



## Messiah Lutheran Church April 30<sup>th</sup> Update

Fellow saints,

***<sup>9</sup> When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. <sup>10</sup> They called out in a loud voice, “How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?” <sup>11</sup> Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and brothers who were to be killed as they had been was completed.*** (Revelation 6:9–11)

We are in the last days, as the Lord makes so clear to us. He told us there would be difficult times, didn't He? And, we've gotten used to the “regular” difficulties in our lives, such as the pain of moving to a new city, the end of a relationship, even coming face to face with cancer or death. We've had experience with those difficulties and found a way with Him to power through. We've learned how to wait for the Lord's answer when it comes to these problems.

But now we are challenged by a new difficulty. Stay at home. Don't go to the movies. Don't do any unnecessary travel. Don't gather in worship services. Put your life on hold. And it's difficult, isn't it? Oh, it was kind of easy at first. We got to spend time at home and catch up with projects. But now, we've completed them. We've binged watched all the shows we wanted. We miss our friends and family members and we want to hug them and hold them close. Being patient in this new challenge in our lives is hard. It's been six weeks since the start of this pandemic here in Wisconsin!

How do we get through the anxiety, the impatience that comes so often into our hearts? The same way those saints in heaven got through it. We listen to the Lord and depend on His strength to get us through this. He encourages us to wait patiently until His plan for this world is completed.

My prayer for you is that the Lord continues to give you patience. May His grace, His presence and His amazing gift of His Word give you what you need to endure. Patience! That too is a gift of our God.

- **What about Confirmation?** With the ban on gatherings larger than 10, we've had to postpone our public confirmation service here at Messiah. As soon as we can, we will host a confirmation celebration worship service here at Messiah. For now, we'll just wait patiently.
- **And, what about our first 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration Sunday?** Originally, we had planned on our first of three celebration worship service on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Since we most probably won't be able to gather as an entire congregation (again, even if we can gather 50 together at one time) we are cancelling that first celebration. We'll focus our energy on our final two celebration services, one in October and the big one in November.
- **"Meditations" is here!** - The next edition of our daily devotional book has arrived at church. We'll set out the box by the front door under our canopy for you to pick up from 8:30-12:00 noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays until they are gone. If you can't make it those days and you want us to reserve a copy for you, please call the office (465-6013) and we'll call back to set a time for pickup. ***Or, we can have it mailed to you! Simply let us know and we'll have NPH mail you a copy direct.*** There will also be a limited number (30) of “Forward in Christ” at church as well. A new “Forward in Christ” came this week, so we have that issue as well.

- **A request from our local hospitals** - A reminder that hand crafted masks are still needed at our local hospitals. If you have the time and gifts to make them, they would be greatly appreciated! Please email Mary Salm at [Mary.Salm@hshs.org](mailto:Mary.Salm@hshs.org) or call her at 920-433-8163 if you have questions. Drop off sites: 10am- 2pm daily at 1001 Porlier St- across from the hospital. Drop box identified outside.
- **Financial information** – We thank our Lord that He has moved our government to approve a grant to our church so we can continue to proclaim the Gospel to our community. Financially, this gives us a needed buffer as offerings have dropped over the last few weeks. Please continue to remember the Lord’s work in your budgets as we all move forward. We sincerely treasure the gifts you have given for His work. Thank you!
- **Lawn mowing schedule** – With spring finally coming, our church lawn will need a haircut now and then. If you would like to volunteer to cut the lawn, please call church (465-6013) for an open week. We’ll make arrangements to open the garage for you and to give you instructions on the lawn mower if needed. Thanks.
- **Sermon-based Bible study** - Instructions on how to join, Bible study and leader guide are all available online at [messiahgb.org/worship](http://messiahgb.org/worship). Contact Pastor Schultz with questions.
- **Messiah’s pastors are here to help** – Are you struggling and would like someone to talk to? God has called your pastors to offer comfort, spiritual guidance and support to you. Contact us so we can offer our help.

We patiently wait for the time we can gather together and worship our Lord. Until then, we pray that the online videos of our worship service strengthen your connection with the Lord. May we all soon come again to the Lord’s house, and may God be with you all.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Stephen Sauer and Pastor Aaron Schultz

### ***Just a reminder...***

- If you want to mail your offerings to church, please send them to **Messiah Lutheran Church, 3316 Sitka St., Green Bay, WI 54311.**
- If you want to drop them off in person, one of your pastors is at the church office Monday through Friday 8:00-12:00 noon.
- Members who have set up recurring offerings through the Messiah website do not need to do anything; your firstfruit offerings will continue to be automatically given.
- **Online giving** is always available through the Messiah website. Visit [messiahgb.org/give](http://messiahgb.org/give)
  - Information is available for one-time or recurring gifts, Venmo or Zelle. Contact the office for more information or help.

#### **Contact information:**

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