



**MESSIAH EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*"Celebrating the Messiah for 25 years"*

**Christ the King Sunday**

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**Messiah's Mission Statement**

"We, the members of Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, desire to praise our Lord, nurture the church and reach out to the unchurched in and around the Bellevue area, so that all may believe in Christ and receive the gift of eternal life."

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Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Response: **Amen.**

Pastor: We are in the presence of God, who has 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.

Response: **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.**

Pastor: 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.

Response: **Amen.**

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

Response: (spoken)

**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.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your victory You have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim You King of kings and Lord of lords to Your unending praise and glory; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

**First Lesson:** Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23, 24

<sup>11</sup>“For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the

land. <sup>14</sup>I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. <sup>16</sup>I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

<sup>23</sup>I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

**Second Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

<sup>20</sup>But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. <sup>24</sup>Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup>For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. <sup>28</sup>When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

**Verse of the Day**

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 27:27-31

<sup>27</sup>Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. <sup>28</sup>They

stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup> and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. <sup>30</sup> They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. <sup>31</sup> After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

**Hymn:** "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense" CW 167

1. Jesus Christ, my sure defense And my Savior, now is living!  
Knowing this, my confidence Rests upon the hope he's giving,  
Though the night of death be fraught Still with many an  
anxious thought.
5. Glorified, I shall anew With this flesh then be enshrouded;  
In this body I shall view God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;  
In this flesh I then shall see Jesus Christ eternally.

**Today's message:** based on 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

**"GOD'S END GAME"**

- I. We will rise from the dead
- II. Death will be conquered
- III. He will rule over all

**Confession of faith:** 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.

**Prayer:**

We serve You, O Lord, with gladness and come into Your presence with singing. You have made us Your people and the sheep of Your pasture. We enter Your gates with thanksgiving and Your courts with praise. We give thanks to You for You are good and Your love endures forever. Your faithfulness endures to all generations.

At the end of the church year, we focus on the end of sin. You will erase sin on the day You come in Your glory and power. We shall then rejoice and be glad forever, for we shall hear no sound of weeping or cry of distress. There will be no more death, no more trouble, no more sin. We look forward to the indescribable peace and joy that You have prepared for us. O Lord, lift up our heads with Your joy!

O Savior, remind us again and again that You have conquered sin and death. Comfort us when sin inflicts its pain on our lives. Reassure us that our pain is a passing thing; that soon it will disappear from our experience. Help us to calm our brothers and sisters, who are suffering, with the hope that we have. You have given us eternal life, and we praise You before all people for this wonderful, amazing gift. Move us to use our gifts to spread this amazing news.

Watch over the people we now bring to You in our private prayers, and give them an end to their suffering.

*(Silent prayer)*

In Jesus' name we join in the prayer He taught us - **“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.”**

**Ending prayer:**

Pastor: O Lord God, 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.

Response: **Amen.**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another, and serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless 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.

Response: **Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**FOOD DRIVE FOR ST. PAUL** For the next few weeks we'll be gathering non-perishable food for our sister church's food pantry. Please bring your donations to church and place them in our entryway (look for the wicker baskets). May we show our thankfulness to God for His generosity by sharing our bounty with those less fortunate. Thank you!

**OUR SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY** continues at 9:00am. Come join us in person or online. If you would like copies of the lessons emailed to you, please email to [pastorsauer@messiahgb.org](mailto:pastorsauer@messiahgb.org).

**OUR NEXT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY** On December 6<sup>th</sup>, our Sunday morning Bible study will tackle “Fruits of the Spirit”. This class will also be live streamed at 9:00 a.m each Sunday, and if you would like the lessons emailed to you contact Pastor Sauer at [pastorsauer@messiahgb.org](mailto:pastorsauer@messiahgb.org).

**DAILY BIBLE READING JOURNAL** for a three-year reading plan will be available to the congregation in mid-December. There is no cost to the journal. For more information and to sign up for a copy, visit the link on the home page of our website. Contact us if you have any questions. God bless your growth in God's Word!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** Due to family circumstances and health, we are currently in need of volunteers to serve the Lord here at Messiah on our Elders committee, early service usher and communion set up teams. If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor at 465-6013 or [pastorsauer@messiahgb.org](mailto:pastorsauer@messiahgb.org). Thanks!

**POINSETTIA SIGN UP** We have ordered 15 plants to decorate our altar with for the Christmas. The cost of the plants is \$8.00 and you are able to take them home following the Christmas Day service. You may sign up either by stopping in the church office or by calling 465-6013.

**FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL** Parents and kids alike are invited to join us on December 2, 9 and 16 at 9:15 am in the Activity Hall. We'll study the Bible lesson for the day and do an activity. Families are able to sit together at their own table. Hope to see you there!

**VIDEO CAMERA OPERATORS NEEDED** If you would like to volunteer to serve the Lord in this way, please contact one of your pastors. Training will be provided.

**25 YEAR MEMENTOS** In our activity hall we've set up a few displays for you. Check out the pictures and the documents that we've collected over the last 25 years. There are also copies of Pastor Karow's senior thesis detailing the beginning of our congregation and a booklet with a short history of our church. It also contains pictures of some of those who have served us, as well as messages from some of our former vicars and Pastor Albrecht. Take a look!

**Activities next week:**

Monday	6:00:	Bible information class
Wednesday	5:30:	Catechism class
Thursday	9:00:	Thanksgiving Day worship service
Saturday	11:00:	Sauer bridal shower
Sunday	7:45 & 10:15:	Worship service
	9:00:	Bible class - "Church and State"

**Our Response to God's Gifts:**

Attendance this past week:

Thursday	6:30 - 27	
Sunday	7:45 - 46	
	9:30 - 49	Total: 122

Offerings     \$6,905.65

***Serving today in the Lord's house:***

Usher team: 7:45: Team #5 Pete Jindra's team  
10:15: Team #10 Ken Rosenthal's team  
Cleaning: Lindsley, S. Lawrenz, Lemmens, J. Lorenz, Maggle

***Serving next week in the Lord's house:***

Usher team: 7:45: Team #Dave Maccoux's team  
10:15: Team #2 Doug Voigt's team  
Cleaning: B. Mahlik, Marohl, Mendez, Mickish, Mortensen