

MESSIAH LUTHERAN
Skidaway Island
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Sunday, April 14, 2024
Third Sunday of Easter



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
1 West Ridge Road, Savannah, GA 31411
(912) 598-1188
www.messiahsi.org

GATHERING

NOTE: Congregational Responses in Bold Type

WELCOME TO THIS WORSHIP CELEBRATION of the living Christ's presence in our midst. Christ comes to us with new life and strength for Christian living in daily life through the hearing of the Word, preaching, prayer, song, and community. **ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US** in the Fellowship Hall following worship for conversation, coffee, and snacks.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Thine is the Glory

arr. Weber

Please stand if you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son,
And of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

By our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ,
God raised us to new life
Let us confess to God our sins
And all that waits for resurrection in our lives.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

God of love,
the witness of the resurrection can be hard to believe:
we resist your unfailing love for us and for others,
and we turn our backs on the gift of new life,
choosing instead the old way of sin,
the way that takes us away from you
and leads us back toward death.

**Free us from the power of sin,
guide us by your spirit,
and help us in our weakness,
that we may live as your children,
restored to new and everlasting life. Amen**

By God's grace you are forgiven and born anew.
May you be strengthened daily with the power
to walk in God's light and love.

Amen

GATHERING SONG

Thine is the Glory

Hymn 376



1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-



vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,



rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave-clothes
hymns of tri - umph sing, for the Lord now liv - eth;
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

Refrain



where thy bod - y lay.
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring
to thy home a - bove.



Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

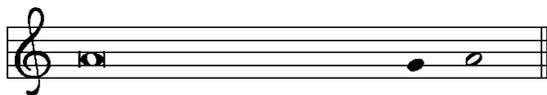
Text: Edmond Budry, 1854–1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875–1939
Music: JUDAS MACCABAEUS, George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

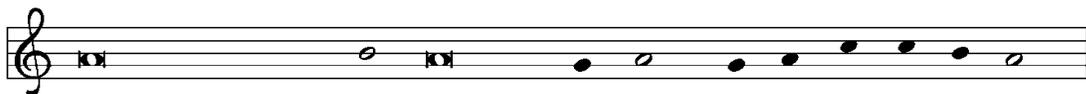
KYRIE



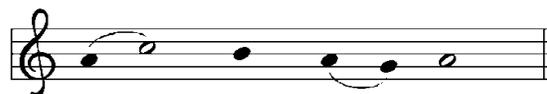
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



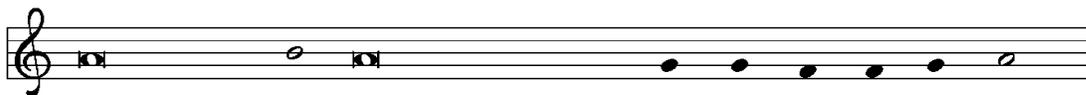
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



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



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



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

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

SPECIAL MUSIC

If You Search with All Your Heart
Chancel Choir

Courtney

WORD

FIRST READING: Acts 3: 12-19

NT 105

After healing a man unable to walk, Peter preaches to the people, describing how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

¹²[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk?¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 4

The LORD does wonders for the faithful. (Ps. 4:3)

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²**“You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?”**

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

⁴**Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.**

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

⁶**Many are saying, “Who will show us any good?”
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.**

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸**In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7

NT 212

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand if you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 24: 36b-48

NT 78

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Rev. Jason Talsness

Please stand if you are able.



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
 2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
 think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
 he that for three days in the grave had lain;
 your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
 raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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NICENE CREED

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response after each prayer: God of grace,

Hear our prayer.

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

Amen.

MEAL

DIALOGUE



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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The risen Christ is made known to us
in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God



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.

COMMUNION

Please stand if you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.**

Amen.

SENDING

PASTORAL BENEDICTION

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

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.



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
 3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
 tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
 life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
 death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
 gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
 break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
 heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
 Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
 riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
 gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
 Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!

Refrain



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

arr. Held

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today:

- **By Pattye & Clarke Field** *in celebration of our daughter Leesa's 60th birthday, and*
- **By Karen Dreger** *in celebration of her 40th Baptismal Birthday.*

ETERNAL CANDLE is given this month by **Cheryl & Frank Liebgott** *in remembrance for those Messiah saints who have gone on before us, in the assurance of eternal life in Christ.*

GATHERING SONG TODAY

Messiah joins Karen Dreger today as she celebrates the 40th anniversary of her baptism. Today's Gathering Song—*Thine is the Glory*—is one of Karen's favorites.

WELCOME THE NEW CHOIR DIRECTOR

Following Worship Today

Join the congregation at Fellowship Time today to welcome Rodney Powers, the new choir director.



