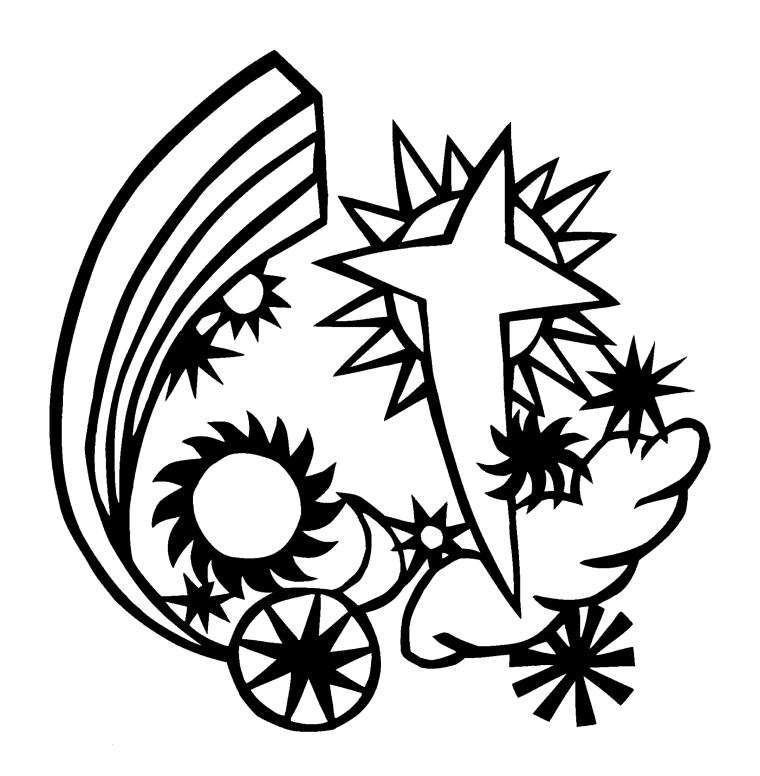


Sunday, November 16, 2025 23rd Sunday of Pentecost



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1 West Ridge Road, Savannah, GA 31411

(912) 598-1188

www.messiahsi.org

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

Brad VenHuizen, Reader

PRELUDE "Morning Has Broken"

arr. Shackley

Shirley Newhart and Rodney Powers, piano

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

> our refuge, our delight,

our beginning and our end.

People: Amen.

Leader: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us

and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

People: we confess that sin has taken hold of us

and we are complicit in its power.

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot

rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives

for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors,

following in the servant way of Jesus.

Amen

Leader: These words are trustworthy and true:

Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross,

swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are + for given

and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

People: Amen.

*GATHERING SONG "Through the Night of Dark and Sorrow"

Hymn 327

Follows on the next page.

"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.



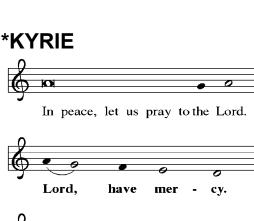
Text: Bernhardt S. Ingemann, 1789–1862; tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, alt. Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

*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.





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





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







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





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



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "I Heard the Lord, Call My Name"

Krieger

Chancel Choir and Summer Choir Trevor Olson, Howard Anderson, Trudy Harting, soloists Oskar Johnson-Liu, cello

Scripture Reference. 1 Samuel 3:10

And the LORD came, and stood, and call as at other times, Samuel, Samuel.

Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth.

Lyrics:

I heard the Lord, call my name. Listen close, you'll hear the same. I heard the Lord call my name. Listen close, you'll hear the same. I heard the Lord call my name. Listen close, you'll hear the same. Take His hand; we are glory bound.

His word is love; love's his word: that's the message that I heard. His word is love; love's His word: that's the message that I heard. His word is love; love's His word: that's the message that I heard. Take His hand; we are glory bound.

Place your hand in His and you will know; He will show you where to go.

I felt His love, from above, settle on me like a dove. I felt His love, from above, settle on me like a dove. I felt His love, from above, settle on me like a dove.

Take His hand; we are glory bound.

And to the Father all your days with the Son and Spirit praise. And to the Father all your days with the Son and Spirit praise. And to the Father all your days with the Son and Spirit praise. Take His hand; we are glory bound.

Place your hand in His and you will know; He will show you where to go.

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.

WORD

Brad VenHuizen, Reader

FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

Old Testament 842

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98

In righteousness will the Lord judge the world. (Ps. 98:9)

- ¹ Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- ²O Lord, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- ³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;

all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

- ⁴ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- ⁵ Sing to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.
- ⁶ With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the Lord.
- ⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸ Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the earth.

