MESSIAH LUTHERAN
Skidaway Island
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Sunday, November 22, 2026
Christ the King



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 & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karen Floto, reader

PRELUDE "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Hughes/ arr. Eithun

Skidaway Island Voices in Bronze

*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.

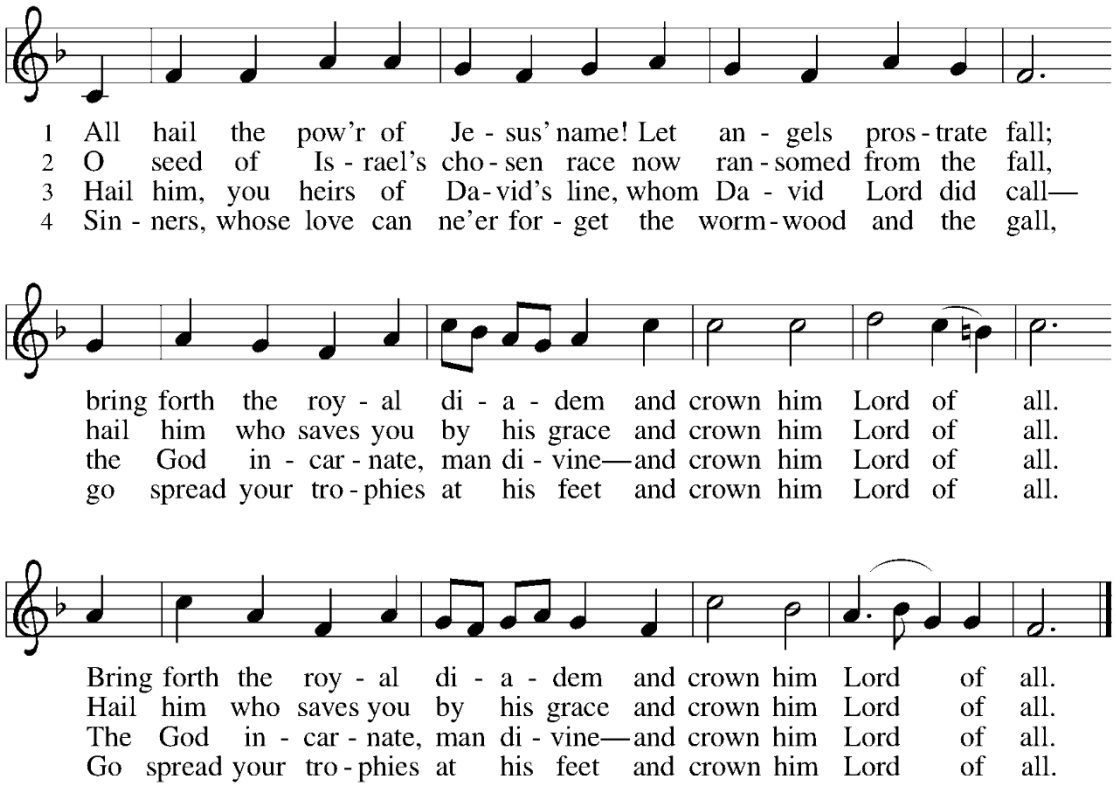
People: we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

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** "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"

Hymn 634



5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6
Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator

***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" 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

Leader: Lord of heaven and earth, enthroned in glory and majesty, have mercy on us.

People: Christ, have mercy on us.

