

Messiah Lutheran Church

December 22, 2024 8:30 am Worship

Welcome to the Lord's House

**Welcome to Messiah!** Whether you're a member, a returning guest, or maybe this is your first time at Messiah, we welcome you to this time of worship. During our time together, we hope that you experience the presence and love of God in a profound and life-changing way! May the music we share stir you, may the prayers we offer comfort you, and may the proclaimed Word of God challenge you to live with a new passion and purpose. Again, we are honored that you have chosen to worship here today. Let's give God all glory and praise.

First-Time guests, we invite you to look through the "Welcome to Messiah" brochure found in the attendance card slot on the pew in front of you. If you have any questions, please talk to an usher. For families with young children, there is a cry room available at the back of the Sanctuary.

**Once we enter God's House,** we pray that our hearts are changed, and that His perspective becomes ours; that we release the cares of this world, and bask in the beauty of His holiness; that we give Him whatever burdens our heart, and find the Spirit's peace that passes all human understanding; that we learn more about Jesus through His Word, and the joy that comes from a closer walk with the Lord.

"Be thoughtful-be silent-be reverent; for this is the house of the Lord, Before the service, speak to the Lord; During the service, let the Lord speak to you; After the service, speak to one another."

If a song is being sung, words are provided on the screens at the front of the sanctuary. We invite you to sing along, or meditate on the song's message.

O God, You are my God; earnestly I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh faints for You, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. So I have looked upon You in the sanctuary, beholding Your power and glory. Because Your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise You.

## Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

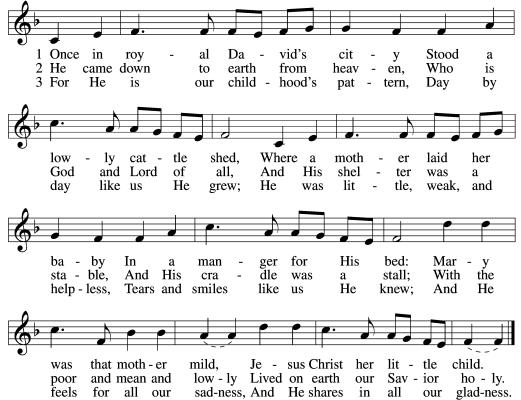


Fourth Sunday in Advent December 22, 2024, 8:30 am Worship

## THE PRELUDE

## **İ** THE GREETING

THE HYMN OF INVOCATION "Once in Royal David's City" LSB 376



## THE INVOCATION

P: In this Advent Celebration, we joyfully worship today in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## C: Amen.

- P: Jesus, You are the light, the light of the world. You are the promise of God for Israel. You save Your people, and live with them.
- C: We open our hearts to prepare a place for You. Fill us with Your light, that we may share it with the world.

The Advent season of preparing for the promised Savior to be born as one of us soon reaches its climax. Though in our homes and lives we may be wondering if we have done all we have needed to get ready for our own celebrations, we give thanks that at the center of our coming Christmas observations the Lord has prepared all we need. In this last Sunday of Advent and in the days ahead of anticipated Christmas joy, may we find peace in the preparations done freely for us out of grace, mercy, and perfect love centered on the Savior we soon welcome, who was born for us and all the world.

#### In the Invocation,

we "invoke" God's presence By repeating the name in which we were baptized by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

#### In the Confession,

we bare our souls before the Lord, admitting our sins and accepting responsibility for the harm they caused in our relationships with God and with each other. (1 John 1:8-9; Rom. 3:23)

The pastor then speaks God's Word to give the forgiveness Jesus won for us on the cross. (John 20:23)

#### In the Collect,

The pastor and congregation greet each other as the angel greeted Mary at her annunciation. (Luke 1:28)

The phrase also indicates the special relationship between the pastor and the congregation.

We call this prayer a "Collect" because it collects the themes of the lessons and puts them into a prayer.

## THE CONFESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

- P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C: who made heaven and earth.
- P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean.
- C: Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!
- P: We have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- J C: Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved! O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
  - P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to be born in our flesh, to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins.
  - C: Restore us, O God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved!
  - P: As a called and ordained servant of the Word and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. To those who believe on His name He gives the power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. Those that believe and are baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

## C: Amen.

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

#### The First Lesson

is taken from a book of the Old Testament, and is found on page 779 in the pew Bible. It coordinates with the Gospel lesson.