⁹ The Lord will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

New Testament 183

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





*GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

New Testament 74

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

⁹ "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately." ¹⁰ Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

12 "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Reverend Jason Talsness

*HYMN OF THE DAY "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"

Hymn 596

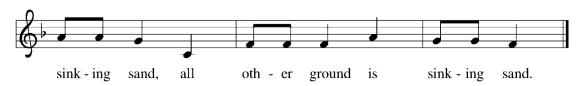


- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 Whendark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov e nant, his blood sus tain me in the rag ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



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!





Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS

today are given by

Terri Breyman "in
loving memory of

Terry Breyman and his
mother, Helen
Breyman," and by

Barbara Van Doren
and Tim Andrews "in
celebration of Tim's

November birthday."

THE ETERNAL CANDLE for November is given by Katharine & John Marshall "in thankfulness for the people of Messiah."

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.

*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.

TEMPLE TALK "The Learning Academy"

David Ackerman, Principal

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Leader: Hear us, O God,

People: Your mercy is great.

(Final petition and response.)

Leader: We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in

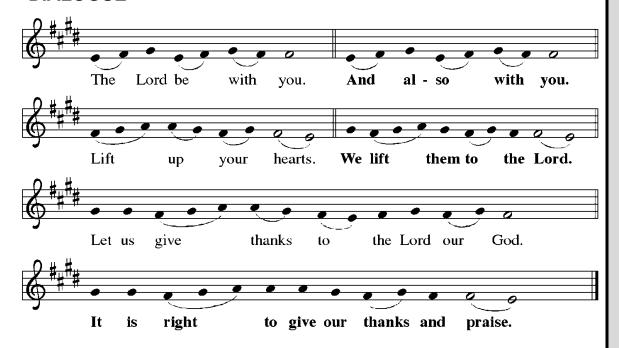
your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our

Lord.

People: Amen.

MEAL

*DIALOGUE

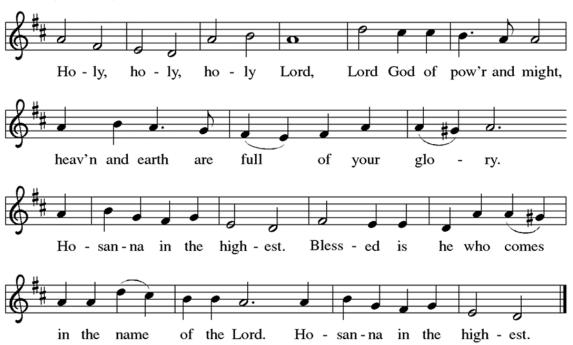


*PREFACE

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

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

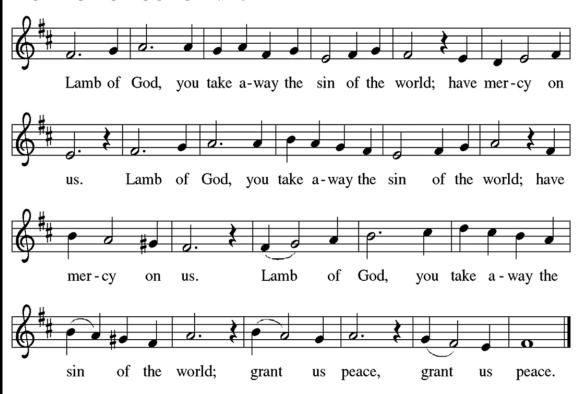
*LORD'S PRAYER

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



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.

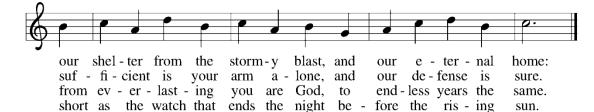
Amen.

***SENDING SONG** "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

Hymn 632 Verses 1-4



- 1 O God, our help in a ges past, our hope for years to come
- 2 Un der the shad ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se cure; 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou-sand a ges in your sight are like an eve-ning gone,



- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Music: St. Anne, William Croft, 1678–1727

*DISMISSAL Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God. *POSTLUDE "Postlude on St. Denio" Shirley Newhart, organ	arr. Burkhardt



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

	9:00 am Worship	
Com day Mayamah an 16	10:00 am Coffee Fellowship	
Sunday, November 16	10:20 am Adult Discipleship Class	
	10:20 am Confirmation Class	
	8:00 am Landings Garden Club	
Mandan Namahan 17	10:00 am Women's Bible Study	
Monday, November 17	3:30 pm Shirley & Friends	
	6:30 pm Mahjong	
Tuesday, November 18	2:00 pm Outreach Ministry	
	8:30 am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study	
Wednesday, November 19	10:00 am PLARNing Group	
	7:00 Choir Practice	
Thursday November 20	3:00 pm Skidaway Abigails	
Thursday, November 20	3:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	
Friday, November 21		
Saturday, November 22		