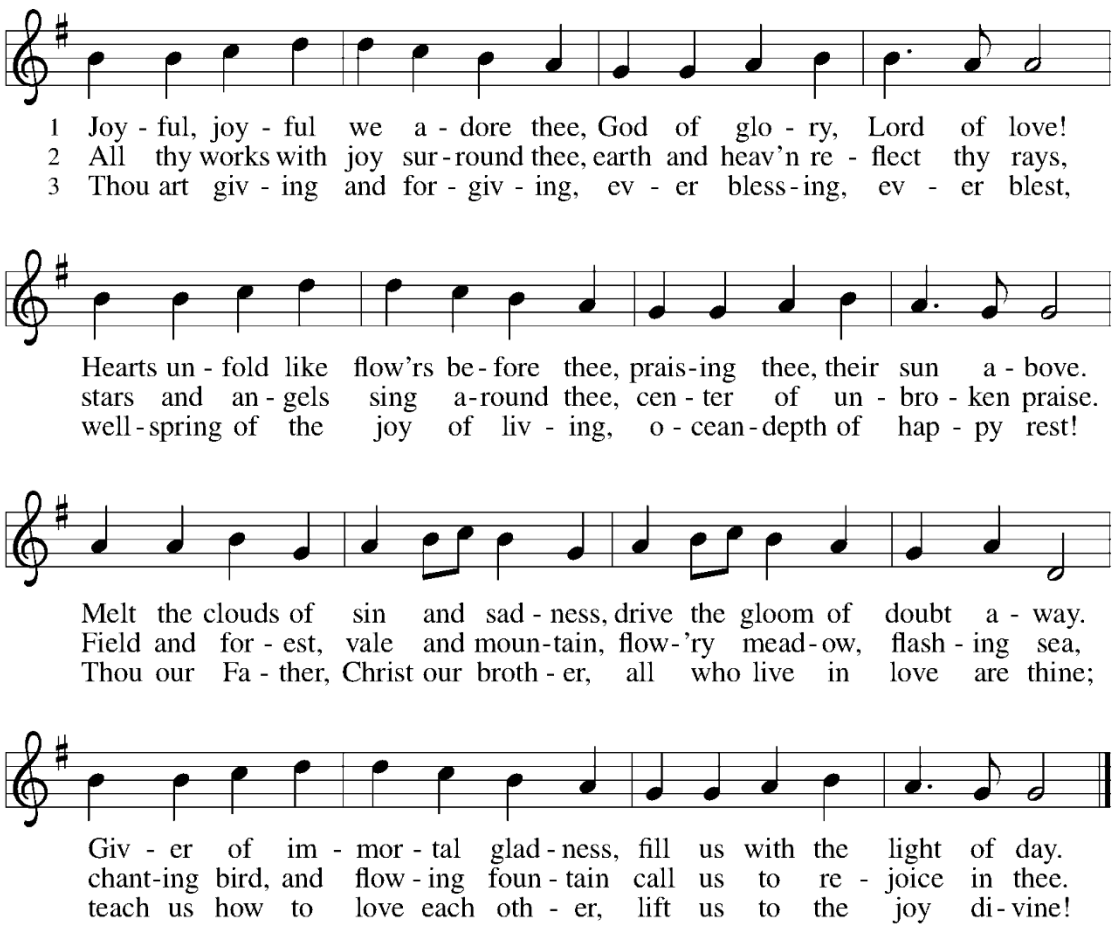
Leader: King of kings and Lord of lords, whose kingdom shall have no end, have mercy on us.

Leader: Let us pray.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Hymn 836

Verse 1



Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leader: O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

ANTHEM "Christ Is the King" Eggert

Chancel Choir

Christ is the King! O friends, rejoice; brothers and sisters, with one voice
let the world know he is your choice. Alleluia!

I magnify the Lord, and raise anthems of joy and holy praise
for all his saints of ancient days. Alleluia!

O Christian women, Christian men, all the world over, seek again
the way his faithful followed then. Alleluia!

Let love's all-reconciling might your scattered companies unite
in service to the Lord of Light. Alleluia!

So shall the church be one; so God's will on earth be done,
new lamps be lit, new tasks begun. Alleluia!

WORD

Karen Floto, reader

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Old Testament 759

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

The reading of Scripture is the time that 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.

"

[11] Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. [12] As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. [13] I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. [14] I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. [15] I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. [16] I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

[20] Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. [21] Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, [22] I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

[23] I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24] And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the Lord have spoken.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 95:1-7a

We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)

Leader: [1] Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

People: [2] **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.

Leader: [3] For you, Lord, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

People: [4] **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are also yours.

