



## 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)

*But Jesus  
touched them, saying,  
"Rise,  
and have no fear"*



## FOR OUR VISITORS....



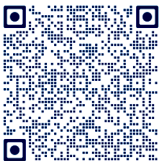
**Welcome! We encourage you to follow along** with either the printed service, or with the hymnal. The page numbers for the hymnal are posted at the front of the sanctuary and on the next page. We realize it can take a while for newcomers to become familiar with our liturgy, so please feel free to ask 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 Four—LSB 203

**Hymns:**  
413, 414, 417

**Hymns During Distribution:**  
415, 402, 395

**Sermon Title:**  
*Mountaintop Experience*

**Scripture:**  
*Matthew 17:1-9*

**Prelude:**

DEO GRACIAS (“O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair”)  
– settings by John Eggert and Richard Hillert  
POTSDAM (“’Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”)  
– Keith Kolander

**Postlude:**

*Fugue in E major* – J. S. Bach, BWV 878



## God Manifests His Glory in the Body of Christ Jesus, Transfigured for Us by His Cross

The Transfiguration confirms “the prophetic word ... to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place” (2 Peter 1:19). The divine glory of Jesus is manifested in the word of His apostles, who were “eyewitnesses of his majesty” (2 Peter 1:16). “He was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun” (Matt. 17:2). Moses and Elijah witnessed the fulfillment of the Old Testament in this Lord Jesus, and the Father testified concerning Him: “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Matt. 17:5). By His own blood, shed on the cross, Jesus makes and seals the new covenant with us. Hence, “the appearance of the glory of the LORD” is no longer “like a devouring fire” (Ex. 24:17), but it is graciously revealed in His own body. As “Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel” went up the mountain with Moses and “beheld God, and ate and drank” (Ex. 24:9, 11), we also behold the Lord our God in Christ Jesus, and we abide with Him as we eat and drink His body and blood at the altar.

### Serving in God’s House Today

<b>Organist:</b> Miguel Ruiz		<b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b>
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Linda Beecroft Debbie Lee	<b>Head Elder:</b>	Stephen Inglehart	Jim Ward
	<b>Head Usher:</b>	Chris Nietenhoefer	Paul Cigainero
	<b>Acolytes:</b>	Jaxon Kirby	Dalton Jacobs
<b>Counters:</b> Laurie Ward Herbert Herrmann	<b>Crucifer/ Altar</b>	Ethan Salgado	Cory O’Dell

*The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Linda Pinkston to the glory of God and in memory of her mother, Judith Walker.*



[illegible]

The LORD reigns; let the peoples | tremble!\*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the | earth  
quake!

The LORD is great in | Zion;\*

he is exalted over all the | peoples.

Let them praise your great and | awesome name!\*

Ho- | ly is he!

The King in his might loves | justice.\*

You have established equity; you have executed  
justice and righteousness in | Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his | footstool!\*

Ho- | ly is he!

They called to the LORD, and he | answered them.  
In the pillar of the cloud he | spoke to them;\*  
they kept his testimonies  
and the statute that he | gave them.  
O LORD our God, you | answered them;\*  
you were a forgiving God to them,  
but an avenger of their wrong- | doings.

*Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy  
mountain;  
for the LORD our God is holy!*

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*sung by the Cantor*

*Praise the LORD, all nations!  
Extol him, all peoples!  
For great is his steadfast love toward us,  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.  
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!*

One of Messiah's traditions, which comes from a long history in the Church, is the **"Farewell to Alleluias"**, as we sing our closing hymn **"Alleluia, Song of Gladness"**, which dates to the 11th century. At the end of the service on Transfiguration Sunday, we **ceremonially remove the Alleluia banner from the sanctuary**. In this way we begin the fasting season of Lent, a penitential time of preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Like fasting from food, the purpose of putting away the word "Alleluia" for a season serves only to **heighten the joy when it returns**, as we celebrate Christ's **resurrection on Easter Sunday**. Times of weeping for Christians always eventually give way to the joy of Easter, especially at the final resurrection. Therefore, our Alleluias never truly end.

## THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 02/15 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE  
- 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE  
- 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 02/16 - 9:30AM - BRAILLE WORKSHOP  
- 6:00PM - CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 02/17 - 9:30AM - JOY GROUP BIBLE STUDY  
- 7:00PM - CONFIRMATION III

WEDNESDAY 02/18 - 6:00PM - LENTEN MIDWEEK MEAL - FELLOWSHIP HALL  
- 7:00PM - ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

THURSDAY 02/19 - 6:00PM - PASTOR'S SPRING CLASS

FRIDAY 02/20

SATURDAY 02/21 - 7:00AM - MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY

### "The Twelve Apostles"

This year our Lenten Midweek Vespers services will take a closer look at the Twelve Apostles. Each week, beginning after Ash Wednesday and culminating on Maundy Thursday, we will consider two of the Twelve. Through their lives, the ups and downs, their questions and stories, we will draw closer to Christ and prepare to observe Holy Week and Easter.

