



**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 6 & 9, 2023**

# Messiah Lutheran Church

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## WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

We are glad that you have joined us and we pray that your time with us brings joy to your heart and soul. The service is printed for you in this worship folder or on the screens in front. Musical notes and other resources can be found in the blue hymnals and bibles available as you enter the worship area.

We invite you to connect with us by signing our online guestbook available at [messiahgb.org](http://messiahgb.org).

Our restrooms are located in the hallway to the left as you leave the worship area.

Parents, we encourage you to quietly explain the parts of the service and the actions of the pastor, ushers, etc. If your child grows restless, we invite you to step out of the worship area into our cry room, near the restrooms. Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

To our members, the presence of children is a gift from God and a sign of a growing congregation. Greet parents of young children with a smile!

If you have any questions regarding our worship services, Bible classes and Sunday School or Connect Groups, please speak with our pastor. Please come again and worship with us very soon!

## The Christian Finds Rest In Jesus

Without rest, we suffer. Studies show that after 36 hours without sleep, most people will experience extreme fatigue and hormonal imbalances, resulting in decreased attention, poor decisions, and even speech impairment. Other studies show if someone takes no breaks during their workday, their productivity is lower than those who do take periodic breaks. We need rest.

Christians know they need more than sleep or breaks. We need more than physical rest. We need spiritual rest. The Christian knows that the only place to find that type of rest is Jesus. Jesus provides more than a pause in work, more than enjoyable recreation. Jesus provides the removal of our sins, the cleansing of our guilty conscience, and a gentle new yoke of discipleship. In Jesus, the Christian finds rest from his burdens, rest from his battles, and rest forever in heaven.

## 510 In Christ Alone



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my  
 2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the  
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner-stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babe; this gift of love and right-eous-  
 world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
 pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.  
 ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.  
 day, up from the grave he rose a - gain!  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are  
 Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of  
 And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has  
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv-ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in  
God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry sin on him was  
lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is  
pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me



all; here in the love of Christ I stand.  
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.  
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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*Stand*

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C: (sung) Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.**

**Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

**Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.**

**Your faithfulness continues forever.**

**Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.**

**Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

M: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end, grant us your promised rest and the full joys of your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: (sung) Amen.**

*Be Seated*

## **First Lesson**

Exodus 33:12–23

<sup>12</sup>Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favor with me.’ <sup>13</sup>If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favor with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”

<sup>14</sup>The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. <sup>16</sup>How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

<sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

<sup>18</sup>Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

<sup>19</sup>And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.

<sup>20</sup>But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

<sup>21</sup>Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. <sup>22</sup>When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup>Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

## Psalm 145

### *Refrain*



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

### *Psalm tone*



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Great is the LORD and most worth- / y of praise;\*  
his greatness no one can / fathom.

One generation will commend your works to an- / other;\*  
they will tell of your / mighty acts.

The LORD upholds all / those who fall\*

and lifts up all who are / bowed down.

***Refrain***

**Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

The eyes of all look to you,  
and you give them their food at the / proper time.\*  
You open your hand  
and satisfy the desires of every / living thing.

The LORD is near to all who / call on him,\*  
to all who call on / him in truth.

He fulfills the desires of those who / fear him;\*  
he hears their cry and / saves them.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy / Spirit,**  
**as it was in the be- / ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. / Amen.**

***Refrain***

**Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.**

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**Second Lesson**

Romans 7:15–25a

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup>And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

<sup>21</sup>So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup>For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup>but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. <sup>24</sup>What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? <sup>25</sup>Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

## **Verse of the Day**

Alleluia. Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Alleluia.

**C: (sung) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Stand*

## **Gospel**

Matthew 11:25–30

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup>Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

<sup>27</sup>"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C: (sung) Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be Seated*



## 706 Come unto Me, Ye Weary



- 1 "Come un - to me, ye wea - ry, and I will give you rest."  
2 "Come un - to me, ye wan - d'ers, and I will give you light."  
3 "Come un - to me, ye faint - ing, and I will give you life."  
4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."



O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, which comes to hearts op - pressed!  
O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to cheer the night!  
O cheer - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to aid our strife!  
O pa - tient love of Je - sus, which drives a - way our doubt,



It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, of par - don, grace, and peace,  
Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, and we had lost our way,  
The foe is stern and ea - ger, the fight is fierce and long,  
which, though we be un - wor - thy of love so great and free,



of joy that has no end - ing, of love that can - not cease.  
but thou hast brought us glad - ness and songs at break of day.  
but thou hast made us might - y and strong - er than the strong.  
in - vites us ver - y sin - ners to come, dear Lord, to thee!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, alt.

Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Offering

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

**M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.**

**C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

**M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.**

**C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

**M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those**

who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

**C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

**C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

**C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Be Seated*

## 579 His Mercy Is More



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?  
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,  
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;  
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!  
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



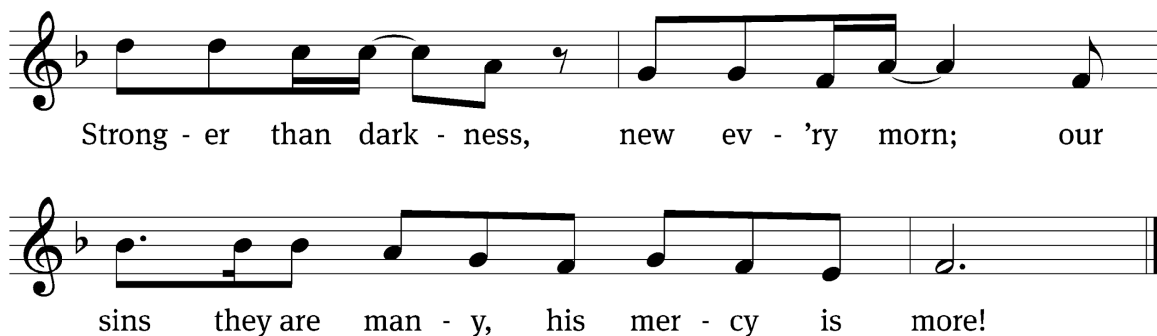
thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,  
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;  
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.  
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.  
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



*The refrain for stanza 3 is sung three times (twice, with no break between, then a final time).*

Text: Matt Papa, b. 1983; Matt Boswell, b. 1979

Tune: Matt Papa, b. 1983; Matt Boswell, b. 1979

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## Stand

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: (sung) Amen.**

## Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

Live in harmony with one another.

Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C: (sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.**