



WHY LUTHERAN?

***SEVENTH SUNDAY
BECAUSE WE HAVE A VOCATION***

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

LIVING HOPE



2026 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL — MESSIAH LUTHERAN SKIDAWAY ISLAND

Enhance the Worship Experience



Worship stands at the center of Messiah's ministry. Our sanctuary not only provides space to encounter God in worship, it also hosts Arts at Messiah events and other concerts throughout the year.

The current Sanctuary lighting does not adequately illuminate the center front of the Chancel, where performers often stand and where we place the piano for The Arts at Messiah concerts. Performers

find themselves in the dark. New lighting there and from the back of the balcony will provide greater flexibility for illuminating our beautiful worship space. In addition, maintaining the existing two banks of lights mounted high on the ceiling of our sanctuary requires scaffolding, which costs thousands of dollars each time the lights are replaced and repaired.

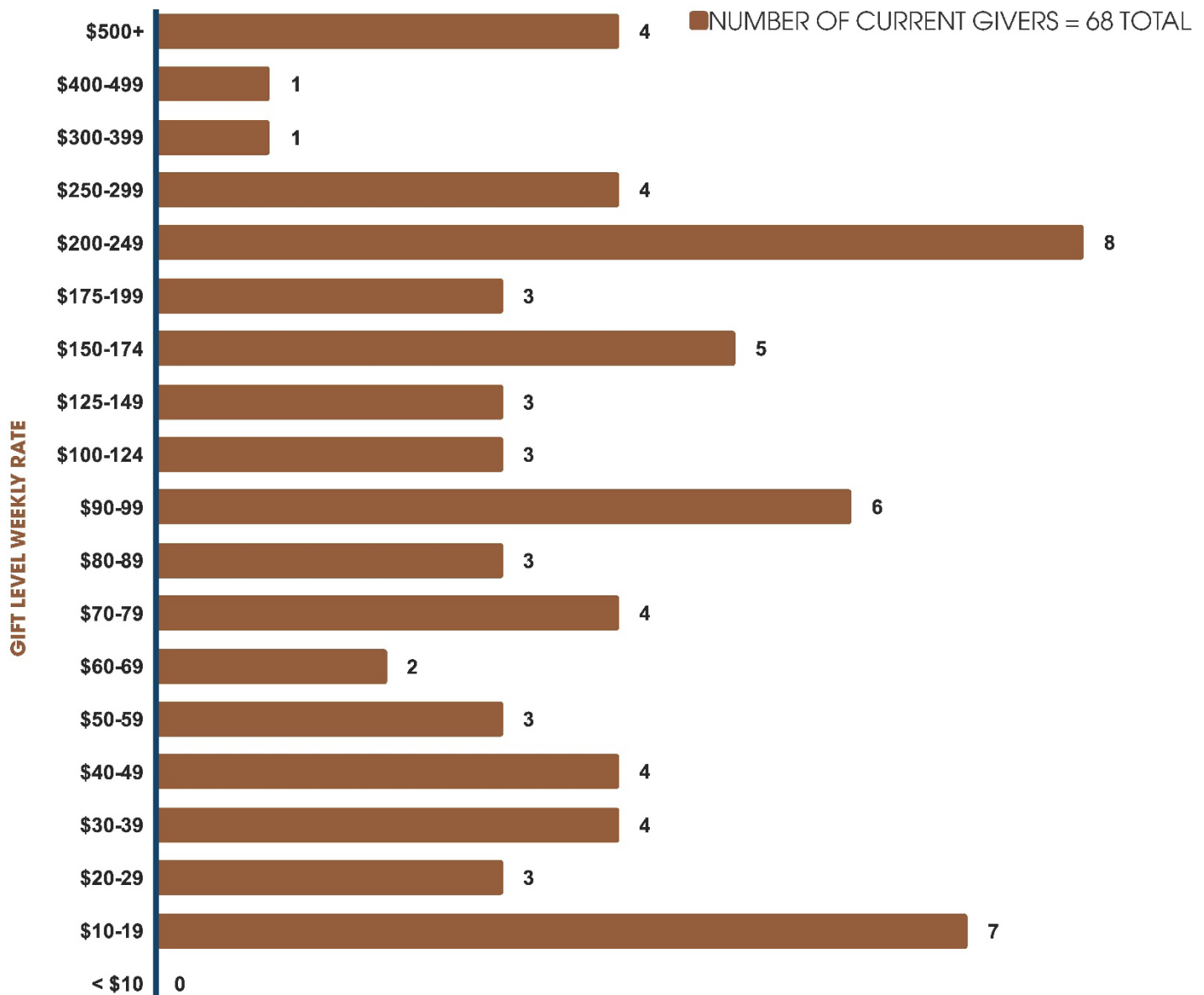
New lighting in the Chancel and from the balcony will provide greater flexibility to improve our beautiful worship space

Our goal for the Living Hope Appeal is to increase our gifts and offerings by \$200 per week in the coming year. This will allow Messiah to nurture faith development, envision a bold future, and keep our ministry strong. We ask for your prayers for a generous response, and we encourage you to prayerfully consider increasing your gift for the coming year.