Powers grew up in rural central Illinois and began piano lessons in the fifth grade. Following high school in 1976, he studied choral music education with a major in piano and a minor in voice at Western Illinois University. After graduation with a BA in music, he began a career as Director of Music Ministries in the United Methodist Church.

Mid-career, Rodney attended Southern Illinois University's School of Aviation to study aircraft maintenance technology, graduating in 1987. He taught at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University at Hunter Army Airfield while continuing his music ministry with the United Methodist Church. He later had a long career teaching industrial technology in the Liberty County Schools. During this time, he graduated from Georgia Southern University in 2003 with a master's degree in music after studying piano performance.

He retired in 2011 and subsequently lost his wife Ann in 2016 after her long battle with multiple sclerosis. Rodney has three adult children. His two sons live in Georgia, and his daughter lives in Illinois.

Rodney comes to Messiah from Flemington Presbyterian Church in Hinesville, where he has served as Director of Music and worship pianist. He resides in Savannah.

SAVE THE DATE

Ladies Breakfast

Saturday, April 20, 9 am

To reserve your spot, contact Lynn McLauchlan by April 14 (410.353.9795).

Celebrate the Mortgage Payoff

Friday, May 3 at 6:30 pm

The congregation and the community will gather to burn the mortgage and celebrate this milestone in the life of Messiah. The Bourbon Boys Band will play, and there will be BBQ sandwiches. Ice cream will be for sale. Bring chairs and a beverage--invite your friends and neighbors to join the fun!

MESSIAH PLACE

The poem *Messiah Place* is on the back page of today's bulletin. In a recent sermon Pastor Talsness wondered if Messiah or even Skidaway Island could have a poet laureate. There were no applications for the position, but one of our members did submit a poem about Messiah written some time ago. We include it today because it is beautiful and true. The poet asked to remain anonymous; but, if you ask Pastor Talsness in person, he has permission to tell you.

2023-2024 FELLOWSHIP DINNERS

Deadline: Sunday, April 14

Norrita Thorne and Lana Gilster will soon assign groups for Fellowship Dinners that will begin later this year. The signup sheet is posted on the Narthex Kiosk.

Norrita and Lana hope that those of you who have not participated in one of our Fellowship Dinner Groups will consider joining us this round. You will not be disappointed. They are unbelievably FUN!

MESSIAH READS BOOK GROUP

Tuesday, April 23 at 6:30 pm

Conference Room at Messiah

For this month, the book is *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved* by Kate Bowler. Sharing her own story, Kate is very sick, and no amount of positive thinking will shrink her tumors. What does it mean to die, she wonders, in a society that insists everything happens for a reason? Kate is stripped of this certainty only to discover that without it, life is hard but beautiful in a way it never has been before. Rev. Karen Scheib will lead the discussion and we will meet at church for this session. Don't miss it!

May Book: *Lady Tan's Circle of Women* by Lisa See

Messiah Reads meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm, and all are welcome.

FROM THE OUTREACH TEAM

Deadline: May 5

For Mother's Day this year, the Outreach Team is collecting for Magdalene House, a Savannah domestic violence shelter for women and their children. Pick up a pink shopping list from the Outreach Table in the Narthex and buy any of the products. Thank you in advance for your support and prayers for this special collection.

MESSIAH WOMENS RETREAT

May 17 & 18, 2024

The theme of this year's women's is "**Thread by Thread.**" We will explore this image as it weaves its way through Psalm 139 and Rahab's story, as told in Joshua 1-2 New Testament references. You will have opportunities for quiet time, walking a labyrinth, and enjoying the beautiful surroundings. Come for a time of spiritual reflection, renewal, and fellowship. There is no charge for the retreat.

- **Date:** Saturday, May 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., with an optional overnight stay for up to twelve people on Friday, May 17th beginning at 5:00 p.m.
- **Place:** The Kuhn's farm in Millen, Georgia. (One hour and forty-minute drive from Skidaway)
- **Leaders:** Rev. Dr. Ellen Shepard and Pastor Karen Scheib. For more information contact Karen Scheib or Gayle Denny.

AMERICA'S SECOND HARVEST

Food for April

Canned fruit is the food for the month.

Food Delivery

Volunteers are needed to deliver food to Second Harvest at the beginning of each month. The signup sheet is on the Narthex Kiosk along with the information needed. Call Lynn McLauchlan (410.353.9795) if you have questions.

