

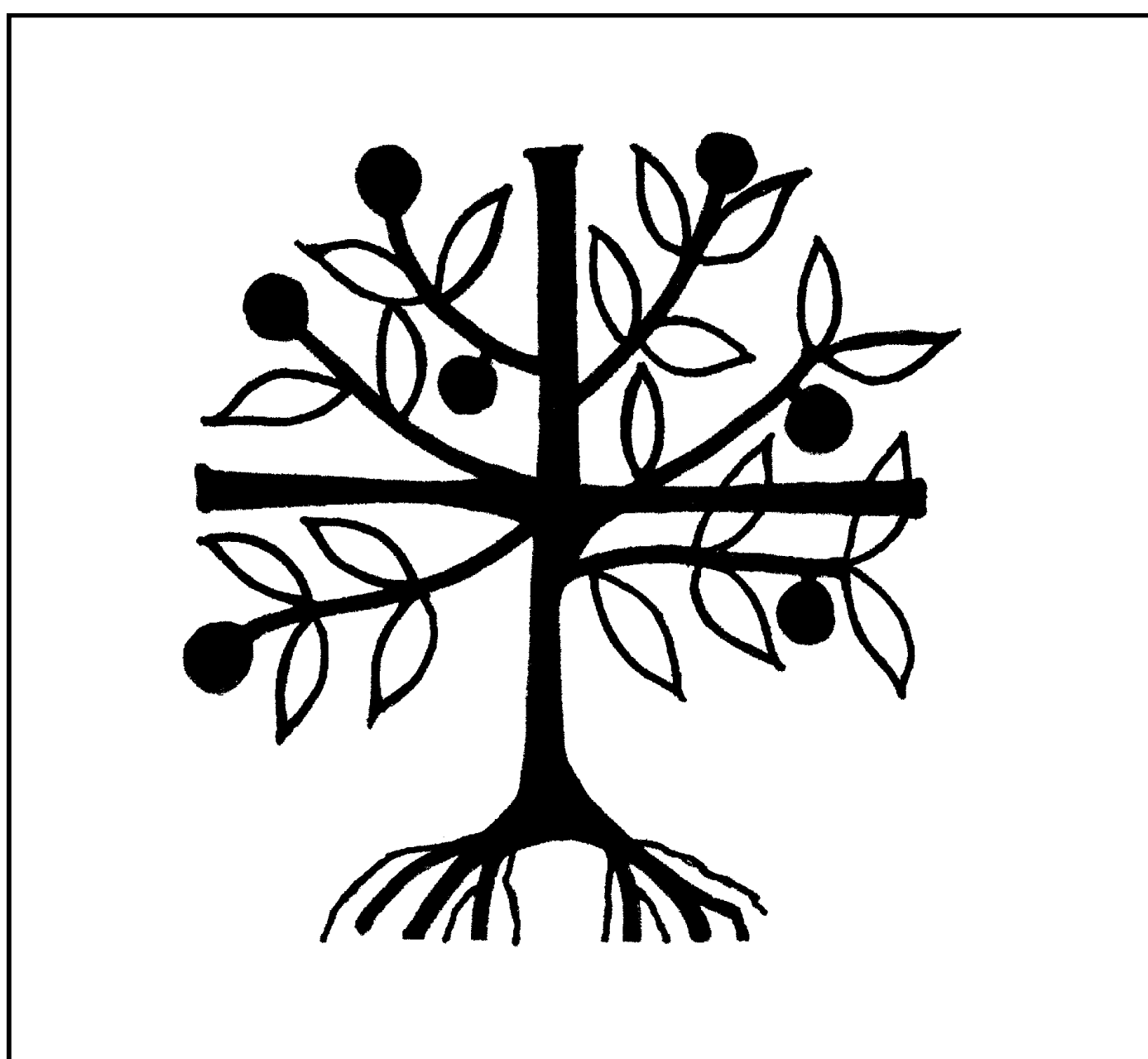
# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

**THE GATHERING**

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP



**We welcome you to The Gathering this morning**

## Our Staff

**Cindy Anderson**, *Parish Administrator* Email: [secretary@messiah-erie.org](mailto:secretary@messiah-erie.org)

**Bonnie Stearns**, *Director of Utilities*

**Michelle Flaherty**, *The Gathering Music Minister*: [mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org](mailto:mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org)

**Pastor Tom Glasoe**, Email: [pastor@messiah-erie.org](mailto:pastor@messiah-erie.org) Cell: 814-460-8529

***Our Mission:***

*Glorifying God through our worship, our witness, our service,  
and our support*

***Our Vision:***

*To build and strengthen the body of Christ*

**Holy Communion**

To help you feel more comfortable please know that all baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament and have already received Holy Communion in your home church, are welcome to come to the altar and receive Holy Communion.

To receive the sacrament:

1. Communicant should receive the consecrated host from the Pastor and then proceed to the Assisting Minister who will be standing near the sanctuary pillar on whichever side of the church is being communed to receive a prefilled communion cup;
2. If the communicant prefers the consecrated grape juice, they shall receive that from the Pastor.
3. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will bring Holy Communion to you.

**Assisting at Worship:**

	<b>Today</b>	<b>February 23</b>
<b>Asst. Min.</b>	Brian Rogala, Jr.	Brad Bresee
<b>Lector</b>	Bella Alaniz	Cyndi Allen
<b>Acolyte</b>	Bella Alaniz	Kayla Bresee
<b>Usher</b>	Brian Rogala	Arnold Conner
<b>Sound System</b>	Rich Alaniz	TBD
<b>Video</b>	Rich Alaniz	JJ Conner
<b>Counters</b>	Candy Sprouse, Karen Pistner	Art Anderson, Mary Rush
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen Pistner, Linda Jones	

## **Opening Song**

## **House of the Lord**

1. We worship the God who was. We worship the God who is.  
We worship the God who evermore will be.  
He opened the prison doors. He parted the raging sea.  
My God, he holds the victory, yeah.

*Refrain:* There's joy in the house of the Lord.  
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.  
And we won't be quiet. We shout out your praise.  
There's joy in the house of the Lord.  
Our God is surely in this place. And we won't be quiet.  
We shout out your praise.

2. We sing to the God who heals. We sing to the God who saves.  
We sing to the God who always makes a way.  
'Cause he hung up on that cross. Then he rose up from that grave.  
My God's still rolling stones away. *(R)*

*Bridge:* ('Cause) We were the beggars. Now we're royalty.  
We were the prisoners. Now we're running free.  
We are forgiven, accepted, redeemed by his grace.  
Let the house of the Lord sing praise. *(x2, Refrain)*

## **Opening Prayer**

### **Song**

### **Good, Good Father**

1. I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like,  
but I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night.  
You tell me that you're pleased, and that I'm never alone.

*Refrain:* You're a good, good Father; it's who you are,  
it's who you are, it's who you are. And I'm loved by you;  
it's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

2. I've seen many searching for answers far and wide,  
but I know we're all searching for answers only you provide.  
Because you know just what we need before we say a word. *(R,B)*

*Bridge:* You are perfect in all of your ways,  
you are perfect in all of your ways,  
you are perfect in all of your ways to us. *(2x)*

3. Love so undeniable, I can hardly speak.  
peace so unexplainable, I can hardly think,  
as you call me deeper still, as you call me deeper still,  
as you call me deeper still into love, love, love.(Rx2)

### **Lesson**

**Jeremiah 17:5-10**

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse - who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Lesson**

**Luke 6:17-26**

Jesus came down with the twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. "But woe

to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

**A** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## **MESSAGE**

### **Song**

### **Holy Spirit**

1. There's nothing worth more that will ever come close.  
No thing can compare; you're our living hope. Your presence.
2. I've tasted and seen of the sweetest of loves,  
where my heart becomes free and my shame is undone,  
in your presence, Lord.

*Refrain:* Holy Spirit, you are welcome here;  
come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;  
your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,  
to be overcome by your presence, Lord. Your presence, Lord.  
(Repeat from Beginning)

*Bridge:* Let us become more aware of your presence  
Let us experience the glory of your goodness (4X) (Lord)(R)

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **Peace**

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us offer to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

#### **Song of Offering**

#### **Gratitude**

I throw up my hands and praise you again and again, cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah.

And I know it's not much, but I've nothing else fit for a king except for a heart singing, “hallelujah, hallelujah.”

## ***Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self***

- A** Let us pray together. *(brief pause)* God of grace,  
**C** your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

## ***Thanksgiving for the Great Meal***

- P** Lift up your hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** We gladly lift up our hearts and give God our praise and thanksgiving.

## ***Consecration***

### ***The Lord's Prayer***

- C** 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.

### ***Distribution Song***

### ***Revelation Song***

1. Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain; holy, holy is he.  
Sing a new song to him who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

*Refrain:* Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was and is and is to come.  
With all creation I sing, praise to the King of kings.  
You are my ev'rything, and I will adore you.

2. Clothed in rainbows of living color,  
flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;  
blessing and honor, strength and glory, and power be  
to you, the only wise King. *(R)*
3. Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder,  
at the mention of your name;  
Jesus your name is power, breath and living water,  
such a marv'lous mystery, yeah. *(R 2x)*

## ***Post Communion Prayer***

- A** Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Nourishing God,  
**G** at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

## ***Blessing***

- P** The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.  
**G** Amen.