Our gifts and offerings, joined together, accomplish ministry which is blessed by the Lord. This chart provides a picture of our current giving. As you read this gift chart and find the level of your current offerings, we invite you to consider the following questions:

- How does my offering level compare with other ways I use my money?
- How adequately does my offering reflect my gratitude to God for all the blessings I receive?

RANGE OF GIFTS GIVEN



1 Peter 1:3 – “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

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.

*As the Confession and
Forgiveness begins, all
may make the sign of
the cross, the sign that
is marked at baptism.*

*Congregational
responses are in bold*

** Asterisks
throughout the
order of worship
indicate the people
standing, in body
and/or in spirit.*

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barbara Van Doren, Reader

PRELUDE "Awake, Awake to Love and Work"

arr. Held

Shirley Newhart, Organ

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✠ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

***GATHERING SONG "Rise Up, O Saints of God!"**

Hymn 669

Verses 1-4



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulfs earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king-dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um-phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro-claim.
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se-quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.
stretch forth your hand of heal-ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.
and, quick-ened by the Spir-it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893

Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

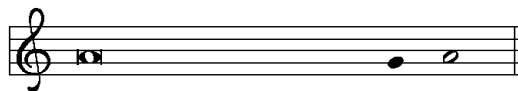
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***GREETING**

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" is a Greek word meaning "Lord." In Christian liturgy, particularly in Kyrie Eleison, it's used as a plea for God's mercy. The full phrase, "Kyrie eleison," translates to "Lord, have mercy," and has a common element in various Christian worship services since the 4th century.

*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.



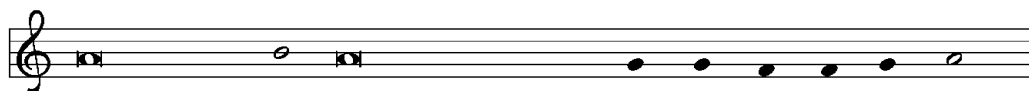
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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**

Loving God. You have placed us in the world not by accident but by purpose. By your grace, make holy the work of our hands, the care we give, the words we speak, and the service we offer. In every role and relationship, help us to serve our neighbor and glorify you, through Jesus Christ, the one who called us to follow. **Amen**

ANTHEM “We Are All One in Mission”

Finnish Folk Tune

Chancel Choir

For lyrics, see Hymn 576.

WORD

Barbara Van Doren, Reader

FIRST READING: Micah 6:6-8

Old Testament 819

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”

- ⁶ “With what shall I come before the Lord
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
⁷ Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”
⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good,
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 90:10-17

¹⁰ The days of our life are seventy years
or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;
even then their span is only toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

¹¹ **Who considers the power of your anger?**

Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.

¹² So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.

¹³ **Turn, O Lord! How long?**

Have compassion on your servants!

¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵ **Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us
and as many years as we have seen evil.**

¹⁶ Let your work be manifest to your servants
and your glorious power to their children.

¹⁷ **Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us
and prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17

New Testament 178

“Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus...”

¹² Therefore, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³ Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***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: Matthew 5:13-16**

New Testament 4

“You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others...” Why: Jesus teaches that our lives are witnesses. Not just in church, but wherever we live, work, and serve. Vocation is how light shines in the world.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “Every Calling is Holy”

Reverend Jason Talsness

***HYMN OF THE DAY** "Give Me Jesus"

Hymn 770

Verses 1-4

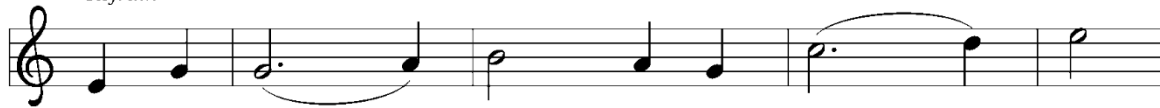


1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual

ALTAR FLOWERS are given today by **Terri Breyman** "in memory of Terri's father, Chuck Taylor," and by **Susan & Ron Whitaker** "in honor of Ron's birthday and their granddaughter's wedding."

