



12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337

<http://www.messiahalescorners.com> ☩ Email: LBerthal@MessiahHC.org

Luke Bernthal, Pastor

Paul Tiefel, Principal

Levi Schaller, Teacher

Carrie Reim, Teacher

Phone: 402-389-2147


Phone: 715-869-3733

Phone: 715-529-4368

Phone: 715-529-4030

January 5, 2025

Second Sunday After Christmas

A close-up photograph of a silver hourglass with white sand, resting on a surface of sand. The hourglass is positioned on the left side of the image, and the sand is piled up around its base.

But when the set
time had fully come,
God sent his Son...

- Galatians 4:4

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 148 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ✠

Greeting and prayer: (Pastor)

Opening Hymn: 390 Let Us All with Gladsome Voice

LSB 390

THE INVOCATION

*We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
(LSB p. 184; TLH page 15)*

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

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

P 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 Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

C O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and by the authority and command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Latin for "Glory to the Father" (LSB p. 186; TLH page 16)



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

THE SALUTATION *(Greeting)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P We pray:

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word, Your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives. We pray this through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

God speaks to us.

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7 (EHV)

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty. Walk before me and be blameless. ²I will make my covenant between me and you, and I will make your descendants very numerous."

³ Abram fell on his face. God spoke with him. He said, ⁴ “As for me, this is my covenant with you. You will be the father of many nations. ⁵ Your name will not be Abram anymore, but your name will be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a large group of nations. ⁶ I will make you extremely fruitful, and I will produce nations from you. Kings will come out of you. ⁷ I will establish my covenant between me and you and your descendants after you as an everlasting covenant throughout their generations. I will be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

THE GRADUAL

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing “Hallelujah!”—meaning “Praise the Lord!”
(LSB p. 190; TLH p. 20)

P Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it. Alleluia!



P The second reading is from Luke 2:41-52.

G **Glory be to Thee, O Lord!**

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:41-52 (EHV)

⁴¹ Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. ⁴² When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. ⁴³ When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. ⁴⁴ Since they thought he was in their group, they went a day’s journey. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵ When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us this way? See, your father and I have been anxiously looking for you.”

⁴⁹ He said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father’s business?” ⁵⁰ They did not understand what he was telling them.

⁵¹ He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵² Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

P Here ends our Gospel reading.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ!

THE NICENE CREED

We boldly confess what we believe. (LSB p. 191; TLH p. 22)

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 410 *Within the Father's House* (please stand for last verse) LSB 410

Sermon Text: Galatians 4:4-7 (EHV)

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, "Abba, Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if you are a son, then you are also an heir of God through Christ.

Sermon Theme: The Birth That Changed Everything

1. It Changed History

† In what ways did Christ's birth change history?

2. It Changed Your History

† In what ways did Christ's birth change your history?

THE OFFERTORY

(LSB p. 192-193; TLH p. 22-23)

C 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.

THE OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS

In tangible evidence of our gratitude, we offer the Lord the gift of our money, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.

THE GENERAL PRAYER

(Pastor)

Sermon Hymn: "Now Are the Days Fulfilled"

TLH 99

- 1. Now are the days fulfilled, God's Son is manifested,
Now His great majesty In human flesh is vested.
Behold the mighty God, By whom all wrath is stilled,
The woman's promised Seed--Now are the days fulfilled.*
- 2. Now are the days fulfilled, Lo, Jacob's Star is shining;
The gloomy night has fled Wherein the world lay pining.
Now, Israel, look on Him Who long thy heart hath thrilled;
Hear Zion's watchmen cry: Now are the days fulfilled.*
- 3. Now are the days fulfilled, The child of God rejoices;
No bondage of the Law, No curses that it voices,
Can fill our hearts with fear; On Christ our hope we build.
Behold the Prince of Peace--Now are the days fulfilled.*

Text & Tune: Public Domain

THE PREFACE/ PROPER PREFACE

*Now we approach the Sacrament, the Lord's Supper, in which the Lord comes to bless us with His very body and blood.
We move toward the Sacrament with prayers of thanksgiving and songs of adoration. (LSB p. 194; TLH p. 24-25)*

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly fitting, right, and spiritually beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lived among us as a human being and revealed His glory as Your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

THE SANCTUS

Latin: "Holy." We join our voices to the angels who sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy" round about His throne and we welcome Him with the Palm Sunday multitude who sang, "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!" (LSB p. 195; TLH p. 26)



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

(Pastor)

The words spoken by Jesus the night He instituted the Lord's Supper by which our Lord assured to His Church the real presence of His sacramental body and blood for all time.

PAX DOMINI

Latin: "The Peace of the Lord." (LSB p. 197; TLH p. 28)

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always!



C A - men.

THE AGNUS DEI

Latin: "Lamb of God." As we approach the Table of Forgiveness, we want to think only of that Lamb of God who was sacrificed for us on Calvary's cross. (LSB p. 198; TLH p. 27)



C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.

(Song continues on next page ->)

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

THE DISTRIBUTION

✠ For the distribution we will start with those who would like to partake of the Lord’s Supper from the pew. After that, those who would like to come up to the altar steps will partake as directed by our usher.

Note to our Guests: We are so glad you are worshiping with us today! The Word of God treats the Lord’s Supper with great care. The Word of God considers the Lord’s Supper to be a wonderful Means of Grace – a way in which Christ forgives and blesses. It is also considered an opportunity for congregations to express unity and oneness (1 Corinthians 10:16-17) – that is, to say to the world, “This is what we believe!” But God’s Word also warns against taking the Sacrament to our judgment (1 Corinthians 11:27-30). For these reasons our congregation asks that you fully understand our teachings before partaking. We respectfully ask that those who have joined this congregation through public confession of faith, or who are members of another congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC) approach the altar at the usher’s direction. Speak to our pastor anytime and he will be glad to provide the information you would need – and want. We look forward to communing together, Lord willing, in the future.

Communion Hymns: 620 LSB; 622 LSB; 623 LSB

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Latin: “Now Dismiss.” Simeon’s words after seeing the Christ Child. (Luke 2:29-32)
(LSB p. 199-200; TLH p. 29)

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac - cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with out end. A - men.

THE BENEDICTION

The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26). (LSB p. 202; TLH p. 31)

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



A A - men, a - men, a - men.

Closing Hymn: 392 *God Loves Me Dearly* *(please stand for last verse)*

LSB 392

Announcements



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

Today:
 1/5/25

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

This Week: Monday – **School Resumes at MLS**
Tuesday – **Technology Committee Meeting – 6pm**
Board of Education Meeting – 7pm
Wednesday – **The Villa in Greenfield Worship Service – 10am**
Wednesday Bible Class – 6:30pm (Zoom & In-Person)
(see Zoom link in announcements below)
Thursday – **Board of Property Meeting – 6pm**

Next Sunday: *Epiphany Sunday*
1/12/25 **Choir – 8am**
Worship – 9am
Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

In Your Mailbox – Messiah Church & School Calendar - January

Pastoral “Get to Know Each Other” Visits / Pastor Luke’s Contact Info – After the Christmas season I will be resuming “face to face” visits with our members. These include a short devotion and some time to get to know each other. Wherever is most convenient and comfortable for you will work just fine for me (my office, your home, a coffee shop, etc.). Feel free to contact me via email, text, or phone call if you know of a day and time that will work for you. If I don’t hear from you, rest assured, I will be contacting you! I look forward to meeting you all and getting to know each other better soon! In Christ, Pastor Luke

Pastor’s Contact Info

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

Wednesday Evening Bible Study Begins this Week – 1/8 @ 6:30pm-7:30pm – Please make plans to join us either in-person or online via Zoom for our Wednesday Evening Bible Class beginning this **Wednesday, Jan. 8th @ 6:30pm**. We will be studying selected Psalms. To join online please click on Pastor Luke’s Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8729663333>

CLC Call News - Pastor Del Maas of Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN has **returned** the call to St. Stephen Lutheran Church and School, Mountain View, CA. <> Pastor George Dummann of Salem Lutheran Church, Eagle Lake, MN has **returned** the call to Faith Lutheran Church, Manchester, MO.

2025 CLC Mission Helper Trip - The application deadline for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal is quickly approaching. Applications need to be submitted by Monday, January 13th, 2025. Space is limited for this trip, but there are still spots remaining, so please apply soon. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>

Bible Readings:

1/5	Isaiah 60:1-6; Ps. 72; Matt. 2:1-12; Eph. 3:1-12
1/6	Gen. 5; Psalm 6; Matt. 4:1-11
1/7	Gen. 6; Psalm 7; Matt. 4:12-25
1/8	Gen. 7:1-12; Psalm 8; Matt. 5:1-20
1/9	Gen. 7:13-8:5; Psalm 9; Matt. 5:21-42
1/10	Gen. 8:6-9:7; Psalm 10; Matt. 5:43-6:15
1/11	Gen. 9:8-29; Psalm 11; Matt. 6:16-34



SCAN FOR
ONLINE
OFFERING

January Ushers

Erik Nelson
Tony Blue
Chris Blue

January Slideshow

Kenny Winters

Cleaning Team 1/11-1/17

D/C Albrecht
Weibye
E/E Weaver
R. Busse

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings:	\$6,119.23	\$197,749.03
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,571.29	\$222,853.54
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$2,451.96)	(\$25,104.51)
Missions:	\$300.00	\$1,505.00
MDF:	\$80.00	\$660.00
Kinship:	\$100.00	\$2,471.96
MSAF:	\$170.00	\$525.00
IIF:	\$300.00	\$845.35

Attendance Last Sun. (12/29): 82

Christmas Eve (12/24): 144 /Christmas Day (12/25): 112

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