



# MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*"Celebrating the Messiah for 25 years"*

## New Year's Eve Worship

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

Response: **And also with you.**

Pastor: God invites us into His presence and worship Him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask Him to forgive us.

Response: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed You in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve Your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and**

**trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Pastor: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..

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.  
Almighty God, in mercy You sent your one and only Son to take upon Himself our human nature. By His gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of His glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Response: **Amen.**

**First Lesson:** Joshua 1:1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: <sup>2</sup>“Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. <sup>3</sup>I will give you every place where you set your foot, as

I promised Moses. <sup>4</sup>Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west. <sup>5</sup>No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

<sup>6</sup>“Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. <sup>7</sup>Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. <sup>8</sup>Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. <sup>9</sup>Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.”

**Verse of the Day**

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 7:24-28

<sup>24</sup>“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. <sup>25</sup>The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. <sup>26</sup>But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup>The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

<sup>28</sup>When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching,

**Hymn:** “ *The Old Year Now Has Passed Away*” CW 71

- 1 The old year now has passed away;  
We thank you, O our God, today  
That you have kept us through the year  
When danger and distress were near.
  
- 3 Take not your saving Word away,  
Which lights and cheers our souls each day.  
Abide with us and keep us free  
From error and hypocrisy.

**Today’s message:** based on Matthew 7:24-28

**“BUILD WISELY, DEAR FRIENDS”**

- I. God gives us the right materials
- II. He knows the storms of life will come

**Confession of faith:** Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken

through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Prayer:**

Dear heavenly Father, we come before Your throne this evening, knowing You want to hear and answer all our prayers. Your love has been shown to us time and time again throughout this past year, and once again we come to You.

O Lord, as we look back on this year, we realize we missed many opportunities to glorify You in our words and actions. Help us to seize the chances this coming year to praise You. Help us to recognize them when they come. Give us the strength and courage to proclaim Your forgiveness to our friends and family. Keep us from becoming spiritually lazy, and renew in us the zeal and determination to live for You.

We know You will bless us in the coming year. You will continue to give us life, health, family and friends and joy in their presence in our lives. You will continue to give us beauty and laughter, music and happiness, comfort and contentment. All these You give Your children, which we are because of the faith You have planted in our hearts. Thank you, Sovereign Lord.

Bless us with strength and forgiveness as we take Jesus’s body and blood in communion. Wash our consciences clean of guilt, knowing our Savior has paid for all our sins.

We now come with our most private prayers, asking You to answer in the way that is best for our souls.

*(Silent prayer)*

Thank You for bringing us through the past year and guide us in the new year. In Jesus’ name we join in praying - **“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.”**

**Pastor:**

Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

He protects and preserves His Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads with joy.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**Words of Institution:**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Distribution:**

(During the distribution, the following communion hymn will be played softly. Please read and ponder the words of the hymn as you wait to receive communion or after you have returned from the Lord’s table.)

**Communion Hymn:**

*“Christ, the Life of all the Living”* CW 114, v.1-3,7

- 1 Christ, the Life of all the living,  
Christ, the Death of death, our foe,  
Who, thyself for me once giving  
To the darkest depths of woe --  
Through thy sufferings, death, and merit  
I eternal life inherit.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
- 2 Thou, ah, thou hast taken on thee  
Bonds and stripes, a cruel rod;  
Pain and scorn were heaped upon thee,  
O thou sinless Son of God!  
Thus didst thou my soul deliver  
From the bonds of sin forever.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
- 3 Thou hast borne the smiting only  
That my wounds might all be whole;  
Thou hast suffered, sad and lonely,  
Rest to give my weary soul;  
Yea, the curse of God enduring,  
Blessing unto me securing.  
Thousand, thousand thanks shall be,  
Dearest Jesus, unto thee.
- 7 Then, for all that wrought my pardon,  
For thy sorrows deep and sore,  
For thine anguish in the garden,  
I will thank thee evermore,  
Thank thee for thy groaning, sighing,

For thy bleeding and thy dying,  
For that last triumphant cry  
And shall praise thee, Lord, on high.

**Ending prayer:**

Pastor: O Lord God, heavenly Father, as we turn the page from one year to the next, continue to send the Holy Spirit to grow us in our faith. Protect and comfort us in all challenges of life, 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.**