#### The Epistle Lesson

is from St. Paul's letters, and is found on page 1006 in the pew Bible. We may read through an entire book over several weeks.

We rise for the Holy Gospel as we would stand for Jesus Himself, since the Gospel is His living Word to us.

The Gospel Song for Advent is from Mark 1:1-3, "The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in *Isaiah the prophet:* "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way"—"a voice of one calling in the wilderness. *Prepare the way* for the Lord, make straight paths for him.''

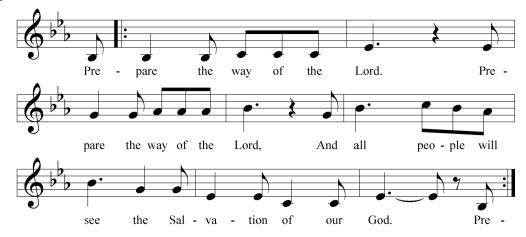
## **THE FIRST LESSON** Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. <sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace.

## THE EPISTLE LESSON Hebrews 10:5-10

<sup>5</sup> Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; <sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. <sup>7</sup> Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.'" <sup>8</sup> When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), <sup>9</sup> then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He does away with the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

## THE GOSPEL SONG "Prepare the Way of the Lord"



#### The Holy Gospel

is selected according to the season or festival Sunday of the Church Year, and is found on page 856 in the pew Bible.

We respond to the Word of God with an acclamation of praise, and confessing our faith.

The Apostles'

**Creed** dates from about 75 AD and was used in the instruction of those to be baptized. We are confessing our personal faith.

The Sermon Hymn may coordinate with the Gospel lesson, or with the pastor's sermon topic.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 1:39-45

<sup>39</sup> In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup> and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup> And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup> and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup> And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup> For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup> And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

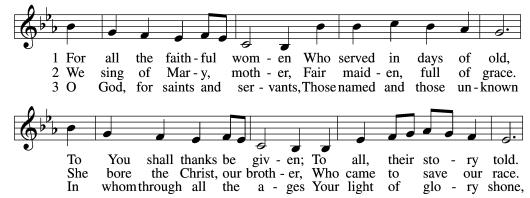
P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

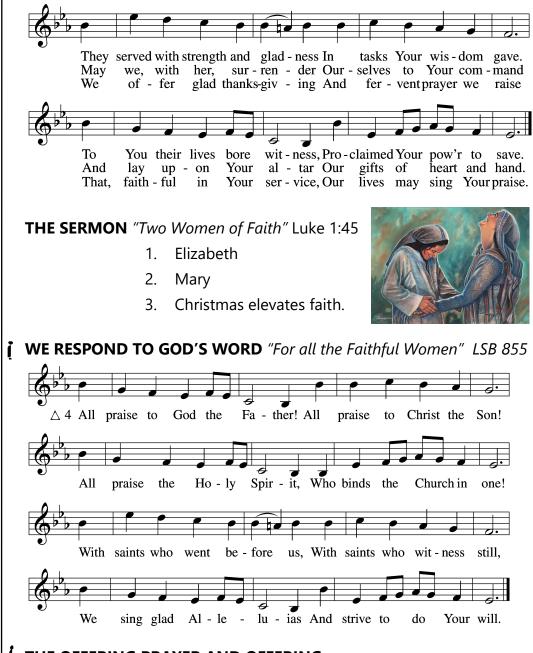
C: Thanks be to God.

## WE CONFESS OUR FAITH-The Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

**THE SERMON HYMN** "For All the Faithful Women" LSB 855





## Y THE OFFERING PRAYER AND OFFERING

THE ANTHEM "Mary, Did You Know"

#### The Sermon

applies God's Word to our lives and helps to equip us to fulfill our baptismal calling to new life in Christ.

We respond to the Word of God as we sing a verse that emphasizes the joy we have because of the freedom given to us by the Love that came down at Christmas.

We present our gifts to God to symbolize the offering of ourselves to the Lord, saying thank You to God, and showing we trust Him to supply all our needs. (Romans 12:1)

After the Offering Prayer, we ask all of those present and watching on the live stream to please fill out an attendance card. **Prayer** is one of the marks of the congregation gathered in worship, according to Acts 2:42.

More prayer requests for the week are located in the Announcement Guide.

