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May 25, 2025

Easter 6

A black and white photograph of a graduation ceremony. In the foreground, the backs of several graduates wearing caps and gowns are visible. They are seated in rows, looking towards the front of the room. The background is slightly blurred, showing more graduates and possibly a stage area.

**"Peace I leave with you, My peace I
give to you..."**

**Let not your heart be troubled, neither
let it be afraid.**

John 14:27

We Welcome Our Visitors who are with us this morning.

We hope that you are uplifted by the Gospel at our worship service.

We invite you to join us every Sunday. Please sign our guestbook in the entry.

If you would like more information about our church, please contact the pastor.

✠ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 65 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

LSB 737

Invocation

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

P In the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:5, 7-9)

P Let us pray...

C **Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer:**

We confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

P Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven! With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the joy and peace of forgiveness, let us praise to the Lord...

“How Wide the Love of Christ” LSB 535 v. 1-3



1 How wide the love of Christ! It knows not class or race But
2 How long the love of Christ! Its pa - tience will not cease Un -
3 How high the love of Christ! Be - yond all thought it soars, And



holds our one hu - man - i - ty With - in its broad em - brace.
til this bro - ken world is bound In ev - er - last - ing peace.
yet up - on our pass - ing lives Un - mea - sured mer - cy pours.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: Johann M. Spiess, 1715–72

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Tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your Holy Spirit grant that we may think only those things that are right and good, and by Your merciful guiding help us to accomplish them.

We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

First Reading

Psalm 65 (selected verses – RESPONSIVE) (NIV)

P Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion;

G to you our vows will be fulfilled.

P O you who hear prayer, to you all men will come.

G When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.

P Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!

G We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.

P You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior,

G the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

P Who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength,

G who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,
and the turmoil of the nations.

- P** Those living far away fear your wonders;
C **where morning dawns and evening fades you call forth songs of joy.**
- P** You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.
C **The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it.**
- P** The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain;
C **they shout for joy and sing.**

Second Reading

Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23 (NKJV)

- P** The second reading is from Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23.
C **Sanctify us by Your truth, O LORD. Your Word is truth!**

¹⁰ And he [one of the seven angels] carried me [the Apostle John] away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. ¹² Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: ¹³ three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west. ¹⁴ Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb...²² But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.

- P** Here ends our Scripture readings.

"How Wide the Love of Christ" LSB 535 v. 4-5



4 How deep the love of Christ, De - scend - ing to a cross! He
 5 All praise to You, O Christ, For love whose depth and height, Whose

bears with - in His wound-ed hands All hu - man pain and loss.
 length and breadth fill time and space With end - less life and light!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: Johann M. Spiess, 1715–72

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**☩ 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 sits 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.**

Hymn of the Day: 672 *Jerusalem the Golden* (please stand for last verse)

LSB 672

Children's Sermon - *Children 10 years old and younger are invited to come up front.*

Sermon Text: John 14:23-29 (NKJV)

²³ Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. ²⁴ "He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me. ²⁵ " These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. ²⁶ "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. ²⁷ "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. ²⁸ "You have heard Me say to you, 'I am going away and coming back to you.' If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, 'I am going to the Father,' for My Father is greater than I. ²⁹ "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe."

Sermon Theme: A Good Good-Bye

- † Usually when someone is going away the friends of that person will throw them a going-away party and give that person gifts. However, Jesus, the one who was going away, is the one who gives His friends gifts. What two great “gifts” has Jesus given us according to His words in this text? **(v. 26-27)**
- † What did the Holy Spirit do for Jesus’ disciples? What does He still do for us? **(v. 26)**
- † What kind of **peace** does Jesus give us?

In what ways is Jesus’ **peace** “not as the world gives”? **(v. 27)**

Offertory

LSB 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Offering *We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.*

Prayer of the Church *We bring our prayers to God.*

Lord's Prayer

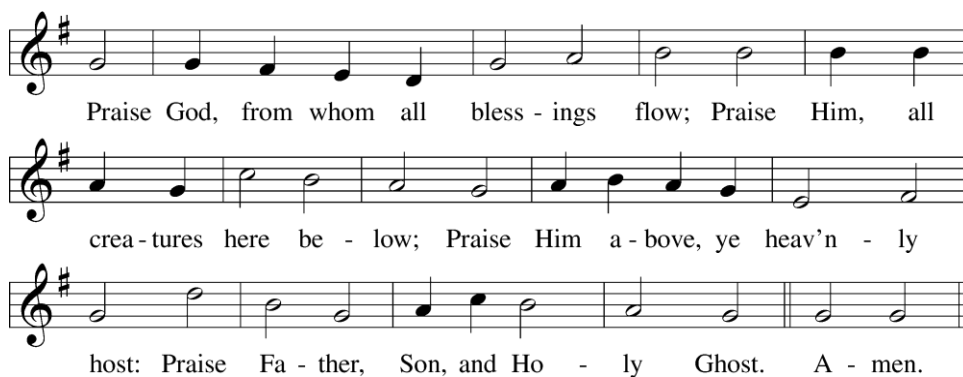
G Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction *The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).*

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

The Doxology

LSB 805



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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Closing Hymn: 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name... *(please stand for last verse)*

Announcements



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.
Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today:
5/25/25

Choir – 8am
Worship – 9am
Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

Monday – *Memorial Day*

Wednesday – **Confirmands' Written Examination – 4:30pm**

Thursday – **Ascension Day Worship Service – 6:30pm**

Church Cleaning: Team #9 (5/24-5/30); Team #10 (5/31-6/6)

Next Sunday:
6/1/25

Confirmation Sunday
Choir – 8am
Examination (in the sanctuary) – 9am
Confirmation Worship Service w/ Communion – 10am
Cake Reception for our Confirmands – 11:15am



Reminder: Our members are encouraged to keep the last two pews reserved for families with small children. Thank you!

Congratulations Messiah Lutheran School Graduates! – We praise God and congratulate our 8th graders who graduated from Messiah Lutheran School this past week:



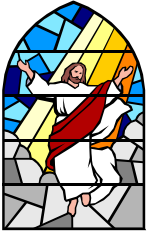
Gabi Nelson ✝ Morgan Starr ✝ Allie Williams

May the Lord continue to bless you as you move on to high school and the next chapter of your life!

Confirmation Sunday – Next Sunday, June 1st – Examination @ 9am / Worship @ 10am –

Gabi, Morgan, and Allie will also be confirmed in their Christian faith next Sunday, June 1st. The Examination of the Confirmands will be held in the sanctuary at **9am**. The congregation is invited to attend. The Confirmation Worship Service with communion will be held afterwards at **10am**. We praise God for the faith that He has given and grown in our confirmands!

Cake Reception Following Confirmation Service – There will be a cake reception in celebration of our confirmands in the activity room after the worship service next Sunday. The congregation is invited to attend.



Ascension Day Worship Service – Thursday @ 6:30pm – Please join us for our Ascension Worship Service this **Thursday (5/29) at 6:30pm.**

(NOTE: There will be no Wednesday Bible Class this week)

VBS – July 7-11 – 9am – 11:30am –

Registration is now open for our Vacation Bible School from July 7-11 for children age 3 through 8th grade. Our theme this year will be “Missionaries of Christ.” The sign-up sheets for student registrations is on the bulletin board in the entryway. Hope to see your child there, and remember to invite your friends and neighbors as well!



VBS Teachers and Volunteers Needed! – We are in need of teachers and volunteers for our VBS. Volunteers are needed for teaching, music, crafts, recess, and general help. Please sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the church entry if you'd like to help out. Even if you can't help out for the whole week, we'd love to have you join us for even just a day. Thank you for your prayerful consideration! Please speak with Ben Blue or Pastor Luke if you have any questions.

Pastoral “Get to Know Each Other” Visits / Pastor Luke’s Contact Info – I am continuing to make “face to face” visits with our members. These include a short devotion and some time to get to know each other. Pastor’s Contact Info:

Email: LBerenthal@messiahhc.org ☩ Cell: **402-389-2147** ☩ Church Office: **414-427-9337**

CLC Call News - Professor Joel Gullerud of Immanuel Lutheran High School, Eau Claire, WI, has **received** the call to serve as principal of Immanuel Lutheran K-12 School, Mankato, MN. <> Pastor Mark Tiefel of Peace Thru Christ Lutheran Church, Middleton, WI, **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

CLC Spring Coordinating Council Report – Copies of the CLC’s Spring Coordinating Council Report were emailed to all of our members. Several printed copies are also available on the counter in the church hallway. If additional printed copies are needed please let Pastor Luke know. We praise the Lord for the faithful service, sacrificed time, and use of God-given talents shared by the members of our CLC Boards and Committees.

CLC Financial Report - April 2025

Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2024	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 10 Months	Balance 4/30/2025
General Fund	0	971,532	1,016,027	1,094,150	(44,495)
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	1,508,383	1,388,124	1,436,750	120,259
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	110,979	43,520	61,244		93,255
ILC Building Projects	1,560,282	340,953	1,842		1,899,393
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	120,784	236,051	182,622		174,213
Kinship	169,884	168,594	147,119		191,359
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	2,684,208	382,368	264,753		2,801,823
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	117,317	78,445	190,187		5,575
EduK8 Fund	47,692	22,787	3,500		66,979
Reserve Fund	79,964	80,292	0		160,256
Auxiliary Funds Totals	\$4,891,110	\$1,353,010	\$851,267		\$5,392,853

General Fund – You will notice that we are continuing to run a year-to-date deficit in our General Fund. We have not met our budget for the past several years and while we have been blessed to have a reserve fund that has covered our shortfall, we cannot continue to deficit spend. With only about a month remaining in our fiscal year ending with June, it will be beneficial for each of us to prayerfully consider what we can do to support the General Fund. May our Gracious Lord bless our humble efforts.

ILC Operations - While ILC Operations is subsidized by the General Fund and currently has a balance of about \$120,000, based on past history, that balance will likely be eliminated by the end of the year since there is very little revenue in the month of June. Last year, for example, June had a deficit of \$124,000.

ILC Building Projects – Year-to-date contributions have been about \$260,000. The remaining year-to-date revenue of around \$80,000 is from increases in the market value of the investments in this fund.

Church Extension Fund – Year to date revenue consists of payments received of about \$246,000 from congregations on the loans they owe the CLC, just over \$135,000 of increases in the market value of the investments and just over \$1,000 of contributions to the fund.

Other Auxiliary Funds – The activity in the other funds in the table above is similar to the activity in the same period a year ago.

Stephen R. Lentz, CLC Treasurer
Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

Bible Readings:	
5/25	Lev. 15:1-18 Psalm 119:153-160 1 Cor. 7:1-16
5/26	Lev. 15:19-33 Psalm 119:161-168 1 Cor. 7:17-24
5/27	Lev. 16:1-19 Psalm 119:169-176 1 Cor. 7:25-40
5/28	Lev. 16:20-34 Psalm 120 1 Cor. 8
5/29	Acts 1:1-11 Psalm 47 Eph. 1:15-23 Luke 24:44-53
5/30	Lev. 17 Psalm 121 1 Cor. 9:1-14
5/31	Lev. 18 Psalm 122 1 Cor. 9:15-27



— SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

June Ushers	Cleaning Team 5/31-6/6
Mike Plockelman Alex Plockelman Mason Garvens	<u>Team 10</u> D/C Albrecht M/M Weibye B. Weibye E/E Weaver R. Busse
June Slideshow Jordan Albrecht	

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings:	\$5,992.45	\$372,181.45
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,571.29	\$394,279.34
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$2,578.84)	(\$22,097.89)
MDF:	\$30.00	\$1,690.00
Kinship:	\$100.00	\$3,831.96
ILC Building Fund:	\$25.00	\$2,574.75
MSAF:	\$25.00	\$1,145.00

Attendance Last Sun. (5/18): 116

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