#### **Evening Meal at 6pm, Vespers at 7pm:**

**February 18: Ash Wednesday**  
**(meal hosted by Altar Guild—Baked Potato Bar)**

**February 25:**  
Peter and Andrew  
**(meal hosted by MLCA MAP—Italian/Pasta)**

**March 4 -**  
James and John  
**(meal hosted by Paul Lara and The Munoz Family—Mexican Food from Rosa's)**

**March 11 - Philip and Nathanael**

**March 18 - Thomas and Matthew**  
**(Spring Break—No Meal)**

**March 25**  
James, Son of Alphaeus and Jude

**April 2: Maundy Thursday**  
Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot  
**(7pm Divine Service - No Meal)**

Please note that we need groups or families to host meals on March 11 and 25. If you are willing to host one of the meals, please contact the church office to let us know which date you would like and what meal you would like to provide.

Please also note that while we do have Divine Service at 7:00pm on Maundy Thursday, April 2, there will be no meal before that service.

# Please keep in your prayers...

**Marilyn Kivit**, who is hospitalized after falling and breaking her hip this week.

**Susan Muncy, sister of Linda Brown**, who has liver cancer, and who had a stroke followed by surgery last weekend.

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

**...also those with other illnesses and trials:**

Bruce Lage, Karen Shurm, Abby Carpenter, Peggy Wahlstedt, Ron Klingbeil, Lief Stratmoen, Karen Shrum, Vicky Krolczyk, Dennis Nietenhoefer, Matt Hinde, Lee Masoian, Alli Burk, Amy Lyon, the Lewis family, Bruce Lage, Jaden Chisholm, Chelsea Lage, Grant Smith, William Johnstone, Marlene Eaton, Kris Carter, 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:** Janet Hazlehurst, Ridi Milbitz, 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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Pastor Christiansen: [pastor.christiansen@messiahkeller.org](mailto:pastor.christiansen@messiahkeller.org)  
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Church Office Administrator: [linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org](mailto:linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org)  
MLCA Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30am—3:30pm  
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm

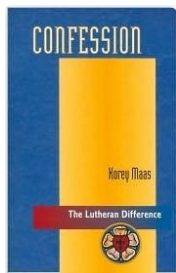


**The season of Lent begins Wednesday, Feb 18th, with Ash Wednesday service.**

Once again, we will have meals at 6:00pm, before our midweek services at 7:00pm. **We still need hosts for meals on March 11 and 25.** We are asking for groups and families to consider hosting these meals as an opportunity to serve your fellow saints at Messiah. If you are interested, please email [churchoffice@messiahkeller.org](mailto:churchoffice@messiahkeller.org).



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** VBS this year will be **June 15-18**. More details, including registration information, will be coming soon!



**NEW LADIES' BIBLE STUDY** Make plans to join us beginning March 5th at 6:30pm. We will meet in the Library, and will begin studying *The Lutheran Difference: Confession*, by Rev. Korey Maas. This 4 week study, based on God's Word as faithfully reflected in the

Lutheran Confessions, will help you to state clearly what you believe about repentance, confession, and absolution. It will help you explain the "why" of what you believe. If you would like to participate, please contact Linda at [linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org](mailto:linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org).



**A Life Thought in the Church Year for February 15 (Transfiguration)**

In the Transfiguration of Jesus, we see that the glory of the Almighty God was hidden in the human flesh of our Lord. What a great reminder that God can work remarkable and glorious things through that which the world views as normal and ordinary. God, who can bring about the restoration of the fallen world through human flesh and blood, can also do wonderful and amazing things through surprise pregnancies, people born with severe disabilities, and those with terminal illnesses. Instead of turning to death in these cases, we should look for the ways that God might be hiding His good and gracious will in them.



**Matthew 17:8 - "And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only."**

Jesus is enough. Moses and Elijah point to Jesus and are happy to fade into the background. With our eyes focused on Him and Him alone, the rest of our lives come into focus. He is primary, all else secondary. When that order is right in our lives, things truly fall into place.



**EDUCATION AND EDIFICATION...**

**Issues, Etc.** is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: The Religious Beliefs of Abraham Lincoln, Why Feminism Can't Be Fused with Christianity, Is Christianity a Psychological Crutch?, The Hymn "If God Himself Be For Me" and more. You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.



**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: 101 10:45am: 127 Total: 228**

**Sunday School: 110 OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$ 22,297.16** (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

Terrified disciples  
with their faces  
to the ground  
felt the touch  
of their merciful  
Lord. The power  
of the sight of the  
transfigured Lord  
is only matched  
by the power of  
His mercy, which  
removes fear. His  
glory is found on  
His cross, where  
He gave His life  
for the sake of  
sinners and rose  
from the dead,  
forever removing  
the terror of  
judgment for sin  
and giving eternal  
peace through  
forgiveness, life,  
and salvation.

## THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

### Old Testament Reading: Exodus 24:8–18

<sup>8</sup>And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. <sup>11</sup>And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” <sup>13</sup>So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.”

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. <sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

### Epistle: 2 Peter 1:16–21

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.

<sup>17</sup>For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” <sup>18</sup>we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. <sup>19</sup>And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, <sup>20</sup>knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. <sup>21</sup>For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

### Holy Gospel: Matthew 17:1–9

<sup>1</sup>After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. <sup>3</sup>And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” <sup>5</sup>He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” <sup>8</sup>And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

<sup>9</sup>And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”