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 Cheryl Liebgott and Layne Rabold

Reader Brad VenHuizen

Evangelism Greeters Karen Dreger and Peter Talsness

Ushers Jim Dawson and Kathy Ritz

Communion Assistants Bonnie LaPread and Alison McVeigh

Eucharistic Ministers Shirley & Phil Nack

Acolytes Confirmation Class

Audio Visual Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan

Coffee Hour Jennifer Nguyen (Host & Treats)

MILESTONES THIS WEEK

Birthdays: Carl Luecke 11/21

Anniversaries: Jennifer & Khoa Nguyen 11/17, Pattye & Clarke Field 11/17

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL GUEST TODAY

Today's service includes a Temple Talk by The Learning Academy principal David Ackerman. Having worked there for nearly thirty years, he is well acquainted with the special needs school and its long partnership with Messiah to provide families and students with support, caring, and fulfilling their needs. He and the staff are looking forward to the opportunity to visit with the congregation.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The 31st Annual Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 23, following worship. Copies of the Annual Report and one other background document are available on the Narthex Table and have been distributed electronically to the membership.

OUTREACH THANKSGIVING BASKETS Deadline: Today

The Outreach Ministry is once again organizing Thanksgiving Baskets of food to the families of students at The Learning Academy (formerly Coastal Georgia Comprehensive Academy). The ministry is requesting \$35 or more (but will be delighted to accept checks in any amount) for these families in need. There are multiple ways for you to donate:

- At a table in Fellowship Hall
- In the Sunday offering plate
- The Church Office
- Online at the website messiahsi.org/give with your debit or credit card. Just select Outreach as the Fund, then click on Thanksgiving Baskets for the memo.

LADIES' BREAKFAST Saturday, November 22, 9:00 am

The November breakfast will be at the Marshwood Club. Please make your reservations by November 18th by contacting Lynn McLauchlan (410-353-9795).

SAVE THE DATE

The holidays will soon be here, so mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- Decorating the Church will be Saturday, December 6. The Men's Group will begin work on the Sanctuary tree at 8:30 am and stay tuned for plans for the rest of the Church.
- The annual Christmas Party is Sunday, December 7 at 5 pm in Peper Hall. Messiah will provide ham and wine, and revelers are asked to contribute their favorite holiday dish. Sign up on the Narthex Kiosk.
- The Ladies Christmas Dinner will be Thursday, December 11, at 5:00 pm at the 5 Spot in Sandfly. Sign up on the Narthex Kiosk.
- Advent begins on Sunday, November 30, with midweek supper and worship at 5:30 pm on December 3, 10, and 17.

OUTREACH MINISTRY Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia

The food for November is canned vegetables.

SERMON PREVIEW

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire, and the tone of the text is ominous. In Luke 20, Jesus speaks of wars and insurrections, earthquakes and famines, betrayal and suffering for his name's sake. It is not comfortable word. The temple in Jerusalem is so grand, yet he tells his followers it will come crashing down. All the signs point to chaos, loss, and fear.

And yet, we the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The people of God do not mistake turmoil for the end nor despair for faith. Jesus does not tell his disciples to flee or hide but to endure. "By your endurance you will gain your souls," He says. That is not a command to tough it out; it is a promise that, in Him, endurance is possible. The world may appear unstable, but Christians cling to Jesus until the end.

Questions for reflection: What building or monument represents permanence to you? The pyramids? The Taj Mahal? The Cathedral at the Vatican? What else? How good would you say you are at endurance? How can we boost are capacity for endurance? What hard times has Jesus gotten you through?

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025

Jason Talsness, Pastor

770.570.7407

skidawaypastorj@gmail.com

Randi VenHuizen(2025)

Education & Discipleship Ministry

402.216.3067

Randiv1026@gmail.com

Claire Cornwell-Williams (2025)

President

Evangelism Ministry

912.658.4114

cwilliams17@comcast.net

Vacant

Finance Ministry

Lisa Oswald (2026)

Outreach Ministry

203.554.5845

laoswald@icloud.com

Gayle Denny (2026)

Parish Life Ministry

513.604.0764

gdgardner@comcast.net

Tim Andrews (2025)

Vice-President

Property Ministry

612.868.5222

timandrews1114@comcast.net

Milda Blaney (2025)*

Staff Support/Mutual Ministry

912.247.6898

mildablaney@gmail.com

Steve Derr (2025)

Stewardship Ministry

912.429.6371

sederr83@gmail.com

Parker Pearson (no term)

Treasurer

410.349.7704

parkpear@col.com

Pat Cooper (2027)

Worship & Music Ministry

912.508.4250

cooperpat5@gmail.com

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