



I will not  
leave you  
as orphans;

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*The Lutheran Church-  
Missouri Synod*

1308 Whitley Rd.  
Keller, TX 76248

**Sunday School &  
Adult Bible Class**  
9:30am

**Sunday Worship**  
8:00am, 10:45am

**CHURCH OFFICE**  
(817) 431-2345

**Rev. Thomas Chryst**  
Senior Pastor

**Rev. Brennick Christiansen**  
Assistant Pastor

**CLASSICAL ACADEMY**  
(817) 431-5486

[www.messiahkeller.org](http://www.messiahkeller.org)

[www.mlcatexas.org](http://www.mlcatexas.org)

I will  
come to you

JOHN 14:18

**FOR OUR VISITORS....**



**Welcome! We encourage you to follow along** with either the printed service, or with the hymnal. The page numbers for the hymnal are posted at the front of the sanctuary and on the next page. We realize it can take a while for newcomers to become familiar with our liturgy, so please feel free to ask someone near you for assistance—he or she would be happy to help.

**We love children in our church!** But if your little one gets fussy you may use the **cry room** that is located at the north end of the hallway behind the sanctuary on your right. You are able to see and hear the worship service from there. We also have "**Quiet Bags**" available for children to use during the service. Please ask an usher or elder if you need assistance. The Quiet Bags are returned after the service.

**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated in our services today. In this supper, our Lord Jesus Christ graciously feeds the humble sinner with His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture clearly teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning that body and blood receives a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of a Christian concern for souls, we require a thorough instruction in the teachings of the Lutheran Church before participating in this Sacrament. Participation at the altar is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:17). Since unity at the altar presupposes unity in doctrine and confession (Acts 2:42), we kindly request that **only those who are in confessional fellowship** with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod participate. This includes active members in good standing of all sister Missouri-Synod congregations.



We recognize that **Closed Communion** is a sensitive issue for many and have a brochure to explain it more thoroughly. It is available in the narthex or from an usher. If you have any questions or concerns, you are welcome to speak with our pastor. However, **we welcome** both children and adults who are not communicant members of the Lutheran Church to come to the altar during communion for a pastoral blessing. Please indicate the request for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.



Follow the QR code to visit our "**Virtual Guestbook**" and tell us about yourself and your visit with us.

***This bulletin is available in large print upon request.***

# Divine Service—Setting Two—LSB 167

**Hymns:**

769, 556, 490

**Hymns During Distribution:**

469, 655, 603

**Sermon Title:**

*“The Descent into Hell”*

**Scripture:**

1 Peter 3:13-22

**Prelude**

Prelude on the first tone – Jacques Boyvin

FARLEY CASTLE (“Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ”)

– setting by Alfred V. Fedak and Sam Eatherton

NUN FREUT EUCH (“Dear Christians, One and All,

Rejoice”) – Benjamin Kolodziej

**Postlude**

*Little Prelude and Fugue in C-major*, by J. S. Bach,

BWV 553

**[10:45AM]: Anthem**—“*Peace I Leave with You,*”  
by Amy Beach, from John 14:27

**[10:45AM]: Hymn of the Day**—**Dear Christians,  
One and All Rejoice, LSB 556, Choir Only st. 3, 6, & 9**

## The Lord Jesus Comforts Us with the Preaching of His Resurrection

“The God who ... gives to all mankind life and breath and everything” (Acts 17:24–25) wants all people to seek Him that they might “feel their way toward him and find him” (Acts 17:27). But in our sinful ignorance, we humans turn instead to idols “formed by the art and imagination of man” (Acts 17:29). Therefore, God appointed the Man of Righteousness, Jesus Christ, and “has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead” (Acts 17:31). Because He lives, we also live (John 14:19) in His forgiveness, and thus we love Him and keep His commandments (John 14:15). While the risen Lord prepares us for His ascension, He will not leave us “as orphans” (John 14:18), but He gives “another Helper,” the Holy Spirit, to be with us forever (John 14:16) through the preaching of “Jesus and the resurrection” (Acts 17:18). Because He “suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous” (1 Peter 3:18), we “honor Christ the Lord as holy” and are always “prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks” for the reason for our hope (1 Peter 3:15). Our Baptism “now saves” us “as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21)



### Serving in God’s House Today

		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
<b>Organist:</b> Miguel Ruiz			
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Nikki O’Dell Carrie Ratsch	<b>Head Elder:</b>	Steve Latham	Stephen Inglehart
	<b>Head Usher:</b>	Chris Nietenhoefer	Paul Cigainero
<b>Counters:</b> Cathy Keto Laurie Ward	<b>Acolytes:</b>	Sam Sifford	Noah Ruiz Seth Ruiz
	<b>Crucifer/ Altar</b>	Ethan Salgado	Cory O’Dell

*The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Matthew & Emelia Latham to the glory of God and in honor of their wedding anniversary.*

## Introit

*Psalm 119:89-96; antiphon: v. 105*



*Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path.*

Forever, | O LORD,\*  
your word is firmly fixed in the | heavens.

**Your faithfulness endures to all gener- | ations,\***

**you have established the earth, and it | stands fast.**

By your appointment they | stand this day,\*  
for all things are your | servants.

**If your law had not been | my delight,\***

**I would have perished in my af- | fliction.**

I will never forget your | precepts,\*  
for by them you have giv- | en me life.

**I am yours; | save me,\***  
**for I have sought your | precepts.**

The wicked lie in wait to de- | stroy me,\*  
but I consider your testi- | monies.

**I have seen a limit to all per- | fection,\***  
**but your commandment is exceed- | ingly broad.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

*Your word is a lamp to my feet  
and a light to my path.*

## Collect of the Day

O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## Gradual

adapted from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ is risen from the dead.

God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put everything under his feet.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS: May 10-16

10: Num. 3:1-16, 39-48  
*Num. 4:1-8:4*  
Luke 14:25-15:10

14: Num. 11:1-23, 31-35  
Luke 17:1-19

11: Num. 8:5-6  
Luke 15:11-32

15: Num. 11:24-29; 12:1-16  
Luke 17:20-37

12: Num. 9:1-23  
Luke 16:1-18

16: Num. 13:1-3, 17-33  
Luke 18:1-17

13: Num. 10:11-36  
Luke 16:19-31

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY



Messiah wishes  
all mothers a  
truly blessed and  
wonderful  
Mother's Day!



This morning we welcome  
**Edythe Hedman**  
into membership in the 10:45am service.

Please greet her following the service.

## THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 05/10 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE  
- 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE  
- 10:15AM - VBS VOLUNTEER MEETING—MLCA LUNCHROOM  
- 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 05/11 - 9:30AM - BRAILLE WORKSHOP—MAC BUILDING

TUESDAY 05/12 - 9:30AM - JOY BIBLE STUDY—FELLOWSHIP HALL

WEDNESDAY 05/13 - 6:00PM - SCHOOL BOARD MEETING—RECEPTION ROOM  
- 6:30PM - ALTAR GUILD MEETING—FELLOWSHIP HALL

THURSDAY 05/14 - 7:00PM - ASCENSION DAY DIVINE SERVICE

FRIDAY 05/15

SATURDAY 05/16 - 7:00AM - MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY—ROSA'S CAFÉ HWY 377  
- 3:00PM - MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR RUDI MILBITZ

### • NOTICE •

There will be a **Special Voters' Meeting** next **Sunday, May 17th**, at 12:00pm!  
Please refer to the Look Ahead email for more information.

### THE HOUSEHOLD AT PRAYER

Make prayer a daily habit for your family. Do as much of this as is helpful. Gather together in one place. Set aside all distractions as best as you are able. Before or after meal works well. The most important part is reading the Bible.

*Scripture: John 1:14*

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory,**

*What is Sacrament of the Altar?*

**It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and the wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.**

*Where is this written?*

**The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Saint Paul write:**

**(sung) 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 cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."**

### READINGS

**Mon:** The Fall of Judah to Babylon - 2 Chronicles 36;11-21 / Jeremiah 39:1-18

**Tue:** Ezekiel's Vision and Call - Ezekiel 1:1-28 and 2:1-3:3

**Wed:** Daniel and His Three Friends Are Taken to Babylon - Daniel 1:1-21

**Thu:** Ascension Day - Acts 1:6-11

**Fri:** King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream and Daniel's Interpretation - Daniel 2:1-49 Review

**Sat.:** The Promise of the Holy Spirit & The Ascension - Acts 1:1-11

**Sun:** Jesus Appears to the Disciples & The Ascension—Luke 24:44-53

### HYMNS

**700 1, 2** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

**625 1, 3** "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread"

**525 1, 4, 5** "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

# Please keep in your prayers...

**Wendell Wahlstedt**, pacemaker surgery on Friday

**Carole Cohen**, sister of **Bob Knipp**, hospitalized with pneumonia and an unidentified secondary virus.

**The wife and son of Dan Gholston**, friends of **Susan Holder**, as they mourn Dan's death last Sunday evening.

**We continue to pray for our members and loved ones battling cancer:** Karen Bentle, Mandy Demick, John DiCesare, Tim Speight, Rob Bentley, Randy Gay, Denny Knutson, Joan Beach, Linda Pancake, Wayne Kirkland, Ken & Carolyn Blume, Gaelina Strader, Sarah Jarrett, Mike Vandergriff, Rev. Ernie Bernet, Janie Peter, David Grissom.

**...also those with other illnesses and trials:** Don Knutson, Terry Swender, Michael Hanson, Aaron Koppelberger, Bruce Lage, Marilyn Curry, Nikki McLeroy, Marilyn Kivit, Brian Cade's mother, Abby Carpenter, Ron Klingbeil, Karen Shrum, Vicky Krolczyk, Matt Hinde, Lee Masoian, Alli Burk, Amy Lyon, the Lewis family, Chelsea Lage, Grant Smith, William Johnstone, Marlene Eaton, Wes Liles, Mary Lowry, Patsy Smith, Shelby Renfro, Connie Worley Ramsey, Brooke Lage, The Lowry Family, Sandy McDougal, Jacob Brewer.

**...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly:** Susan Copen, Carolyn Blume, Don & Marilyn Curry, LaVina Goedecke, Ron and Barbara Busse, Ronald and Brenda Patterson, Marvin Wilken.

**...all of our college students in and out of state:** Ashley Brewer, Jacob Brewer, Colby Carter, Seminarian David Christensen, Maranda Crutchfield, Dorian Crutchfield, Paul Hedman, Ethan Johnson, Cole O'Dell, Ryan O'Dell, Clara O'Neil, Daniella Osorio, Helena Phillips, Aidan Richmond, Davis Richmond, Mia Salgado, Max Tonniges, Charlie Umayam, Audrey Weber, Emily Weber, Morgan Chryst, Matthew Palmer.

**We remember all those serving our country, particularly our members and loved ones in the military:** Carly Schwarzenburg, Jesus Aranda, Hannah Kajer, Nicolas Towers, Tony Bourassa, Tyler Burk, David Cantrell, Cassie Gessling, Joseph Kajer, Seth Kirch, Andrew Latham, Andrew Lowry, Hannah Pinkston, Brandon Towers, Frank Wilde, Chaplain Peter J. Williams.

## **We also pray for...**

- Our Braille ministry, that the Word will continue to reach the blind or visually impaired around the world.
- Messiah's educational ministry, especially our Academy, Preschool, Sunday School, and our Catechumens.
- Fellow Messiah members, married couples and children, young couples, singles, Pastor Chryst, and Pastor Christiansen.
- The voters, church council, and leaders of Messiah Church and School as they deliberate on the work the Lord has given His people to do.
- Our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- The spread of the Gospel around our nation and world and the work of our missionaries and relief workers.
- Rev. Dr. Michael Paul and his work in Taiwan.
- The Swaddling Clothes ministry and those who come seeking assistance.
- Those studying at seminary, including David Christensen (4th Year), Tanner Sawall (4th Year), Abram Egger (1st Year), and Vicar Peter Williams, as they prepare to serve in the Holy Ministry.
- Prayers for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine.

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MLCA Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30am—3:30pm.  
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm



**MLCA is hiring teachers for the 2026-2027 school year.** For more information, you may call the school office at 817.431.5486, or you may send your resume to [schooloffice@mlcatexas.org](mailto:schooloffice@mlcatexas.org).



**MESSIAH VOLLEYBALL**—If you are interested in playing volleyball on Sunday afternoons, please text **Jinel Munoz at 214-514-5871**. You'll then be included in a group text for determining time, turnout, and possible weather factors.



