

Service of the Word

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2021



Messiah Lutheran Church

Lyndhurst, Ohio + 440.442.6941 + messiahlyndhurst.org

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church!

It is good to be together, even if we are meeting online and/or in the church parking lot. If you are new to Messiah, you can find out more about our community at messiahlyndhurst.org or on our facebook page. During this current health crisis, we will upload our service to our website each Sunday morning (www.messiahlyndhurst.org). We invite you to follow along at home with the order of service included below.

Prayer Concerns can be shared via email (pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org) or phone (440-442-6941). Please indicate if you would like your request to be considered for inclusion in worship. Please note that some elements of the service are pre-recorded and prayer requests may not make it in until the following week.

Children are encouraged to participate at home as they are able. If you would like an at-home Sunday School Lesson Packet, please contact Cheryl Moser for more info.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is typically celebrated the first and third Sundays of each month, as well as on festival days. The date of our next Communion Sunday is TBD. If Communion is new for you, we invite you to have a conversation with Pastor Paul.

Serving in Worship Today:

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Paul Moody
Assisting Minister	Jim Burghart
Organist	Glenn Odenbrett
Reader	Drinda Kiner

GATHERING

PRELUDE

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
(based on ELW #803)
Carl Schalk

*(As God gathers us on this day of resurrection,
we take time during the prelude to center ourselves
and prepare to receive the Gospel: both its proclamation
of grace and its call to action.)*

LITANY

Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Hosanna! Save us!

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked
at baptism, as the presiding minister begins)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the keeper of the covenant,
the source of steadfast love,
our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Jesus Christ.
Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Fountain of living water,
pour out your mercy over us.
Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free.
Rebuild what we have ruined
and mend what we have torn.
Wash us in your cleansing flood.
Make us alive in the Spirit

**to follow in the way of Jesus,
as healers and restorers of the world you so love.
Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails.
The promise rests on grace:
by the saving love of Jesus Christ,
the wisdom and power of God,
your sins are † forgiven, and God remembers them no more.
Journey in the way of Jesus.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

All Glory, Laud, and Honor
(ELW #344)

Refrain

All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or to you, re-deem-er, king,

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring.

- 1 You are the king of Is - rael and Da - vid's roy - al Son,
- 2 The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high;
- 3 The mul - ti - tude of pil - grims with palms be - fore you went;
- 4 To you, be - fore your pas - sion, they sang their hymns of praise.
- 5 Their prais - es you ac - cept - ed; ac - cept the prayers we bring,

Refrain

now in the Lord's name com - ing, our King and Bless-ed One.
cre - a - tion and all mor - tals in cho - rus make re - ply.
our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
To you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.
great au - thor of all good - ness, O good and gra - cious King.

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the Lord expresses absolute confidence in his final vindication, despite the fact that he has been struck and spit upon. This characteristic of the servant played an important role in the early church's understanding of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

⁴The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain
the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens—
wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;
I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting.

⁷The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 31:9-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)

⁹Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I ^l am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat ^l and my belly.
¹⁰**For my life is wasted with grief, and my ^l years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones ^l are
consumed.**
¹¹I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to ^l
my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street ^l they avoid me.
¹²**Like the dead I am forgotten, ^l out of mind;
I am as useless as a ^l broken pot.**
¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is ^l all around;
they put their heads together against me; they plot to ^l take my life.
¹⁴**But as for me, I have trusted in ^l you, O LORD.
I have said, "You ^l are my God.**
¹⁵My times are ^l in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who ^l persecute
me.
¹⁶**Let your face shine up- ^l on your servant;
save me in your ^l steadfast love."**

SECOND READING:

Philippians 2:5-11

Paul uses an early Christian hymn to help us comprehend Jesus' obedient selflessness on the cross and how God has made Christ lord over all reality. The perspective of the cross becomes the way we rightly understand God, Christ, our own lives, and fellowship within the community of Christ.

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God

as something to be exploited,
⁷but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form,
⁸he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name
that is above every name,
¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:1-11

The Holy Gospel According to Saint Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.' This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying, 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very

large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,
'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest heaven!'

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?' The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

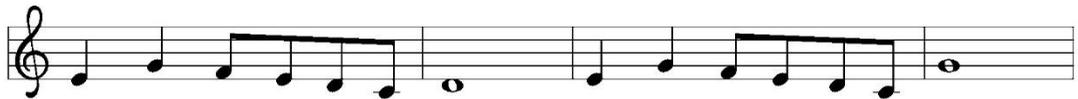
SERMON

The Rev. Paul Jones Moody

(Please observe a moment of silence after the sermon)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am
(ELW #814)



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM. John L. Bell

Text and music © 1995 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

(A brief silence)

God of mercy, awaken your church to new proclamations of your faithfulness. By your Spirit, give us bold and joyful words to speak, that we sustain the weary with the message of your redemption. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our healer, show your compassion for the whole human family that is in turmoil and burdened with illness and with fear. As we continue to struggle with the lasting impact of COVID-19, come to our aid. Heal those who are sick, support and protect their families and friends, and sustain all whose livelihoods are at risk. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, drive away fear and anger that cause us to turn against one another. Give courage to leaders who seek liberation for the oppressed. Bring peace and hope to those who are in prison and those who face execution. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, send your saving help to all who suffer abuse, insult, discrimination, or contempt. Heal the wounded. Comfort the dying. Bring peace to those suffering chronic or terminal illness. Tend to all who cry out for relief (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of mercy, we pray for all who will prepare and lead worship in this Holy Week. In all things, show us the ways that you call us to die to self, to live for you, and to give of ourselves for the sake of others. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

(Here other intercessions may be offered)

God of mercy, when we breathe our last, you raise us to eternal life. With all your witnesses in heaven and on earth (*especially*), let us boldly confess the name of Jesus Christ, our resurrection and our hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

(If you are gathered with others, please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you" or similar response.)

OFFERING

(In response to God's command to love our neighbors, we give of the resources God has given us for the sake of the common good. Please give your tithes and offerings by mail or electronically at messiahlyndhurst.org)

OFFERING MUSIC

God So Loved the World
Sung by The Messiah Choir

THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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.**

SENDING

MISSION PRAYER

As God has gathered us and filled our hearts with the Gospel, now God sends us forth to serve in mission. Let us pray:

**Gracious God, through belief in Christ and through the presence of the Holy Spirit within us, empower us to share the word; care and support each other and God's community; worship as a family in Christ; and be Christ-like examples to those whose lives we touch.
Amen.**

BLESSING

You are what God made you to be:
created in Christ Jesus for good works,
chosen as holy and beloved,
freed to serve your neighbor.
God bless you † that you may be a blessing,
in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church
(ELW #321)



1 E - ter - nal Lord of love, be - hold your church
2 So dai - ly dy - ing to the way of self,
3 If dead in you, so in you we a - rise,



walk - ing once more the pil - grim way of Lent,
so dai - ly liv - ing in your way of love,
you the first - born of all the faith - ful dead;



led by your cloud by day, by night your fire,
we walk the road, Lord Je - sus, that you trod,
and as through ston - y ground the green shoots break,



moved by your love and toward your pres - ence bent:
know - ing our - selves bap - tized in - to your death:
glo - rious in spring - time dress of leaf and flow'r,



far off yet here— the goal of all de - sire.
so we are dead and live with you in God.
so in - to life and glo - ry shall we wake.

Text: Thomas H. Cain, 1931–2003

Music: OLD 124TH, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

Text © Thomas H. Cain. Used by permission of estate.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

(Please observe a moment of silence before the postlude)

POSTLUDE

Canon on Old 124th
(based on ELW #321)
Jan Bender

Messiah Staff Members

Organist: Glenn Odenbrett
Choir Director: Vicki Lester
Christian Education Director: Cheryl Moser
Office Administrator: Steven Liss
Building & Custodial: Steve Newcomer

Attributions

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Portions of Service of the Word.
Portions from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #44485. Scripture from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Music reproduction (streaming and digital distribution) done with permission under ONE LICENSE #736747-A. All rights reserved. Cover image: Daniel Dara c/o unsplash.com.

Prayers

Prayer Team & Partners: Prayer is a vital part of the Christian life. Messiah has a Prayer Team which will pray with/for you. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue Prayer Request Card – available in the sanctuary – which offer these options: (1) request a Pastoral follow-up, (2) include in the intercessory prayers to be read aloud in worship, (3) add to the ongoing list in the Bulletin and Grace Note, or (4) add to the Prayer Partner Email Chain.

(Contact Nancy Pittard to participate in the Prayer Partner Email Chain and/or to serve on the Prayer Team)

Please pray for our siblings in Christ: The family and friends of Don Fulton, Ruth Bode, Jim Butler, Don Fulton, Tracy Galvin, Gayle E., Sara Hritz, Jayne Imel, Adam Meredith, Charlotte Jane Moody, Lisa Perry, Jim Rase, Dorothy Schneider, Pam Schneider, Phyllis Short, Bob Spinks, Kathy Strom, Jim Szatkowski, and all those in need of comfort and healing.

(Your prayer request, printed in the bulletin, will remain active for a period of four weeks. If you wish to have the prayer renewed, please fill out a new request card.)

Announcements

PLEASE NOTE: All upcoming activities and events are subject to change as Messiah responds to the ongoing world health crisis.

Readers Needed for Virtual Services: Have you ever wanted to read the scripture for our virtual services? You can now check the home page of our website and look for the signup sheet banner near the top of the page. You'll be able to sign up and then record yourself reading in a quiet place and email it to Pastor Paul to add to the service. If you have questions, please feel free to reach Kristy at kbdesigns2010@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Pastoral Care: The world is experiencing an unprecedented season of difficulty, and all of us are affected in our own way. If you would like to connect with Pastor Paul for a conversation, please call or email the church office: 440-442-6941 or pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org.

OHIO Covid-19: Now that testing is more widely available – we wanted to share some of the key resources:

- *Ohio Corona Virus Portal:*
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>
- *Link/Map for Testing Sites:*
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/testing-ch-centers/>
- *Phone for Info:* 1-833-427-5634

LWR Personal Care Kits: Messiah is collecting items to assemble Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations. Collection bins for the items are located by the coffee area. NOTE: Our collection will resume at a later date.

Church Council: the next meeting is on Tuesday, April 20 at 7:00pm.

Church Office Hours This Week:

The Church Office will not be open until further notice. However, we will be checking voicemail and email regularly.

Attendance and Offering for the week of February March 21, 2021:

YouTube Views: n/a

Offering (incl. electronic giving): \$5,399

(NOTE: \$4,000 a week is needed to remain current with our budget)

Lent & Holy Week Worship

Sunday 3/28	Palm Sunday Video Service	10:00am
Thursday 4/1	Maundy Thursday Worship	7:00pm **
Friday 4/2	Good Friday Worship	7:30pm
Sunday 4/4	Easter Holy Communion	10:00am **

** Park and Pray service if weather permits.



Special Acknowledgments

This is our space to honor expressions of appreciation. Email items c/o office@messiahlyndhurst.org by Wednesday at 3pm for publication on the following Sunday. We'll keep submissions in print for two weeks.

- ♥ Nancy Pittard's calming talk of prayer gave us strength and peace.
Thank you for your words.
c/o the Worship Team
- ♥ A special acknowledgment to Kristy Bohinc for putting Wednesday night (3/17) Vespers service all together.
c/o Jim Rase
- ♥ Thank you to Diana Moilanen, Vicki Lester, and Kristy Bohinc for sharing your inspiring creative talents and messages during the Lenten service March 17. The combination of all of the presentations was a celebration of our Lord's Blessings and gifts.
c/o Karen Zak
- ♥ A special thanks to Kristy Bohinc: we at Messiah thank you for stepping up to the plate and filling in for Pastor in his absence. And creating a great slideshow of art and music! Such a memory for us all. Diana - how wonderful to see you dance. Such grace and fluid movement. Thank you for sharing your talent. Adam- a lovely piece and you created its meaning so elegantly. Thank you for your gift.
c/o the Worship Team
- ♥ Wonderful message from Dr. Hansler and Jill Snellman. Their talk was informative and heartfelt. Thank you for sharing this gift with Messiah.
c/o The Worship Team

- ♥ A special thanks to Irene Rogner and Judy Burghart for their insightful thoughts on stewardship as a discipline.
c/o the Worship Team
- ♥ So wonderful to hear Vicki sing again during last week's service! Thank you for sharing your musical gift with us.
c/o Kristy Bohinc
- ♥ We want to thank Pastor, Social Ministry and all those who prayed, called, sent cards to us during our illness with Covid. We so appreciated all those prayers. Jill thank you for delivering social ministries card, candy and cookbook. What a fabulous cookbook!
c/o Morrey & Chris Nuss
- ♥ The Lenten Vespers format is a welcomed inspiration this church season, every part is moving. Thank you, Sarah, for sharing Mindfulness. We are blessed to have superb worship services every Sunday and Lenten Vespers online. The prelude music with church visuals sets the reflective mood. The message and information in the Children's Moments touches all ages. Thank you everyone for sharing your talents and time. It can be a monumental task and is much appreciated.
c/o Karen Zak