SERMON PREVIEW

Our gospel reading is yet another resurrection appearance by Jesus, this time in Luke 24. After appearing to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and disappearing, He suddenly re-appears in their midst offering a word of peace. The disciples are frightened, thinking Jesus is a ghost. But they watch Jesus eat fish, assuring them the resurrection of his body was real. Then Jesus teaches them about everything in the Old Testament being fulfilled by Christ, opening their minds to scripture and teaching them that the Messiah must suffer and rise again in three days. Questions for reflection: What part of your life needs peace right now? What kind of fish do you like? Has your mind ever been opened to Scripture? Where, when and with whom?



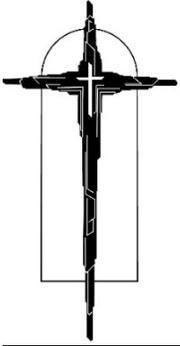
THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Ministers	The People of Messiah
Pastor	Jason Talsness
Minister, Pastoral Care	Karen Scheib
Pastor Emeritus	James Peper
Presiding Bishop ELCA	Elizabeth A. Eaton
Bishop, SE Synod ELCA	Kevin Strickland
Organist	Shirley Newhart
Choral Director	Rodney Powers
Messiah Wind Ensemble Director	Vacant
Altar Guild	Janet Reardon
Reader	Carol Kuhn
Evangelism Greeters	Babette Borsani and Janet Reardon
Ushers	Eve & Armand Wells
Communion Assistants	Steve Derr and Janet Reardon
Acolytes	Helena Talsness and Sophia Wade
Audio Visual	Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan
Coffee Hour	Christine Lind, Host, and Cheryl Liebgott, Cake

MILESTONES THIS WEEK:

Birthdays: Gayle Denny 04/14, Jim Dawson 04/18, Jan Hazel 04/19, Connie Ray 04/20

Anniversaries: None



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 14	<p>9:00 am Worship</p> <p>9:00 am Children's Sunday School</p> <p>10:00 am Fellowship & Welcoming Rodney Powers</p> <p>10:20 am Confirmation Class</p> <p>10:20 am Discipleship Class</p> <p>11:30 am Shower for the New Baur</p>
Monday, April 15	<p>10:00 am Women's Bible Study</p> <p>11:15 Staff Support/Mutual Ministry Team</p> <p>6:30 <i>Mahjong</i></p>
Tuesday, April 16	<p>3:00 pm Stephen Minister Training</p> <p>3:00 <i>pm Hamiltons</i></p> <p>3:00 <i>pm Serendipity</i></p>
Wednesday, April 17	<p>8:30 am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast</p> <p>10:00 am PLARNing Group</p> <p>7:00 pm Chancel Choir Practice</p>
Thursday, April 18	<p>4:00 pm Stroke Support Group</p>
Friday, April 19	
Saturday, April 20	<p>8:30 am Stephen Minister Training</p>

Italics indicate Outside Groups.

CHURCH COUNCIL 2024

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
Pastor	Jason Talsness	770.570-7407	skidawaypastorj@gmail.com
Education & Discipleship	Randi VenHuizen	402.216.3067	randiv1026@gmail.com
Evangelism (Membership)	Claire Cornwell-Williams	912.658.4114	cwilliams17@comcast.net
Finance	Chloe Baur	605.430.7444	chloebaur@outlook.com
Parish Life (Social & TLC)	Gayle Denny	513.604.0764	gdgardener@comcast.net
Property	Tim Andrews	612.868.5222	timandrews1114@comcast.net
Social Ministry (Outreach)	Amanda Ridberg	203.273.4827	aprestoridberg@gmail.com
Staff Support/HR/Mutual Ministry	Jane Holst	404.775.1442	janeholst1399@comcast.net
Stewardship (Contributions)	Steve Derr	912.429.6371	sederr83@gmail.com
Treasurer	Parker Pearson	410.349.7704	parkpear@aol.com
Worship & Music	Lana Gilster	952.250.7510	lanagilster@earthlink.net

Officers/Executive Team: Claire Cornwell-Williams, President; Tim Andrews Vice-President, Steve Derr, Secretary; and Parker Pearson, Treasurer.



MESSIAH PLACE
Blank Verse
2003

**The place, not long ago, was a coastal forest
Where the deer and the birds reigned.
To be sure it was beautiful in that time;
A credit to its Creator.**

**Then came beings of a higher calling.
They exercised their dream
Of a church to the glory
Of their God and King.**

**So now it is a place
Where people worship and praise their Lord,
Where they pray His mercy on all the world,
And teach the Holy Word.**

**Yes they also sing and enjoy the arts
And the company of each other.
It is a place to celebrate the union of two souls in
marriage,
And to grieve the passing of a dear one; and to comfort one
another.**

**A place from whence they reach out in love
Tis their community and God's children everywhere.
Thank you Lord.
Be with us always.**