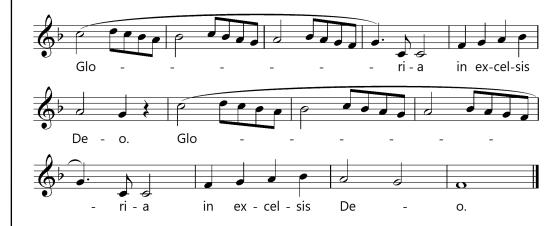
"Sanctus" is the Latin word for holy, and is the name of an important hymn of Christian liturgy. It is sung at the heart of the eucharistic prayer, the prayer of consecration of the bread and wine. The text is taken from Isaiah 6:3, which describes the prophet's vision of the throne of God surrounded by six-winged, ministering seraphim. This text is also influenced by Revelation 4:8. The concluding text is "blessed is He who comes.'

## **I** THE PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. We await to celebrate our King, who has come, promised to be born among the small clan of Judah in Bethlehem, fulfiller of the old covenant promise, and bringer of life and grace in the new covenant in which we now live.
- C: We await our King, who promises to return, to restore and renew what was broken, and to bring life and light everlasting. Be with us as we soon close this Advent season of anticipation and preparation, rejoicing in the everlasting King who has come and will come again.
- P: Almighty King, Your ways are not our ways nor are Your thoughts our thoughts. In days of doubts and despair that arise, in cases of confusion, and in times of trial and tribulation, remind us of Your kingdom in which we have been called and Your eternal kingdom to come.
- C: Help us to see Your mighty work even among our wayward world of sin and sorrow and the perfect plan of salvation imparted through the Savior we await.
- P: Grant that Your living Word ever call us and all sinners to repentance and faith in Your only-begotten Son.
- C: For those who will be partaking of the Lord's Supper this day, that all approach His Table in full confidence that these gifts have been given and shed for us and for our salvation.
- P: Trusting in Your mercy, we bring our prayers before You. We ask You to hear and answer in the way that You know is best.
- C: Glory and honor be Yours alone, O Father, together with Your Son and Your Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

## THE SANCTUS





## 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.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C: And also with you.



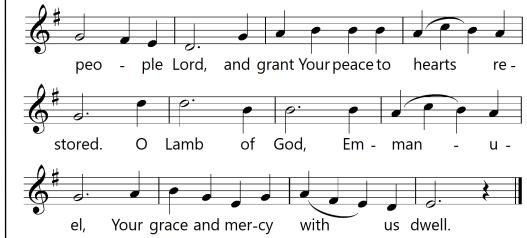
The Lord's Prayer is the prayer Jesus taught to His disciples and to us in His Word. (Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:2-4)

The Words of Institution are a collection of all four Gospel accounts of the Last Supper, based on the oldest and fullest text found in 1 Corinthians 11.

The Agnus Dei is a canticle that

found its way into the liturgy as early as the 8th century.

Following Jesus' baptism, John the Baptist acclaims Him as the "Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world."



A Prayer Before Communing: Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation, I come to Your table to eat and drink *Your holv body* and blood. Let me find favor in Your eves to receive this Holv Sacrament in faith for the salvation of mv soul and to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." Matthew 26:64

## ት THE COMMUNION

*If you are a guest today, please read page 15 before communing. You are welcome to kneel or stand at the communion rail.* 

**THE COMMUNION HYMNS** "Away in a Manger" LSB 365 1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for а bed. 2 The cat by tle the ba are low - ing, a wakes. 3 Be near Je - sus; me, Lord I ask Thee to stay The lit tle Lord laid down His sweet head. Je - sus But lit - tle Lord cry - ing Je - sus. no He makes. Close for love me. bv me \_ ev - er and Ι pray. The looked down where stars in the bright sky He lay, T love Thee. Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky, Bless all dear chil - dren the in Thy ten der care, The lit tle Lord Je - sus a \_ sleep on the hay. And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh. live Thee And take us to heav - en to with there.