Leader: [5] The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
People: [6] **Come, let us worship and bow down,**
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.
Leader: [7a] For the Lord is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep
of God's hand.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

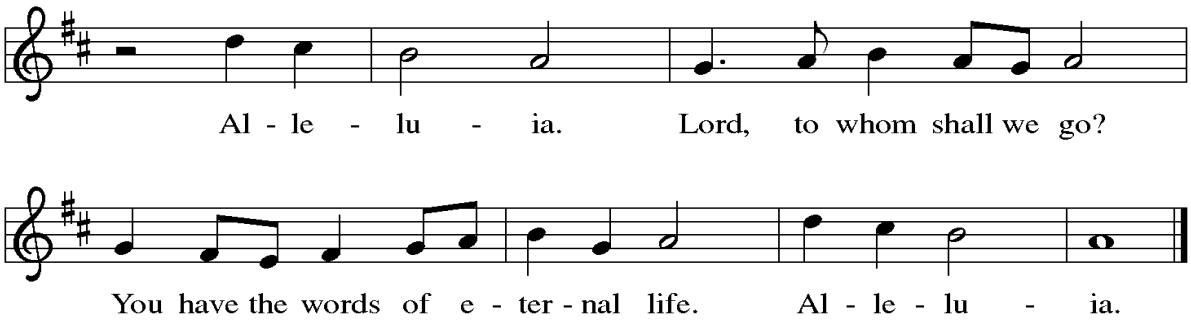
New Testament page 169

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

[15] I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, [17] that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, [18] so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. [20] God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, [21] far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

New Testament 25

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

Leader: The Gospel according to Matthew.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [31] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. [32] All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, [33] and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. [34] Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, [35] for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, [36] I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' [37] Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? [38] And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? [39] And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' [40] And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' [41] Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, [42] for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave

me nothing to drink, [43] I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' [44] Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' [45] Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' [46] And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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

SERMON "When Did We See You?"
Pastor Jason Talsness
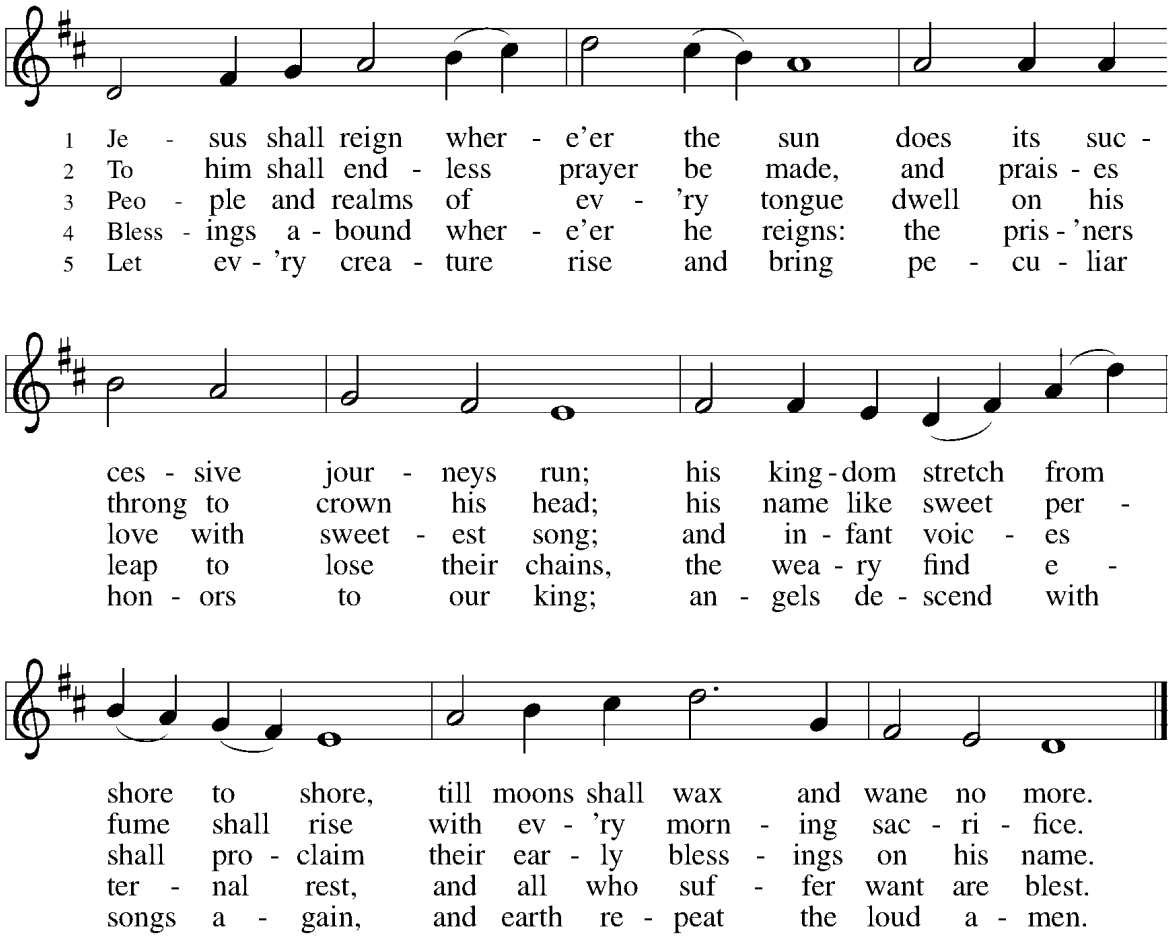
One vase of today's Altar Flowers is given by Tom Thomas "in loving memory of Kathy Thomas."

The Flower and Candle Calendar for 2027 is now posted on the Narthex Kiosk. Please consider donating to support Altar Flowers or the Eternal Candle in 2027.

*HYMN OF THE DAY "Jesus Shall Reign"

Hymn 434

Verses 1-4



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

*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

David Ackerman, Principal, The Learning Academy

CELEBRATION OF STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN COMMITMENTS

George Lawrence, Chair, Stewardship Ministry

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

Leader: God, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

(Final petition and response.)

Leader: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.

People: Amen.

*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.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

PERMISSIONS

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2011 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #37016.

Scripture quotations are taken from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVue) Bible. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

New Revised Standard Version Bible (NRSV), copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Holy Bible, New International Version™, NIV™ Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Permission to reprint and stream music is granted under ONE LICENSE #A-729969. All rights reserved.

Permission to reprint and stream music is granted under CCLI LICENSES #20984671 AND #20984664. All rights reserved.

SENDING
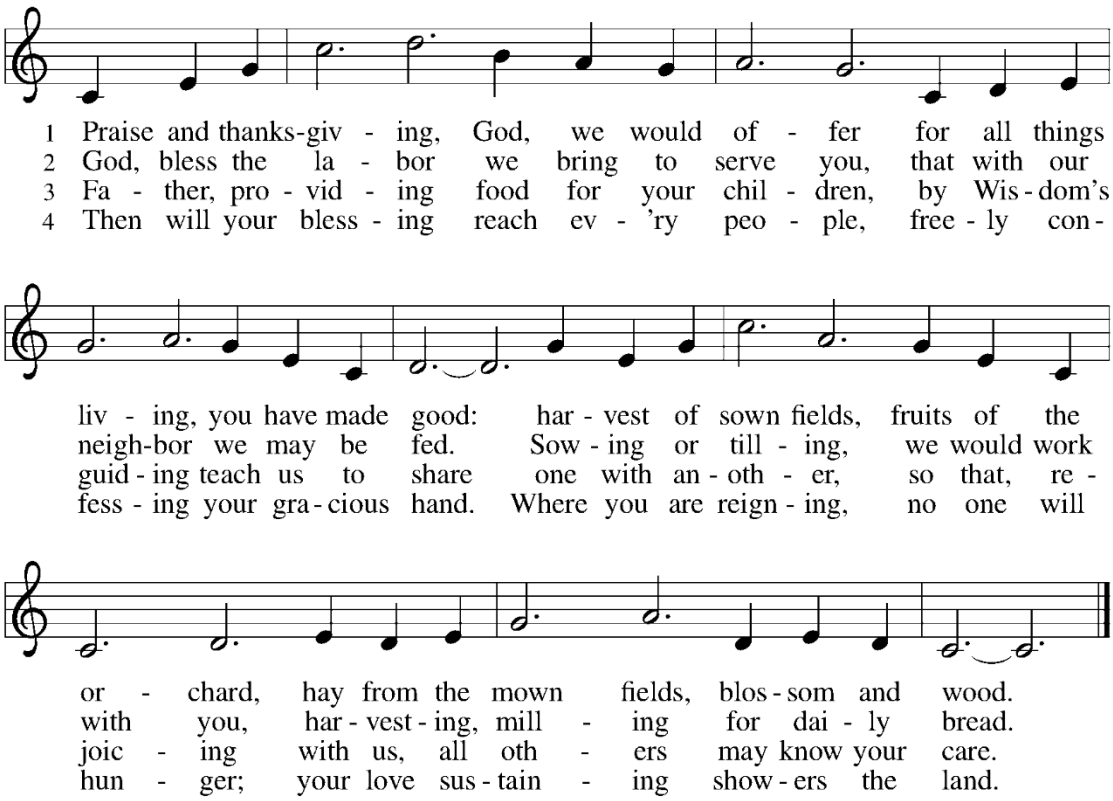
*PASTORAL BENEDICTION

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

People: Amen

*SENDING SONG "Praise and Thanksgiving"

Hymn 689



Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE** "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" arr. Bish

Shirley Newhart, organ

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Italics indicate outside group

Sunday, November 22	8:30 am Chancel Choir Warmup 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee Fellowship 10:20 am Adult Discipleship Class 10:20 am Confirmation Class
Monday, November 23	10:00 am Women's Bible Study *6:30 pm Mahjong*
Tuesday, November 24	
Wednesday, November 25	
Thursday, November 26	THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED
Friday, November 27	
Saturday, November 28	

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	Cheryl Liebgott and Layne Rabold
Reader	Karen Floto
Evangelism Greeters	Jim Dawson and David Greenawalt
Ushers	Ken Mitchell and Jim Ross
Audio Visual	Steve Allen and Ken McLauchlan
Coffee Hour	Jennifer Nguyen (host) Gayle Denny and Peggy Pearson (treats)

MILESTONES THIS WEEK

