



1 Kings 18:17-39

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 re-
sponses are in bold*

** Asterisks through-
out the order of
worship indicate
the people stand-
ing, in body and/or
in spirit.*

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gayle Denny, reader

PRELUDE "The Ash Grove"

Shirley Newhart, organ

arr. Wood

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

People: Amen.

Leader: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection

Leader: Compassionate God.

People: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Leader: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

People: Amen.

*GATHERING SONG "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

Hymn 855

Verses 1-4



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

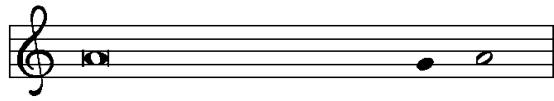
Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

*GREETING

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

People: **And also with you.**

*KYRIE



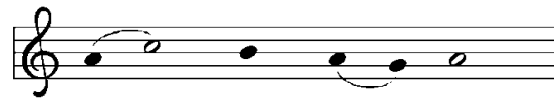
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



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.



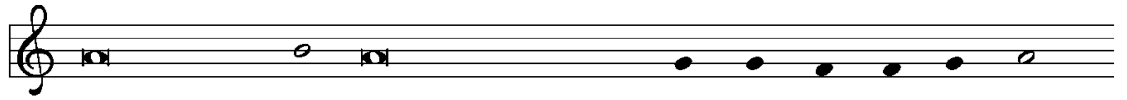
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

"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.

*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**

Leader: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC “Honor and Praise”

Parish/Caraway

SING THE FAITH

*Righteous and holy in all of your ways, we come before you with honor and
praise.*

*Here to adore you for all of our days, we come before you with honor and
praise.*

*Lord of the heavens, how faithful you are, shine down upon us, o bright Morn-
ing Star.*

*Righteous and holy in all of your ways, we come before you with honor and
praise.*

*Filling the temple, the work of your grace, we come before you with honor and
praise.*

*Here to adore you for all of our days, we come before you with honor and
praise.*

*Lord of the heavens, how faithful you are, rise in our spirits, o bright Morning
Star.*

*Righteous and holy in all of your ways, we come before you with honor and
praise.*

WORD

Gayle Denny, reader

FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 10:12-14

New Testament page 151

¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

¹⁴ Therefore, my beloved, flee from the worship of idols.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 115:1-11

Leader: ¹ Not to us, O Lord, not to us, but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness.

People: ² **Why should the nations say,
“Where is their God?”**

Leader: ³ Our God is in the heavens;
he does whatever he pleases.

People: ⁴ **Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.**

Leader: ⁵ They have mouths, but they do not speak;
they have eyes, but they do not see.

People: ⁶ **They have ears, but they do not hear;
they have noses, but they do not smell.**

Leader: ⁷ They have hands, but they do not feel;
they have feet, but they do not walk;
they make no sound in their throats.

People: ⁸ **Those who make them are like them;
so are all who trust in them.**

Leader: ⁹ O Israel, trust in the Lord!
He is their help and their shield.

People: ¹⁰ **O house of Aaron, trust in the Lord!
He is their help and their shield.**

Leader: ¹¹ You who fear the Lord, trust in the Lord!
He is their help and their shield.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-40

New Testament page 22

Leader: The Gospel according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the

The reading of Scripture is when God makes known his will: God desires mercy and salvation.

Ultimately, this word points us to the Word, the incarnate Son of God.

Through Christ — God's only Son — are we able to know the Father's favor and grace.

greatest?”³⁷ He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment.³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON TEXT: 1 Kings 18:1-2, 17-39 (NIV)

Old Testament page 300

After a long time, in the third year, the word of the Lord came to Elijah: “Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the land.”² So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab.

Now the famine was severe in Samaria,...

¹⁷ When he saw Elijah, he said to him, “Is that you, you troubler of Israel?”

¹⁸ “I have not made trouble for Israel,” Elijah replied. “But you and your father’s family have. You have abandoned the Lord’s commands and have followed the Baals.¹⁹ Now summon the people from all over Israel to meet me on Mount Carmel. And bring the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel’s table.”

²⁰ So Ahab sent word throughout all Israel and assembled the prophets on Mount Carmel.²¹ Elijah went before the people and said, “How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.”

But the people said nothing.

²² Then Elijah said to them, “I am the only one of the Lord’s prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets.²³ Get two bulls for us. Let Baal’s prophets choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it.²⁴ Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord. The god who answers by fire—he is God.”

Then all the people said, “What you say is good.”

²⁵ Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, “Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire.” ²⁶ So they took the bull given them and prepared it.

Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. “Baal, answer us!” they shouted. But there was no response; no one answered. And they danced around the altar they had made.

²⁷ At noon Elijah began to taunt them. “Shout louder!” he said. “Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened.” ²⁸ So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. ²⁹ Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

³⁰ Then Elijah said to all the people, “Come here to me.” They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the Lord, which had been torn down. ³¹ Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, “Your name shall be Israel.” ³² With the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. ³³ He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, “Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood.”

³⁴ “Do it again,” he said, and they did it again.

“Do it a third time,” he ordered, and they did it the third time. ³⁵ The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench.

³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: “Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again.”

³⁸ Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

³⁹ When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, “The Lord—he is God! The Lord—he is God!”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON “Which God Will You Worship? (Elijah, Part 2)”

Director of Faith Formation Ken Ritz

***HYMN OF THE DAY** “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

Hymn 596



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 Whendark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev - 'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

*Today's Altar Flowers
(both vases) are given
by Shirley Stiber
“with thankfulness for
God's blessing of our
family.”*

*The July Eternal can-
dle was donated by
Shirley & Phil Nack
“with thanks for all
the prayers and God's
blessing to you all.”*

*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: **hear our prayer.**

(Final petition and response.)