THE ETERNAL CANDLE for October is given by **Shirley Stiber** "with thankfulness for God's blessings."

*In the Apostles' Creed,
the phrase "holy
catholic Church" refers
to the universal
Christian church, not
exclusively the Roman
Catholic Church. It
signifies the belief in a
single, unified body of
believers across time
and space, united by
their shared faith in
Christ.*

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**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.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*(In between the petitions of the prayers, the following response is
offered.)*

Leader: God of Grace,

People: Receive our prayers.

(Final petition and response.)

Leader: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your
everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

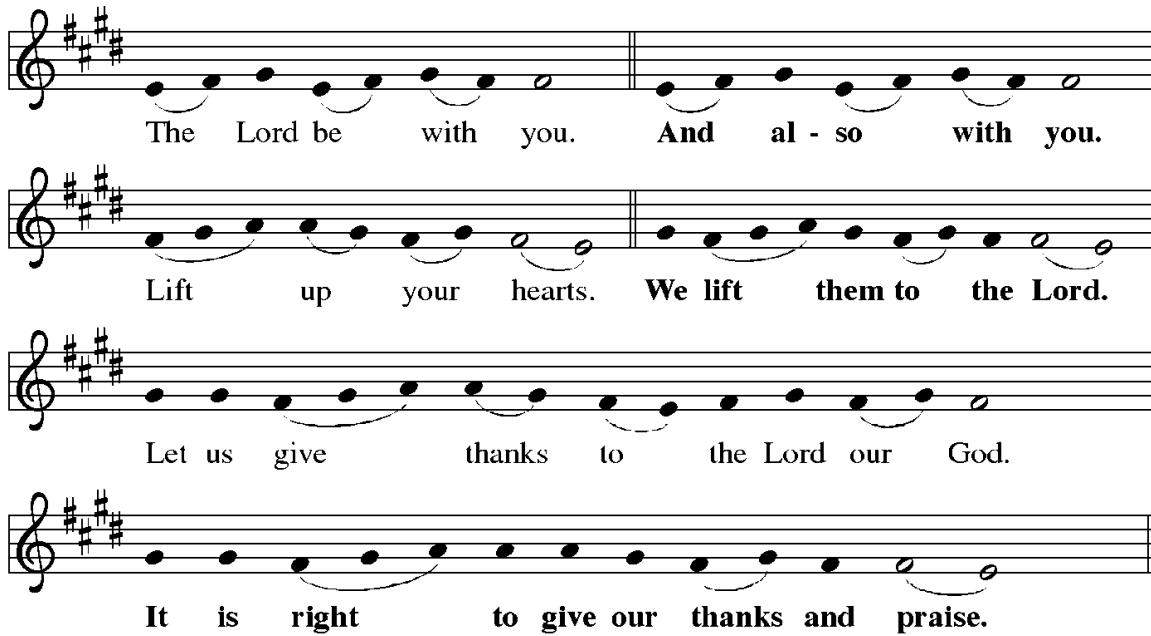
People: Amen.

TEMPLE TALK "Living Hope Stewardship Campaign"

Steve Derr, Chair, Stewardship Ministry

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.

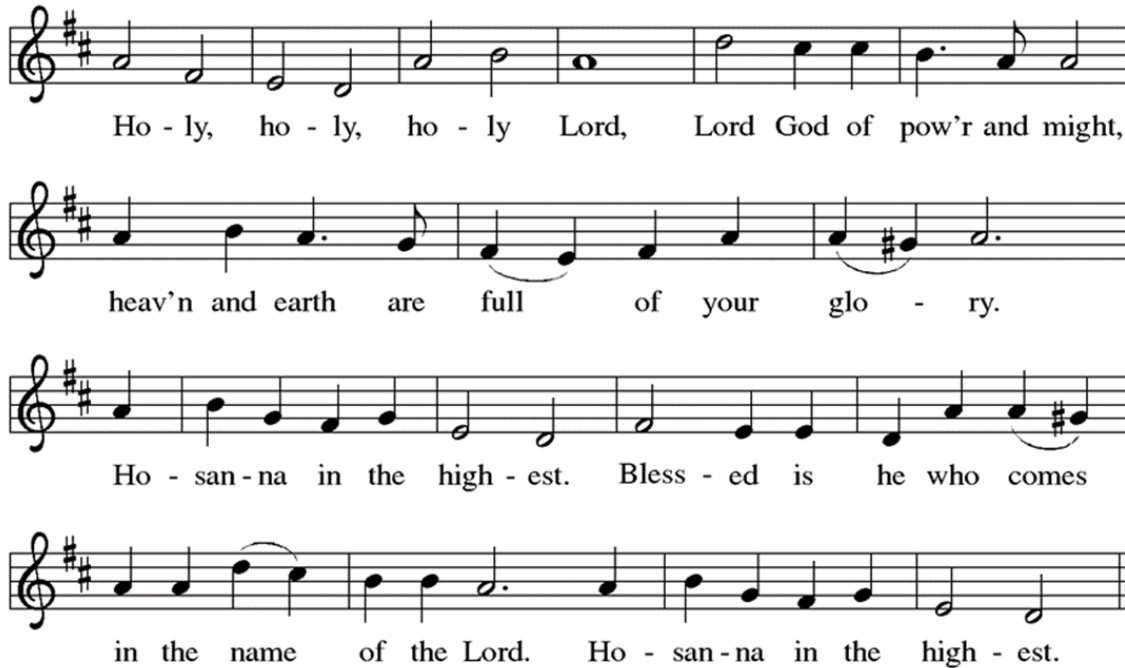
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*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 kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.

