

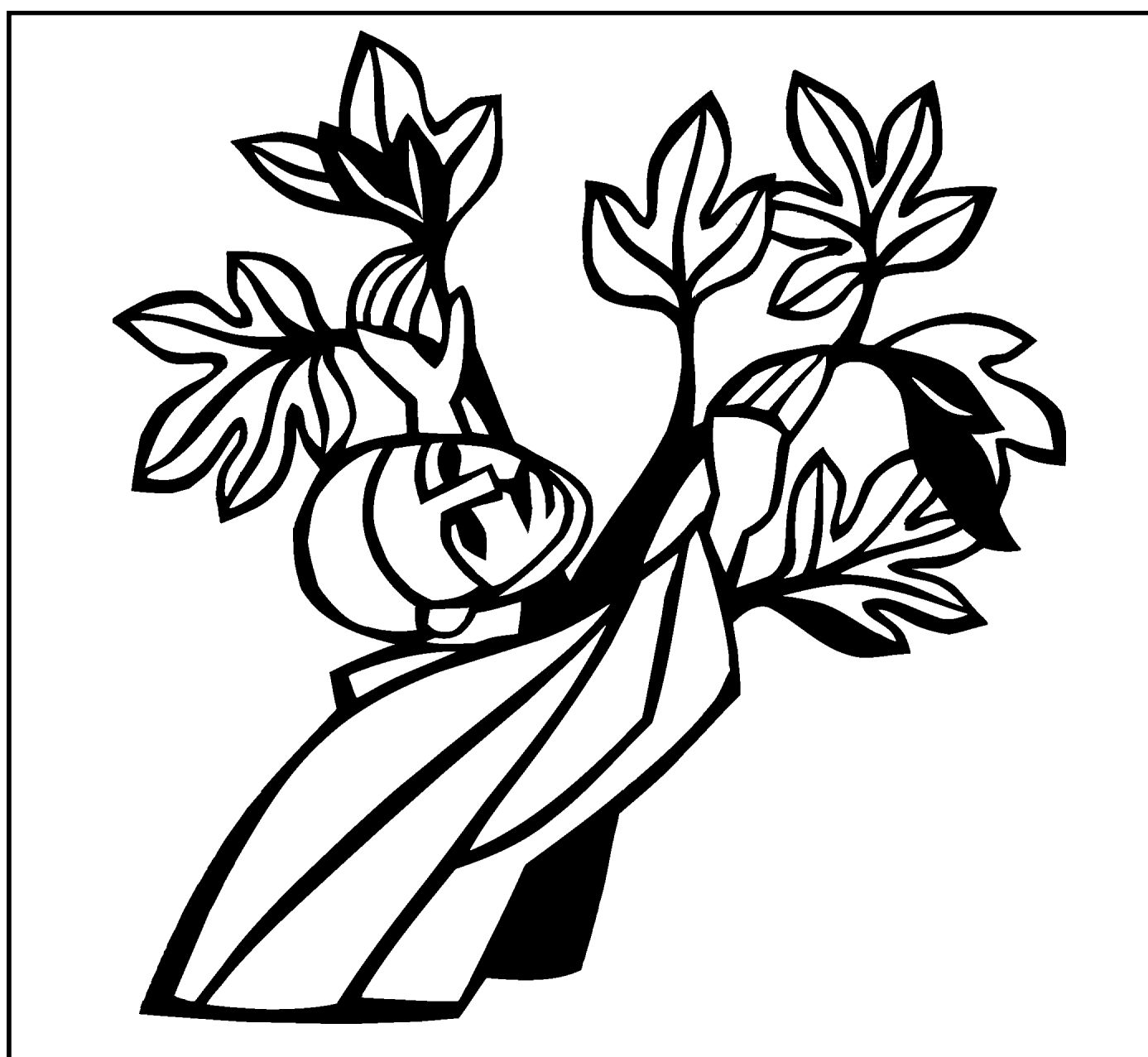
# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 23, 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>March30</b>
<b>Asst. Min.</b>	Brian Rogala, Jr.	Brian Rogala, Jr.
<b>Lector</b>	Cyndi Allen	Jean Parker
<b>Acolyte</b>	JJ Conner	Manny Alaniz
<b>Usher</b>	Art Anderson	Arnold Conner
<b>Sound System</b>	TBD	Tim Smock
<b>Video</b>	Brian Rogala, Jr	Rich Alaniz
<b>Counters</b>	Candy Sprouse, Mary Rush	Art Anderson, Karen Pistner
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Ann Kent, Linda Voigt	

## ***Opening Song***

## ***Mighty to Save***

1. Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing.  
Let mercy fall on me.  
Everyone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior.  
The hope of nations

*Refrain:* Savior, he can move the mountains.  
My God is mighty to save. He is mighty to save.  
Forever, author of salvation.  
He rose and conquered the grave.  
Jesus conquered the grave.

2. So take me as you find me, all my fears and failures.  
Fill my life again.  
I give my life to follow, everything I believe in.  
Now I surrender. (*R then Bridge*)

*Bridge:* Shine your light, and let the whole world see,  
we're singing, for the glory of the risen King. Jesus.  
Shine your light and let the whole world see,  
we're singing for the glory of the risen King.  
(*R2x then Bridge*)

## ***Opening Prayer***

## ***Song***

## ***We Believe***

1. In this time of desperation when all we know is doubt and fear,  
there is only one foundation: we believe, we believe.  
In this broken generation, when all is dark, you help us see.  
There is only one salvation; we believe, we believe.

*Refrain:* We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and he's given us new life.  
We believe in the crucifixion.  
We believe that he conquered death.  
We believe in the resurrection,  
and he's coming back again. (*We believe*)

2. So let our faith be more than anthems,  
greater than the songs we sing,  
and in our weakness and temptations we believe, we believe. (R)

*Bridge:* Let the lost be found, and the dead be raised;  
in the here and now let love invade.  
Let the church live loud! Our God will save.  
We believe! We believe!  
And the gates of hell will not prevail,  
for the pow'r of God has torn the veil.  
Now we know your love will never fail.  
We believe! We believe! (R, Ending)

*Ending:* He's coming back again! He's coming back again!  
We believe, we believe!

## **Lesson**

## **Isaiah 55:1-9**

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them - do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

**A** The Gospel of the Lrd.

**G** Thanks be to God.

**MESSAGE**

**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)

## ***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***

### ***Breathe***

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe:  
your holy presence living in me.

This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread:  
your very word spoken to me.

*Refrain:* And I, I'm desperate for you. And I, I'm lost without you.

*Ending:* This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe.

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

- A** Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Gracious Provider,
- G** **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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

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

### ***Consecration***

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

- G** **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***

## ***What a Beautiful Name***

1. You were the word at the beginning,  
one with God the Lord most high.  
Your hidden glory in creation,  
now revealed in you, our Christ.

*Refrain:* What a beautiful name it is, what a beautiful name it is,  
the name of Jesus Christ my king.  
What a beautiful name it is, nothing compares to this.  
What a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus.

2. You didn't want heaven without us,  
so Jesus, you brought heaven down.  
My sin was great, your love was greater;  
what could separate us now?

*Refrain 2:* What a wonderful name it is, what a wonderful name it is,  
the name of Jesus Christ my king.  
What a wonderful name it is, nothing compares to this.  
What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus.  
What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus.

*Bridge:* Death could not hold you, the veil tore before you.  
You silence the boast of sin and grave.  
The heavens are roaring the praise of your glory  
for you are raised to life again.

*Bridge 2:* You have no rival, you have no equal.  
Now and forever God, you reign.  
Yours is the kingdom, yours is the glory,  
yours is the name above all names.

*Refrain 3:* What a powerful name it is, what a powerful name it is.  
The name of Jesus Christ, my King.  
What a powerful name it is, nothing can stand against.  
What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus.

*Ending:* What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus.  
What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus.

## ***Post Communion Prayer***

- A** Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Generous Host,  
**G** you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## ***Blessing***

- P** God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.  
**G** Amen.

## ***Song***

### ***Days of Elijah***

1. These are the days of Elijah,  
declaring the Word of the Lord;  
and these are the days of your servant Moses,  
righteousness being restored;  
and though these are days of great trials,  
of famine and darkness and sword;  
still we are the voice in the desert crying;  
“Prepare ye the way of the Lord.”

*Refrain:* Behold he comes, riding on the clouds,  
shining like the sun at the trumpet call;  
so lift your voice, it’s the year of Jubilee,  
and out of Zion’s hill salvation comes.

2. And these are the days of Ezekiel,  
the dry bones becoming as flesh;  
and these are the days of your servant David,  
rebuilding a temple of praise;  
and these are the days of the harvest,  
the fields are as white in the world;  
and we are the laborers in your vineyard;  
declaring the Word of the Lord. *(R )*



## ***Dismissal***

**A** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**G** Thanks be to God.

*The Palms are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of the March 25th birthday of Robert "Bud" Bresee and the memory of his March 27th passing by the Bresee and Mills Families*

## *Announcements*

**S**econd Mile Giving is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **March, Youth Ministry** 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.

**L**enten Soup Supper & Vespers: **Wednesday, March 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!

**E**aster Flowers: order forms are on the counter in the Narthex. Help us beautify our church for Easter by sponsoring a spring, potted flower. for \$8.00 per plant. All orders are due by **Sunday, March 30!**

**O**WLs: Great Lakes Popcorn Company (located in the Colony Plaza) tour **Tuesday, April 8 at 10:30 am.** Lunch at the Colony Restaurant afterwards. Please RSVP to Karen Pistner at 814-899-4337 for one or both events by Friday, April 4!

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

**W**esleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

April 1 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.

April 7 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.

April 14 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.

April 15 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 (DONE)
- 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. 3/23</b>	<b><i>3rd Sunday in Lent</i></b>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	2:00-4:00PM	FootSteps Reunion
<b>Mon.</b>	6:30PM	Guided Meditation
<b>Tues.</b>	10:00PM	Sewing Circle
<b>Wed.</b>	5:30PM	Lenten Soup Supper
	6:00PM	Vesper Service
	6:30PM	It's All Greek to Me Bible Study-SL
<b>Thu.</b>	10:00AM	Grateful Prayer Group-CC
	7:30PM	NA Group
<b>Fri.</b>	7:30PM	AA
<b>Sun. 3/30</b>	<b><i>4th Sunday in Lent</i></b>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion