
Madison, WI 53716