Birthdays: Corinne Samuels 11/24

Anniversaries: Yvonne Johnson & Lizhou Liu 11/23

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO DAVID ACKERMAN

Today's Temple Talk is given by David Ackerman, Principal of The Learning Academy, which includes both The Learning Academy at Isle of Hope K–8 and the program at Jenkins High School. These schools are part of the Coastal Georgia Comprehensive Academy, founded in 1971, and serve students with special educational needs, including those with severe emotional and behavioral disorders and those with moderate to severe autism.

Messiah's partnership with The Learning Academy is a long-standing and valued relationship, and we are delighted that David and several of his colleagues are able to join us this Sunday. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about their important work, hear about the impact they are making in the lives of their students, and get to know the people behind these efforts.

Please take a few moments to introduce yourselves and visit with David and his colleagues during coffee hour. We hope you will help us continue to strengthen and foster this meaningful partnership.

STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

The Strategic Planning Committee is pleased to invite you to attend the second discussion session to explore, in more detail, follow-on topics identified during our survey as well as planning work earlier in the year. The second session will be held after church in place of Adult Discipleship Class in the Conference Room:

- December 13 - What opportunities exist to further enhance our worship and music experience? Worship and music are foundational elements of our faith experience. How do we use worship and music as an entry point into people's lives and what is our worship and music identity in the future?

Please sign up for this second session on the Narthex Kiosk. If you have any questions please contact a member of the Strategic Planning Committee - Ken Hylander, Howard Anderson, and Barbara Moore.

PARISH LIFE MINISTRY
Ladies Christmas Dinner
Thursday, December 3, 5:00 pm

The 5-Spot in Sandfly is the location for this holiday gathering. There is space for 22 people; please sign up on the Narthex Kiosk. Questions? Contact Gayle Denny (513.604.0764).

Decorating the Church
Saturday, December 5, 8:30 am

The Men's Group will be trimming the Sanctuary tree at 8:30 am, joined later by the Ladies, who will be responsible for decorating the rest of the Sanctuary and the church building.

Messiah Christmas Potluck
Sunday, December 6, 5:00 pm
The annual event will be held in Peper Hall. The church will provide hams and wine. Please sign up on the Narthex Kiosk.