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" LSB 359 1 Lo. bloom - ing From ten - der how а rose e'er stem hath 2 I iah 'twas fore - told The rose sa it. Ι have in 3 This flow'r, whose fra-grance ten - der With sweet-ness fills the Sav - ior, child of 4 O Mar - v. Who felt our hu man A Prayer after sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing As proph-ets long have Communingmind: With Mar - y we be - hold The vir - gin it, moth - er Almighty and Dis - pels with glo-rious splen - dor The dark-ness air. ev - 'ry everlasting God Sav - ior, King of glo - ry, Who dost our woe; 0 weak - ness I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of ð Your beloved flow - 'ret bright, mid the It Α sung, came, а -Son, Jesus Christ. Send love She kind. То show God's right, bore to a -Your Holy Spirit where. True man. ver - y God. From sin and yet that, having with know: Bring us at length we To the bright prav my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy cold of win - ter, When half - spent the night. was Your divine When half - spent night. grace, the us а Sav - ior, was the forgiveness of He And light - ens load. death saves 'ry us ev sins, unity with And day. of heav - en, to the end less courts Christ, and life eternal. through Jesus "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" LSB 374 Christ, my Lord.

1 Gen - tle Mar - y Low - ly laid her child in а man - ger; Wise Men sought and An - gels sang a bout His birth, found Him; 3 Gen - tle Mar - v laid her child Low - ly in man - ger: а Un - de-filed, To the world There He lay, the а strang - er. Heav-en's star shone bright-ly forth Glo - ry all round Him. а -Un - de-filed He is still the But no more a strang - er.

Amen.

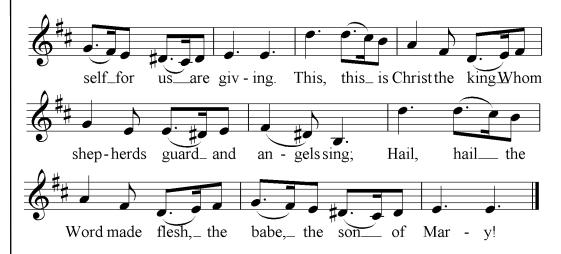
Such а babe in such а place, Can He be the Sav - ior? Shep-herds saw the Heard the an - gels won-drous sight, sing - ing; hum - ble birth. Beau - ti - ful the of God of Son sto - ry; Ask the saved of all the race Who have found His fa vor. A11 the plains were lit that night, All the hills were ring ing. Praise His name in all the earth; Hail the King of glo ry! "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" fant ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, 1 In For His bed a cat - tle stall; 2 Flocks were sleep-ing, Shep-herds keep-ing Vig-il till the morn-ing new Ox - en low - ing, Lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all. Saw the glo - ry, Heard the sto - ry, Tid - ings of a Gos-pel true. Swift-ly wing-ing, An - gels sing-ing, Bells are ring-ing, Tid - ings bring-ing: Thus re-joic-ing, Free from sor-row, Prais-es voic-ing, Greet the mor-row: Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you! **Í** THE POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE Lord, O Light for all\_\_\_\_the All thanks and praise to You, 0 liv and Gen - tile, one \_\_\_Your ing; for Jew and all.

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" is based on Luke 2:1-20

May we prepare a special place *for the holy* Child in our hearts.

The Post-Communion Canticle. is based on Psalm 105. The first time this canticle appeared in the liturgy was in the 4th century.

The personal encounter with Christ and His gifts in the Lord's Supper leads indeed to a joyful service to "tell everyone what He has done!"



#### The Aaronic Benediction: the

Lord recognizes us as His people, puts His name on us, and fulfills all promises in His name. (Num. 6:24-25; Matt. 18:19-20)

We leave, filled with comfort and joy, because our Savior, born on Christmas Day, saved us from Satan's power! In response, we leave with a renewed commitment to share His love and light!

You are welcome to take this bulletin home and use it for personal devotions this week. Otherwise, we ask that you return it to an usher. Thank you!

## THE BENEDICTION AND SILENT PRAYER

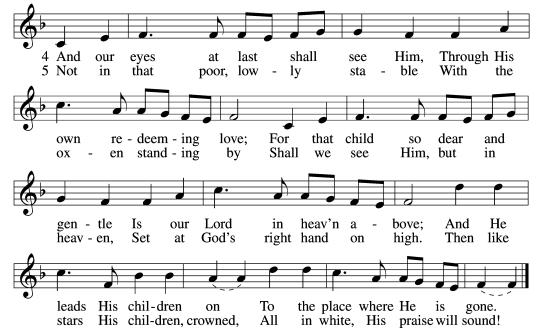
P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with His favor and give you His peace.

