



# Service of the Word

The Resurrection of our Lord. Easter Sunday

Liturgical Year A  
April 12, 2020

## Messiah Lutheran Church

Lyndhurst, Ohio + 440.442.6941 + [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://messiahlyndhurst.org)

# Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church!

**It is good to be together, even if we are meeting online.** If you are new to Messiah, you can find out more about our community at [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://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](http://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](mailto: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:

<b>Minister</b>	The Rev. Paul Moody
<b>Organist</b>	Glenn Odenbrett
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Tom Griffith
<b>Reader</b>	Judy Burghart

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*

ELW #365

Thomas Trost, trumpet soloist

Stephen G. Jones, trumpet descant composer

*(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.)*

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are raised with him to new life.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*(Water may be poured as the presiding minister gives thanks)*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning you created us in your image  
and planted us in a well-watered garden.  
In the desert you promised pools of water for the parched,  
and you gave us water from the rock.  
When we did not know the way,  
you sent the Good Shepherd to lead us to still waters.  
At the cross, you watered us from Jesus' wounded side,  
and on this day, you shower us again with the water of life.  
We praise you for your salvation through water,  
for the water in our daily lives,  
and for all water everywhere.  
Bathe us in your forgiveness, grace, and love.  
Satisfy the thirsty, and give us the life only you can give.  
To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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. God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

# WORD

## **FIRST READING**

**Jeremiah 31:1-6**

*God's final word is always "Yes." Because God's love is everlasting, God always remains faithful. Ancient Israel is assured that it will be rebuilt and have plentiful crops. The people of God too will ultimately be reunited.*

<sup>1</sup>At that time, says the LORD, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

<sup>2</sup>Thus says the LORD:

The people who survived the sword  
found grace in the wilderness;  
when Israel sought for rest,

<sup>3</sup>the LORD appeared to him from far away.

I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

<sup>4</sup>Again I will build you, and you shall be built,  
O virgin Israel!

Again you shall take your tambourines,  
and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.

<sup>5</sup>Again you shall plant vineyards

on the mountains of Samaria;  
the planters shall plant,  
and shall enjoy the fruit.  
<sup>6</sup>For there shall be a day when sentinels will call  
in the hill country of Ephraim:  
"Come, let us go up to Zion,  
to the LORD our God."

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

## PSALM

## Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

*This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. (Ps. 118:24)*

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God's mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare,  
"God's mercy endures forever."**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the  
righteous:**

**"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>"This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter."

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has this been done;  
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

## SECOND READING:

**Acts 10:34-43**

*Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, "receives forgiveness of sins through his name."*

<sup>34</sup>Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

**Matthew 28:1-10**

*Sorrow gives way to "fear and great joy" when two women are sent by an angel to proclaim the good news: Jesus is risen!*

The Holy Gospel According to Saint Matthew:

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took

hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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

## **SERMON**

Pastor Paul Jones Moody

*(Please observe a moment of silence after the sermon)*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Be Not Afraid*  
ELW #388

*(The hymn will be taught in the worship service; please listen and respond as you are able)*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*(A brief silence)*

God of resurrection, from the very beginning you give the church the gift of women as your witnesses: as preachers, teachers, and leaders (*especially*). Open our ears to their proclamation this day and always. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All your creation praises you—the earth hums, the seas pulse, the stars shine, and the galaxies whirl in glorious harmonies to honor you. Let us hear and blend our voices in the song. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The countries of the world experience disunity and conflict; we set our minds on fear and greed rather than on your rule of justice and steadfast love. Build up all countries on your cornerstone of peace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We still weep with those who weep, and mourn with those who mourn. Cradle the fearful, the suffering, and the dying, assuring them of your loving presence (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless the creative and helpful service of worship leaders this day: musicians, ushers, greeters, worship assistants, preachers, readers, and all others who provide welcome and hospitality in our midst. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*(Here other intercessions may be offered)*

Risen Lord, you went ahead of us into the grave and defeated the powers of evil. We remember those who have died (*especially*). Inspire us to live our lives in this resurrection hope and draw us to you in our final days. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; 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**

*(Please give your tithes and offerings by mail or electronically at [messiahlyndhurst.org](http://messiahlyndhurst.org))*

# 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**

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead  
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,  
and turn your mourning into dancing.  
Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

*Be Not Afraid*  
ELW #388

*(The hymn will be taught in the worship service; please listen and respond as you are able)*

## DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.  
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*(Please observe a moment of silence before the postlude)*

## POSTLUDE

*The Strife is O'er*  
ELW #366

Thomas Trost, trumpet soloist  
Stephen G. Jones, trumpet descant composer

### **Messiah Staff Members**

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

### **Attributions**

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Griffith.

## ***Prayers***

**Prayer Team & Prayer Partners:** Prayer is a vital part of the Christian life. Messiah has a Prayer Team which will pray with you and for you. If you have a prayer request, please complete a blue Prayer Request Cards – available in the sanctuary – which offer the following 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:** Judy Robards, Lynn Pfenninger, Will Grotto, Jay Imel, Jayne Imel, Denise and Rich Jennings, Karen Murphy, Lisa Perry, Brian Rase, Takuya Sato, Helen Wolfe, Julia, and all families 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.**

**Financial Secretary Message re: Holiday Giving:** Just a reminder, if generic offering envelopes are used for designated holiday giving (e.g. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Ash Wednesday, Christmas), please designate the religious holiday if you want that offering to be part of the particular holiday giving. If it is not specified, the counting teams will assume it is part of your regular pledge. Otherwise, the designated giving goes to institutions or charities as recommended by the Social Ministry Committee and approved by Church Council. If you have questions, please contact Tom Griffith.

**LWR Personal Care Kits:** This Lent, we're joining Lutheran World Relief, in a Season of Hope, to announce to the world the HOPE of Christ. Messiah is collecting items to assemble LWR 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. Our goal is 50 kits! PLEASE NOTE: Our collection will resume at a later date.

**Miles of Quarters:** To help with Messiah's budget deficit, we are collecting a mile of quarters. That is over 63,000 quarters – more than \$15,000. Put your quarters in the glass jug by the picture easel. PLEASE NOTE: Our collection will resume at a later date.

**Stewardship Committee:** We are pleased to announce that Irene Rogner has agreed to serve as Stewardship Committee Chairperson. Anyone interested in joining the Stewardship Team should contact Irene directly.

The next **Church Council meeting** is on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 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 April 5, 2020:

YouTube Views: 91

Offering (incl. electronic giving): \$9,405.00

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

**Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS):** The Social Ministry committee has placed educational posters about the ELCA's history of helping refugees through the work of the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS). Take a look at the new posters in the coffee area when you are able, or check out the LIRS website: <https://www.lirs.org/>.



## ***Special Acknowledgments***

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

- ♥ Special thanks for all people involved in making the services available. For Maundy Thursday – Pastor Paul and Katie, Barb Decker, Kristy Bohinc, Vicki Lester and Glenn Odenbrett (and anyone else I may have missed).  
*c/o Jim Rase*
- ♥ A very special thank you to EVERYONE making communications and services possible for us at this time. It is welcomed, needed, and very much appreciated.  
*c/o Karen Zak*

# ***Easter Lily Remembrance***

## **Purchased By:**

Dan and Barb Decker

Paul Lawrence

Bob and Twyla Lucas

Dorothy Schneider

Michael and Karen Zak

## **In Memory Of:**

Our Parents: Howard & Adele  
Decker and Rueben & LouAnn  
Johnson

Kathleen Lawrence

Loved Ones

George Schneider

Departed Loved Ones