OUTREACH MINISTRY
Thanksgiving Baskets
Deadline: Today
The Outreach Ministry is once again organizing Thanksgiving Baskets of food for the families of students at The Learning Academy (formerly Coastal Georgia Comprehensive Academy). The ministry is requesting individual contributions of $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 by check with Thanksgiving Baskets in the memo line: at a table in Peper Hall after worship, in the Sunday offering plate or at the Church Office.

You can also donate online at the website messiahsi.org/giving with your debit or credit card. (Just select Outreach as the Fund, then type in Thanksgiving Baskets as the memo.)

Coat Drive
Start Date: Sunday, November 15
End Date: Sunday, January 31, 2027
Check your closets, storage bins and attics! The Outreach Ministry is collecting outerwear for Square One Ministry, which is run by Cale Robert Hall, Resident Chaplain at Trinity United Methodist Church in Savannah. Donate new or gently used coats, hats, gloves and scarves to provide some comfort and warmth when the weather eventually turns colder. These items will be collected in a big bin in the Narthex, and a member of the Outreach Ministry will pick up collections weekly so there will be no messy overflow. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration in donating your items to this worthy cause.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS
Deadline: Monday, December 14
Christmas is coming, and soon Messiah's Sanctuary will be brimming with poinsettias. We invite you to give a Christmas poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one. The dedications will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. The cost is $14 per plant. To order, please pick up an envelope in the Sanctuary, Narthex, or Church Office. Then fill in the form, enclose your check, and return it to the Church Office or place it in the offering plate by Monday, December 14. You can also give online by going to the "Giving" tab at messiahsi.org, enter the amount, choose "Flowers: Christmas and Easter" from the dropdown menu. Then please type your dedication in the section for your Memo.

SERMON PREVIEW
When Did We See You?

In a famous experiment, people were asked to watch a video of basketball players and count how many times they passed the ball. So focused were they on their task that many failed to notice a person in a gorilla costume walking right through the middle of the scene! In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about people who are equally astonished by what they failed to notice. Both the sheep and the goats ask the same question: "Lord, when did we see you?" The answer is startling. Christ identifies himself with the hungry, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned. On Christ the King Sunday, we discover that the King of heaven and earth is found in some of the most unexpected places. And that leaves us with a question worth pondering: Whom have we been overlooking?

Questions for reflection: Why do you think both the sheep and the goats are surprised by Jesus' words? What does their surprise tell us about the nature of faith and good works? What are some of the things that occupy so much of our attention that we fail to notice the needs of people around us? Jesus says, "Just as you did it to one of the least of these … you did it to me." How does this change the way we understand our encounters with other people? Who are the people in our community who are most likely to go unnoticed or be overlooked? What might prevent us from truly seeing them? On Christ the King Sunday, we celebrate Jesus as Lord of all creation. What does it tell us about the nature of his kingdom that he identifies himself with the hungry, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned?

CHURCH COUNCIL
2026

Jason Talsness, Pastor
(912) 556-8056
skidawaypastorj@gmail.com

Peggy Pearson (2026)
Education & Discipleship Ministry
443.995.1146
parkpear@aol.com

Claire Cornwell-Williams (2028)
President
Evangelism Ministry
912.658.4114
cwilliams17@comcast.net

Vacant
Finance Ministry

Lisa Oswald (2026)
Secretary
Outreach Ministry
203.554.5845
laoswald@icloud.com

Gayle Denny (2026)
Parish Life Ministry
513.604.0764
gdgardener@comcast.net

Rick Tallon (2028)
Property Ministry
417.294.2002
rick.tallon@gmail.com

Greg Stinson (2026/2027)[1]
Staff Support/Mutual Ministry
912.704.4084
gtstinson@comcast.net

George Lawrence (2026/2028)[2]
Stewardship Ministry
912.484.2818
mppggl13@gmail.com

Parker Pearson (no term)
Treasurer
410.349.7704
parkpear@aol.com

Pat Cooper (2027)
Worship & Music Ministry
912.508.4250
cooperpat5@gmail.com

---

[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
Welcome
Grow
Support
Serve
MESSIAH LUTHERAN