## C: Amen.

## ት THE MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

**THE CLOSING HYMN** "Once in Royal David's City" LSB 376 verses 4-5



# Serving in the Lord's House Today

PREACHER	Rev. Dr. Victor J. Kollmann
LITURGISTS	Rev. Matthew A. Lee
ELDER CAPTAIN	Chris DuBois
ALTAR COMMITTEE	Team 1
USHER TEAM	Team G
ACOLYTES	Jillian Hall, Greyson Walling
ANTHEM	Cindy Barnes
ORGANIST	Dorothy Sherrod
PRODUCTION TEAM	Danny Ladishew, Manager - Susan Redding, Sound David Sherrod, Media - Zachary Herigon, Cameras

# Our Response to the Lord Last Week

Weekly Worship Attendance Adult Bible Class Sunday School Attendance	734 Children's Program Children's Program	The LORD YOUR GOD
<u>Church Faith Budget</u>		with all your
Given last week	\$ 95,127	WILM AN YOUR
Given year to date	\$ 2,517,911	HEART
Given year to date last year	\$ 2,411,452	
<u>Building Fund</u> Given last week Given year to date	\$    1,750 \$   220,085	MATTHEW 22:37

In planning for the future, consider including the church in your will.

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# The Sacrament of Holy Communion

As You come to the Lord's Supper, you are affirming with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord, that with Lutheran Christians, you believe His Body and Blood are present and you desire to serve Him as a dynamic disciple in the fellowship of all believers. Our Holy Communion practice is called "CLOSE" communion, not "CLOSED" communion. "Close" communion invites all those who answer the following questions in the affirmative. We DO seek to help each visitor and member, to prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament. If you have not communed with us before, or if you cannot answer yes to the questions below, please speak to our Pastor or an Elder before communing.

- 1. Have I been baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
- 2. Do I believe that I am a sinful human being without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ?
- 3. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?
- 4. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is personally present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion with His true Body and Blood?
- 5. Do I intend, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to live a Godly life?

At Messiah, Communion is distributed in a manner whereby the individual cup, followed by the common cup, are offered at the same table. Communicants seated in the middle

sections of the Sanctuary proceed to the altar first, standing behind the usher. Then the communicants in the side sections will proceed to the altar, also standing behind the usher. Limit the line behind the usher to about twenty persons. This will provide a prayerful setting surrounding the significance of receiving Christ's body and blood.

A light, alcohol-free wine is offered in clear glasses in the individual trays. Gluten-free wafers are available at the usher table in the back.



# Messiah Lutheran Church

1801 West Plano Parkway 🕈 Plano, Texas 75075

Services available on our Website/YouTube

Sunday Worship in the Sanctuary: 8:30 & 11:00 AM (Holy Communion every Sunday in Advent)

♥ Sunday School & Adult Bible Class: 9:45-10:40 AM

MESSIAH LUTHERAN

 Family Advent Wednesday Worship- 6:00 PM Traditional Advent Wednesday Worship-7:00 PM



## Church Office:972-398-7500 Lambs' Early Childhood Center Office: 972-398-7560

Rev. Dr. Victor J. Kollmann, Senior Pastor Amy Myers, Lambs' ECC Director Amy Plenger, Children's Ministries Don Johnson, Property Ministries Kathy Mardis, Executive Secretary Melinda Kellerman, Children's Ministry Assistant Cyndi Scruggs, Receptionist Carmen Rowan, "The Lamp" Gift Shop Manager Rev. Matthew A. Lee, Associate Pastor Dorothy Sherrod, Music Ministries Jodi Sorenson, Youth Ministries Danny Ladishew, Technology Director Kim Johnson, Administrative Assistant Karrie Looney, Kingdom Women Ministry Todd Smith, Gym Manager

E-mail: messiah@messiahlutheran.com

Website: <u>www.messiahlutheran.com</u>

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  $\Phi$ 

## With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will share God's light as we:

*Gladly enter God's House weekly (Worship)* —*Psalm 122:1 Listen for God's voice. (Discipleship-Bible Study, Quiet Time, Prayer)*— *John 10:27 Open my heart and hands to serve God. (Ministry)* —*1 Samuel 12:24 Wholeheartedly love God and my neighbor. (Evangelism/Fellowship-Outreach)* —*Luke 10:27* 

## GLOW and GO!