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

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Loving God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen.

SENDING

***PASTORAL BENEDICTION**

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.
Amen.

***SENDING SONG** "Take My Life, That I May Be"

Hymn 583

Verses 1-4

Follows on the next page.

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Refrain/Estribillo

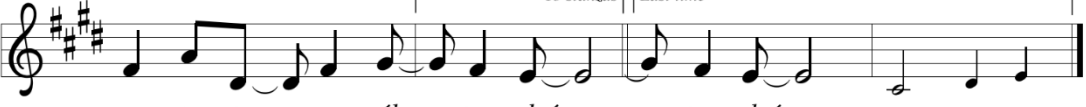


To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -
 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón
 to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;

To stanzas Last time



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.
 let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té
 1 Take my hands and let them move
 2 Take my sil - ver and my gold,
 3 Take my voice and let me sing
 4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;
 at the im - pulse of thy love;
 not a mite would I with - hold;
 al - ways, on - ly for my King;
 it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -
 take my feet and let them be swift and
 take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry
 take my lips and let them be filled with
 take my heart, it is thine own; it shall



pul - so de tu a - mor.
 beau - ti - ful for thee.
 pow'r as thou shalt choose.
 mes - sag - es from thee.
 be thy roy - al throne.

Refrain/Estribillo

2 *Que mis pies tan sólo en pos
 de lo santo puedan ir,
 y que a ti, Señor, mi voz,
 se complazca en bendecir. Estribillo*

3 *Que mis labios al hablar
 hablen sólo de tu amor;
 que mis bienes dedique
 yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo*

4 *Que mi tiempo todo esté
 consagrado a tu loor;
 que mi mente y su poder
 sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo*

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE** “Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng”
Shirley Newhart, organ

arr. Machemer

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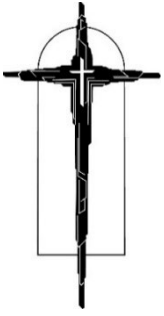
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, October 19	9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:20 am Adult Discipleship Class 10:20 am Confirmation Class
Monday, October 20	10:00 am Women's Bible Study 3:30 pm Shirley & Friends <i>6:30 pm Mahjong</i>
Tuesday, October 21	2:00 pm Outreach Ministry
Wednesday, October 22	8:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10:00 am PLARning Group 7:00 Choir Practice
Thursday, October 23	3:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
Friday, October 24	<i>10:00 am Stamp Club</i>
Saturday, October 25	

Italics indicate outside group



THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Ministers	The People of Messiah
Pastor	Jason Talsness
Pastor, Congregational Care	Karen Scheib
Pastor Emeritus	James Peper
Presiding Bishop ELCA	Yehiel Curry
Bishop, SE Synod ELCA	Kevin Strickland
Director of Music & Organist	Shirley Newhart
Choral Director	Rodney Powers
Altar Guild	Jane Holst and Kay Yablecki
Reader	Barbara Van Doren
Evangelism Greeters	Jody & Steve Voss
Ushers	Parker Pearson and Randi VenHuizen
Communion Assistants	Diane Munroe and Marcia Stinson
Eucharistic Minister	Lynnetta Hartson
Acolytes	Confirmation Class
Audio Visual	Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan
Coffee Hour	Jennifer Nguyen (host & treats) and Babette Borsani (treats)