## ***Song***

### ***Old Church Choir***

1. There's revival and it's spreading like a wildfire in my heart.  
A Sunday morning hallelujah, and it's lasting all week long.  
Can you hear it? Can you feel it? It's the rhythm of a gospel song.  
Oh, once you choose it, you can't lose it.

*Pre-Refrain:* (Oh 'cause) There ain't nothing,  
there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.

*Refrain:* I've got an old church choir singing in my soul.  
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful.  
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored.  
there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.  
No there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.

2. When the valleys that I wander  
turn to mountains that I can't climb, oh, you are with me,  
you never leave me. *(PR, R, B)*

*Bridge:* Clap your hands and stomp your feet  
'til you find that gospel beat,  
'cause he's all you'll ever need, all you'll ever need.  
Clap your hands and stomp your feet  
'til you find that gospel beat,  
'cause he's all you'll ever need, all you'll ever need.  
I've got an old church choir singing in my soul.  
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful. *(R, E)*

*Ending:* Oh, there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy.

***Dismissal***

**A** Go in peace. Live in hope.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*The Bulletins are given to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for Messiah's  
Church Leadership by Jean Parker*

*The Vase of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in Memory of my mom,  
Betty Shannon, on her birthday by Robin Curtis*

*The Vigil Candle is given to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for my church  
family by Robin Curtis*





## *Announcements*

**S**econd Mile Giving is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **February Pastor's Discretionary Fund** is our Second Mile Giving beneficiary. Contributions may be made throughout the month by using the yellow envelopes found in the pews. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

**W**esleyville Food Pantry: Please consider a financial gift. Checks should be made payable to Messiah Lutheran Church marking "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

**I**nform the office if you would like a copy of your 2024 Giving Statement.

**I**t's All Greek to Me Bible Study: Pastor Tom is leading a weekly Bible study on **Wednesdays at 6:30PM** Study Lounge.

**C**ard Shower: Bernice Fryer will be 104 years old on **February 19**. We would like to have as many members as we can show her our love by sending her birthday cards!

**M**ardi Gras Party: **Tuesday, March 4, at 5:30 pm** in Fellowship Hall. Come for a taste of New Orleans at Messiah! Signup in the Narthex.

**A**sh Wednesday: **March 5, at Noon & 7:00 pm** with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

**O**WLs: Lunch at Fiddle Inn. **Tuesday, March 11 at 11:30am**. RSVP to Candy Sprouse by March 9.

**L**enten Soup Supper & Vespers: **Wednesday, March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & 9, at 5:30 pm for supper, 6:00 pm Vespers** in Fellowship Hall. Sign up in the Narthex to bring a soup or see Cindy for more options!

**W**esleyville Food Pantry **Volunteers Needed**

February 17 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.

February 18 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
PRELIMINARY 3-YEAR VISION  
PROPOSED - 2025 to 2027**

**WORSHIP**

**Start?**

Technology

- Add Screens in sanctuary (2025)
- Update website (2025)
- Obtain Hearing Assisted Devices (2025)

Music Ministry

- Build out the Band (2025)

**CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY**

- Bubble Church (2025-2026)
- School Day Off Camp (2025)
- Milestone Ministry (Sept. 2025)

**PROPERTY**

- Fix Front Electronic Sign (ASAP)
- Repair/Purchase Boiler (DONE)
- Plumbing Upgrades/Restrooms (2027)
- Buy New Freezer (ASAP)

**IN-REACH**

- Recruit and Train More Volunteer (2025)
- Train in-home communion ministry (2025)

**EDUCATION**

- Bible Study (Adult and Children) - have more options (2025-2027)

**OUTREACH**

- Maintain Community Garden (2025-2027)
- Continue Back to School Bash (2025-2027)
- Continue participation in Community National Night Out (2025-2027)

**FELLOWSHIP**

- Explore more group events (ongoing)
- Continue to grow OWLs ministry (spiritually and fellowship) (ongoing)
- Lutheran Walkers (2025)

## This Week at the Church

*(See Newsletter for More Detail)*

**Office Hours :Monday, Closed Tuesday, 10:00am-5:00pm,  
Wednesday-Closed, Thursday, 10:00am-5:00pm,  
Friday-10:00am-5:00pm**

<b>Sun. 2/16</b>	<b><i>6th Sunday after Epiphany</i></b>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	9:45AM	CPR Class
	2:00-4:00PM	FootSteps Meeting
<b>Tues.</b>	10:00PM	Sewing Circle
<b>Wed.</b>	6:30PM	It's All Greek to Me Bible Study-SL
<b>Thu.</b>	10:00AM	Grateful Prayer Group-CC
	6:00PM	Church Council
	7:30PM	NA Group
<b>Fri.</b>	7:30PM	AA
<b>Sat.</b>	8:00AM-5:00PM	FootSteps Meeting
<b>Sun. 2/23</b>	<b><i>7th Sunday after Epiphany</i></b>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion