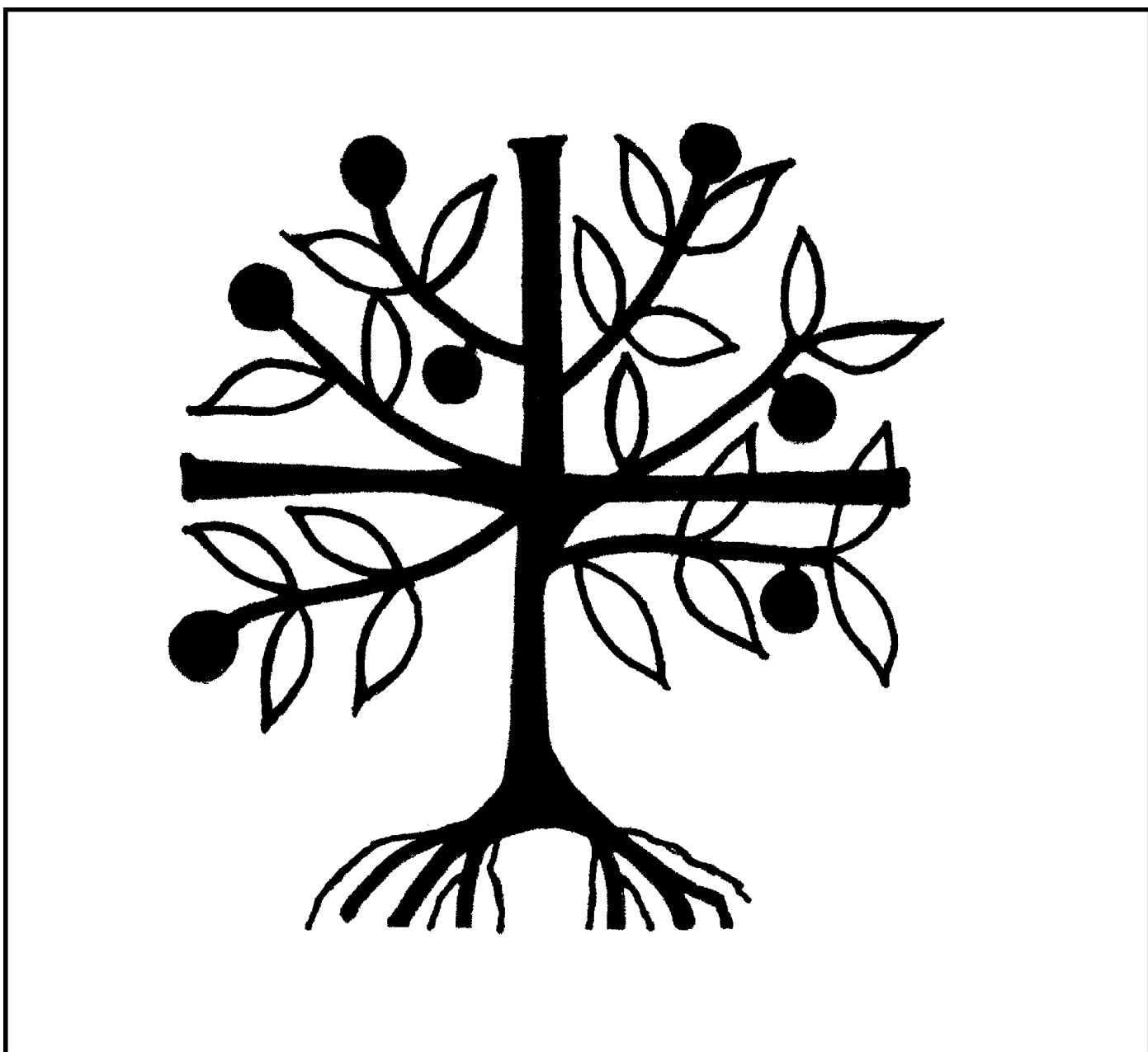


MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2025

Traditional Service



We welcome you to The Traditional Service this morning

Our Staff

Cindy Anderson, Parish Administrator Email: secretary@messiah-erie.org

Bonnie Stearns, Director of Utilities

Michelle Flaherty, The Gathering Music Minister: mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org

Pastor Tom Glasoe, Email: 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:

	Today	February 23
Asst. Min.	Brad Bresee	Savanna Conner
Lector	Laurie Hecht	Laurie Hecht
Usher	TBD	TBD
Sound System	TDB	TDB
Video	Brad Bresee	Savanna Conner
Counters	Laurie Hecht	Linda Jones
Altar Guild	Karen Pistner, Linda Jones	

We welcome Matt Lowther as our musicians today.

Welcome/Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness [stand/kneel as able]

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, and our wellspring of life

C Amen.

P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin (*silence*) Merciful God,

C you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn

O God of Light



1 O God of light, your word, a lamp un - fail - ing,
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing
4 To all the world your sum - mons you are send - ing,



shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way
though we re - belled, you gent - ly sought a - gain,
to sin - ful hearts your jus - tice and your grace;
through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,

and show your grace, your plan for us un - veil - ing,
 and spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,
 and quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for your heal - ing,
 that myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,

and guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
 who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
 see your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
 may praise and cel - e - brate your gift of grace.

Greeting

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

C And also with you.

Glory to God

C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
 Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we
 wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.
 Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us Pray: Living God, in Christ you make all things new.

Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. .

G **Amen**

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.

C Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Hymn of the Day

Lord of Light

1 Lord of light, your name out-shin-ing All the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith-ful work-ers In some far out-
 3 Grant that knowl-edge, still in-creas-ing, At your feet may
 4 By the prayers of faith-ful watch-ers, Nev-er si-lent

suns of space, Use our tal-ents in your king-dom
 ly-ing field, By the cour-age where the ra-diance
 low-ly kneel; With your grace our tri-umphs hal-low,
 day or night; By the cross of Je-sus, bring-ing

As the ser-vants of your grace; Use us to ful-
 Of the cross is still re-vealed, By the vic-to-
 With your char-i-ty our zeal; Lift the na-tions
 Peace to all and heal-ing light; By the love that

fill your pur - pose In the gift of Christ your Son:
 ries of meek - ness, Through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows To the glad - ness of the sun:
 pass - es knowl - edge, Mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain

Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, So on earth your will be done.

Creed

- P** Let us confess our faith with the word of the Apostles' Creed:
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the father. He will come again 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 the People

- A** With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.God of grace,
- C** **hear our prayer**
- P** We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
- C** **Amen.**

Peace

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Instrumental music while the Altar is being prepared

Offertory Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* [stand]

1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
Refrain
In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the
day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the
cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord

The musical score is written on seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.

Invitation to Communion

A The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

Lamb of God



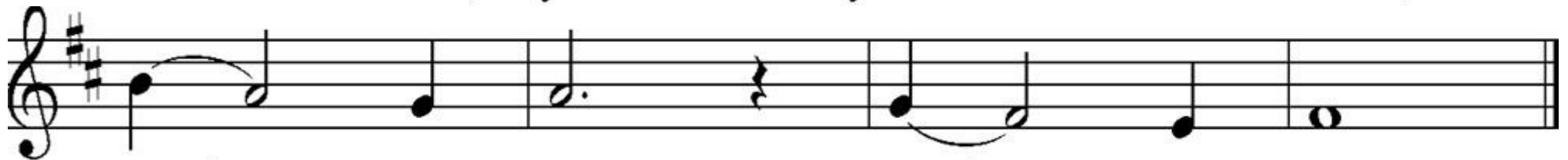
C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion [sit]

Communion Music Instrumental

Post Communion Blessing

A The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

C Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. (*brief pause*) Nourishing God,

C 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.

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

Lead On, O King Eternal



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Live in hope.

C Thanks be to God.

*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

Second 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!

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

It's All Greek to Me Bible Study: Pastor Tom is leading a weekly Bible study on **Wednesdays at 6:30PM** Study Lounge.

Card 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!

Mardi 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.

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

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

Lenten 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!

Wesleyville 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)
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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)
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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**

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