**Pregnancy Help 4 U** is looking for families, small groups, and church members (kids, teens, and adults all welcome!) to participate in their **Baby Bottle Bowling Bash on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, from 1:00-3:00** ~ a special event to kick off PH4U's Baby Bottle Campaign! At the event, church members will receive baby bottles to take home, to be filled with spare change, cash, or checks over the following weeks, then returned to PH4U by June 30<sup>th</sup>. The group that raises the most through their bottles will win **a gift card to Main Event!**

**LOCATION:** Main Event, 2601 Presidio Vista Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76177

**TICKETS:** \$75 per bowler

**TEAMS:** 4-6 Bowlers

**SIGN UP:** <https://giving.myamplify.io/App/Form/d98a5853-4711-4ec5-a964-c958070683eb>



**Music Ministry Search Committee**—To begin addressing our music ministry needs, the Voters' Assembly authorized the formation of a search committee. Please let church leadership know if you have any candidate suggestions. And most of all, please pray—for wisdom, unity, and that the Lord would provide a faithful, talented Lutheran musician to serve our congregation and support our worship life.



**A Life Thought in the Church Year for May 10 - Sixth Sunday of Easter** - Like Athens at the time of the Apostle Paul's preaching (Acts 17:16), this world is full of idols. Today's idols may take on a different shape, but they are just as deadly. These idols craftily disguise themselves with practical-sounding words and phrases, such as "reproductive health care" and "death with dignity." The One True God, the Lord of Life, offers a better way. Jesus says, "Because I live, you will also live" (John 14:19). Though in this life we may be tested and tried like silver, and what may appear to be a crushing burden is laid on our backs, the Lord God has promised to bring us into a place of abundance (Psalm 66:10-12). We have been given the Helper, the Spirit of Truth, who dwells in us (John 14:16-17), that we may serve God in our various vocations as Gospel-motivated voices for Life, always being ready to make a defense for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15).



**LCMS Stewardship—John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments."** Jesus is clear: our obedience to His Word comes from our love for Him. But where does that love come from? Jesus tells us that as well: "Her sins, which are many, are forgiven — for she loved much" (Luke 7:47). Christ shows us His love and gives us the forgiveness of our sins, which causes love to well up in us and thereby keep the commandments of Jesus. For after all, the summary of the Law is "love."

**PREMIER CONFERENCE FOR LUTHERAN LAITY... You're invited to attend the 2026 Issues, Etc. "Making the Case" Conference**, Friday, June 12 and Saturday, June 13, at Concordia University Chicago. Speakers include: Mollie Hemingway of The Federalist, LCMS President Matt Harrison, Megan Basham of The Daily Wire, Pastor Will Weedon of The Word of the Lord Endures Forever, Erin Hawley of Alliance Defending Freedom and YouTuber Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller. Registration is \$160 and includes three meals. Reduced room rates, including on-campus dorms, are available. For more information, visit [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org) or call (618) 223-8385



**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: 92 10:45am: 163 Total: 255**  
Sunday School: 127— **OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$ 10,951.75**(includes online giving to Gen. Fund)

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS NEEDED TO FUND THE CURRENT YEAR BUDGET: \$ 19,549.00**

**You may use this QR code for your convenience if you would like to give to Messiah. It will direct you to our Vanco System for electronic giving.**



### About the Cover

God's hand is always with us. In Christ, we have been adopted into the very family of God. Because we are members of this eternal family, Christ, our Brother, the Son of God raised from the dead, will never leave us as orphans. Through Christ's work on the cross and His resurrection, our Father in heaven sees us as His sons and daughters. Today, Jesus comes to us through His Word and Sacraments. One day, He will return to raise us and take us to be with Him as part of His eternal family forever.

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### First Reading: Acts 17:16–31

<sup>16</sup>While Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup>So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup>Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, "What does this babbling wish to say?" Others said, "He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities"—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup>And they took hold of him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup>For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean." <sup>21</sup>Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup>So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup>for

"In him we live and move and have our being";

as even some of your own poets have said,

"For we are indeed his offspring."

<sup>29</sup>Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup>The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup>because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a

man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

### Epistle: 1 Peter 3:13–22

<sup>13</sup>Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup>But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup>but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; <sup>16</sup>yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup>For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

### Holy Gospel: John 14:15–21

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup>even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."