Leader: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

People: **Amen.**

That Christ visited the dead after his crucifixion is based on I Peter 4:6 "For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does."

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.

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*LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

SENDING

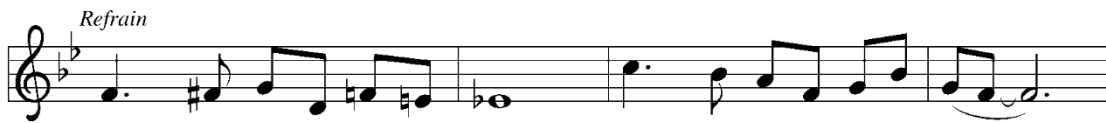
*PASTORAL BENEDICTION

Leader: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

People: Amen

***SENDING SONG** “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

Hymn 697



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
- 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional
Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

***DISMISSAL**

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE** “St. Denio”

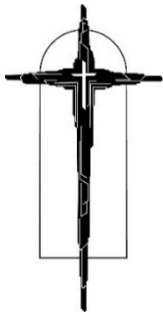
Shirley Newhart, organ

arr. Held

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, July 12	8:45 am SING THE FAITH Warm-up 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship
Monday, July 13	
Tuesday, July 14	3:00 pm Stephen Ministers
Wednesday, July 15	8:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
Thursday, July 16	
Friday, July 17	
Saturday, July 18	

Italics indicate outside group

PASTOR SCHEIB OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

MESSIAH OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday-9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00 pm

Wednesday-8:30 am to 11:30 am

Friday-Closed

ONLINE GIVING

Please consider making a one-time or recurring gift to Messiah using the secure online portal at the website (messiahsi.org) and clicking on the Give tab. Another option to reach the portal is to scan this QR code using your smartphone's QR reader. This link may be used for paying for altar flowers and other church-related activities. Questions? Contact the Church Office.



If you would like to give the old-fashioned way, the offering plate is on the table as you exit the Sanctuary.



THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Ministers	The People of Messiah
Pastor	Jason Talsness
Pastor, Congregational Care	Karen Scheib
Director, Faith Formation	Ken Ritz
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	Karen Floto
Reader	Gayle Denny
Evangelism Greeters	Layne & Gary Rabold
Ushers	Parker Pearson and Trish Tallon
Audio Visual	Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan
Coffee Hour	Christine Lind (host) Cheryl Liebgott, (cake)

MILESTONES THIS WEEK

Birthdays: Ken Hylander 7/11

Anniversaries: Jill & Jim Poole 7/12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

On the second Sunday of each month, Messiah honors people with birthdays that month at Coffee Fellowship following worship. Join the festivities for cake and fellowship.

SUMMER SOCIAL

Sunday, July 26, 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Join the festivities in Peper Hall and enjoy Cincinnati chili dogs and ice cream. Come prepared to sing your favorite hymns and other tunes with Shirley Newhart. During the event, guests can make donations to support the October 3rd Build-a-Bed event, sponsored again this year in partnership with Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Please sign up on the Narthex Kiosk.

FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Did you ever wonder what goes on during worship from the organist's point of view? Sign up on the Narthex Kiosk for Organ 101, a 20-minute overview from Shirley Newhart, Director of Music/Organist following July 19 and July 26 worship services. Limit 8 per session.

FROM THE CHOIR DIRECTOR

Calling All Men

I know you are out there in the congregation—I've heard you. There's no escape! You can carry a tune! I need every available man to join voices to sing *Two Fishermen* on Sunday, July 26. You don't need to read music. The song is very simple and easy to learn in just a few minutes. All men should gather in the Choir Room after worship on Sunday, July 19, to run through the song. Then we will be ready to sing during worship the next week. You will all enjoy the opportunity to share this challenge together. See you then—you won't be disappointed.

SERMON NOTES FOR SUNDAY, JULY 12

Which God Will You Worship (Elijah, Part 2)

Ken Ritz, Director of Faith Formation

After a long time, in the third year, the word of the Lord came to Elijah: "Go and present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the land." 1 Kings 18:1 (NIV)

When Ahab saw Elijah, he said to him, "Is that you, you troubler of Israel?" "I have not made trouble for Israel," Elijah replied. "But you and your father's family have. You have abandoned the Lord's commands and have followed the Baals." 1 Kings 18:17-18 (NIV)

Idolatry Definition:

I put something at the center of my priorities where only God belongs, to try to get something only God has the power to give.

Prosperity tends to mask our idols;

Crises tend to reveal our idols.

Which idol is God's biggest rival in my life?

1. Money _____
2. Success _____
3. Education _____
4. Physical Appearance _____
5. Relationships _____
6. Pleasure _____
7. Work _____
8. _____

continued

1. Which of these do I find myself thinking about the most?
2. Which of these do I most fear losing?
3. Which of these makes me feel that, because I have/am this, I'm somebody?
4. Which of these do I most depend on to make me feel secure?
5. Which of these do I most want to be known for?
6. Which of these most easily cause my emotions to go up or down?
7. Which of these would other people say is my most likely idol?
8. Which of these gets the largest share of my time, effort, and sacrifice?

Elijah's Message: It is time to quit _____

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¹ Greg Stinson is serving the second year of a three-year term that ends in 2027.

² George Lawrence is serving the first year of a three-year term that ends in 2028.

IN THE NAME of JESUS
MESSIAH LUTHERAN

Welcome
Grow
Support
Serve