MILESTONES THIS WEEK

Birthdays: Jimmy Viglione 10/21, Anne Jeanblanc 10/23, Steve Derr 10/25,

Pastor Jason Talsness 10/25

Anniversaries: Layne & Gary Rabold 10/22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAREWELL TO PASTOR PEPER

Sunday, November 2

Messiah's Pastor Emeritus The Reverend Jim Peper is moving to Nashville. He came to Savannah in 1992 to start what became Messiah Lutheran Church, where he served until 2008. Since then, he has lived on Tybee Island and served as interim pastor for many area churches. The congregation will take time during worship to say thank you and farewell to Pastor Peper and his wife Kala with a special reception after worship in his honor.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY

Third Event on Aging

Thursday, October 23, 6:00 pm

Dr. Judy Hildebrand will host a session on healthy aging. The program will feature a 70-minute video by the Stanford University Distinguished Faculty titled *Rethinking Health: Big Data, Wearables and Preventative Health*. Please sign up on the Narthex Kiosk so the planners know how many people to expect.

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia

The food for October is canned fish and meat (e.g., tuna, chicken, etc.).

SERMON PREVIEW

Every Calling is Holy

The word "vocation" means "calling" (as in "vocal"). In our penultimate Sunday in the series on Lutheranism, we examine the notion of vocation. At the time of Martin Luther in Europe, the highest calling was to leave behind earthly possessions and enter a monastery or convent or enter the priesthood. That was the most holy and admired path. As a part of the Reformation, Luther sought to uphold the dignity of all work. Based on 1 Corinthians 7 ("...let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him"), Luther saw holiness in most every walk of life. Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth, you are the light of the world." In this verse, he teaches that our lives are a witness not just in church but also in working, serving and everyday life.

Questions for reflection: What are some different callings you have had in your life? (Hint: a calling is more than just a job or occupation). What direction do you think God is calling you in right now? How can Christ's light shine through what you do? How is retirement a calling? What does being called to retirement look like?

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025

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Parker Pearson (no term)

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Pat Cooper (2027)

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*Milda Blaney is serving the first year of a three-year term that ends in 2027.



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

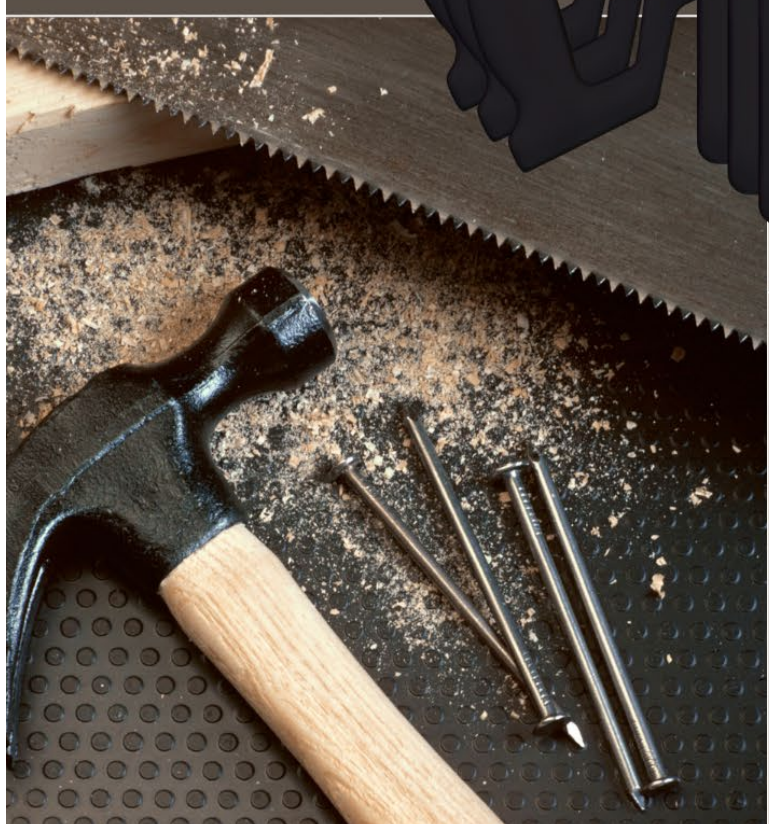
**JOIN US FOR A MEANINGFUL
DAY OF BUILDING BEDS FOR
CHILDREN IN NEED!**

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
1 WEST RIDGE ROAD,
SAVANNAH, GA 31411

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Join Us to Build Beds for Kids



October 25th
8 am to noon

**BREAKFAST, SNACKS, AND WATER
PROVIDED ALONG WITH
NECESSARY TOOLS.**

USE THE QR CODE TO PRE-REGISTER

