



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.

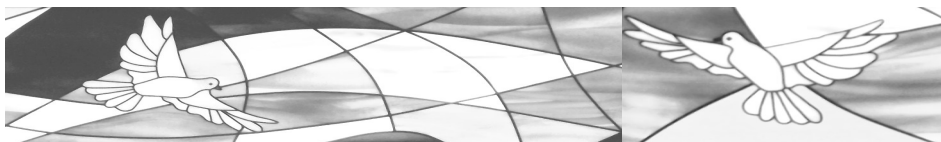
NURSERY CARE

Is available from 8:00 - 9:20 am and 10:15 - 11:35 am

Ages 6 weeks- 6 years old, downstairs Nursery.

Secure sign-in, parent pagers available

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost + September 19-20, 2026



OPENING HYMN

5:00 PM *We Walk By Faith*

8:15 AM *We Walk By Faith*

10:30 AM *I Was Glad*

ELW Red Book **#635**

ELW Red Book **#635**

W&P Purple Book **#68**

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

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Ninevah did, how they turned from their evil ways, God's mind was changed about the calamity God would bring upon them, and God did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And Jonah said, "Yes, angry

enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not have compassion for Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Reader: Word of God, word of Life.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God**

PSALM 25

To You, O Lord



SECOND READING

Philippians 1:27-30

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For God has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader: Word of God, word of Life

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus said to the disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And at about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

***Congregation:* Praise to you, O Christ.**

✠ THE HOMILY ✠

PASTOR DAN O'BRIEN

THE ROAD HOME - MICHAEL ETHRIDGE AND ELLIOTT VALENTINE

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW Red Book #588

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

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 *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* W&P Purple Book #95

8:15 AM *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* ELW Red Book #631

10:30 AM *If We Live, We Live to the Lord* **Page 6**
Thy Word W&P Purple Book #144

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 *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

10:30 AM *The Church Song*

ELW Red Book #547
W&P Purple Book #135

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

If We Live, We Live to the Lord

If we live, we live to the Lord. If we

die, we die to the Lord. So then, wheth-er we live or

wheth-er we die, we are the Lord's.

Text: Rolf Vegdahl, b. 1955, based on Romans 14:8, Psalm 103

Music: Rolf Vegdahl

Text and music © 2009, 2016 Augsburg Fortress

IF WE LIVE
Irregular

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

Harley & Bonnie Schmidt
In Celebration of Our 64th Wedding Anniversary

Dennis & Janet Knutson
In Celebration of Our 63rd Wedding Anniversary

THIS WEEK

September 21-20, 2026



Monday, September 21

Pastor Jeff's Day Off
SAM Open House at SHFB

Tuesday, September 22

Boomerang Bag Workshop..... 10:00 AM
St. Stephen's Fundraiser @ Red Robin

Wednesday, September 23

Morning Bible Study..... 7:00 AM

Thursday, September 24

Men's Fellowship Breakfast..... 9:00 AM
Pew Keepers 900 AM
Community Outreach Meeting 10:00 AM
Women's Conversation Group..... 10:30 AM
Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM

Friday, September 25

Pr. Dan's Day Off

Saturday, September 26

Worship Service 5:00 PM
Dignity Project Workshop..... 9:00 AM
Spirit Weekend

Sunday, September 27

Worship Service 8:15 AM
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
Spirit Weekend

LOOKING AHEAD

Prayer Shawl Meeting September 28
SAM Opening Luncheon September 30
Women's Conversation Group..... October 15

Counters 9/20 Glenn Schmitz, Samantha Taylor
Lawn Mowing Team 9/20-9/26 Tim O'Brien
..... Mike Nelson, Gary Dalgaard

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 MinistryNancy Battist
GreeterMaren Anderson, Val Roman
ReaderPaula Kedzie
Communion.....Jan Hagen, Val Roman
..... Elaine McNeil, Paula Kedzie
Ushers.....Doug & Jen Dettlaff
Musician.....Marian Korth
VocalistsClyde Nyhus, Cara Musick
.....Mike Digman, Dave Down, Tara Von Dollen,
..... Donna Buchert
Streaming.....Mary Reines

8:15 AM SERVICE

Altar Ministry The Russell/Schmitz Family
Coffee MinistryNancy Battist
Greeter.....Jim Alsmo, Kathy Lukens
Reader.....Martha Netzloff
Communion Glenn Schmitz, Kathy Lukens
.....Karen Wenger, Martha Netzloff
Ushers.....Don & Gloria Hehenberger
.....Lamont Liefke, Tim Coulthart
Musician.....Dean Gardner
Vocalists.....Senior Choir Members
Streaming.....Steve Cheramy
NurseryChristina Teschendorf

10:30 AM SERVICE

Altar Ministry.....Carla Fears
Communion Cups.....Tara Von Dollen
Coffee.....Deb Plantz
Greeter.....Gary & Gretchann Dalgaard
Reader.....Carla Fears
Communion Karen Clark, Susan Ashley
..... Gary Dalgaard, Norene Shultis
Organ-Duane Beszhak-Lectern-Jody Dahmen
UshersCarla Fears, John Uselman
Musician Melissa Vanden Heuvel
Vocalists.....Celebrate Group
StreamingClark Kellogg
NurseryChristina Teschendorf

