



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

www.mlcatexas.org

*‘Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey...*

(Matthew 21:5b



Painting, "Entry Into Jerusalem," by Pedro de Orrente, circa 1620

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.

Divine Service—Setting One—LSB 151

Hymns:

343, 332, 331

Hymns During Distribution:

333, 621, 357

Sermon Title:

"Christ is Coming"

Scripture:

Matthew 21:1-11

Prelude:

NUN KOM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND ("Savior of the Nations,
ComCome")

-settings by J. S. Bach (BWV 799), Charles Ore,
Johann Gottfried Walther, and Karen Keene

Postlude:

NUN KOM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

-setting by Mark E. Bloedow

Anthem [8:00]:

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns,"
arr. Michael Larkin, LSB 348

Hymn of The Day-LSB 332 [8:00]:

Choir only stanzas 3 & 5

Psalms 122

[8:00]: sung by choir [10:45]: sung by cantor

The Lord Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us Now

The Lord Jesus enters Jerusalem "humble, and mounted on a donkey," riding on "a beast of burden" (Matt. 21:5), as He Himself bears the sins of the world in His body. Now He comes by the ministry of the Gospel to save us from sin, death, the devil and hell. Therefore, we sing, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matt. 21:9). For we are called "to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob," His Holy Church, "that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths" (Is. 2:3). By His Word, we "walk in the light of the LORD" (Is. 2:5). That is to live in love, which "does no wrong to a neighbor" (Rom. 13:10). We "cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light," for "salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed" (Rom. 13:11, 12). Hence, the entire Christian life is a time to wake and watch, "for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matt. 24:42).

Serving in God's House Today

Organist: Miguel Ruiz

Altar Guild: Carrie Ratsch
Nikki O'Dell

Counters: Ken Pedersen
Corrine Latham

Head Elder:

Steve Latham

Head Usher:

Eric Weber

Acolytes:

Jaxon Kirby

**Crucifer/
Altar
Assistant**

Ethan Salgado

8:00 a.m.

10:45 a.m.

Dale Addink

Durand Crutchfield

Asher Ruiz

Evan Munoz

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given to the glory of God by Bob Knipp in loving memory of his dear friends Kelly Williams, June Peske, and Mark Priddy.

Introit *Psalm 118:25–28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.*



*Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.*

Out of my distress I called | on the LORD;*
the LORD answered me and | set me free.
The LORD is on my side; I | will not fear.*
What can man | do to me?

The LORD is on my side as my | helper;*
I shall look in triumph on those who | hate
me.

Save us, we pray, | O LORD!*
O LORD, we pray, give | us success!
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the
LORD!*
We bless you from the house | of the LORD.

**The LORD is God, and he has made his light
to shine up- | on us.***

**Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to
the horns of the | altar!**

You are my God, and I will give | thanks to
you;*

you are my God; I will ex- | tol you.

**Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is
good;***

for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

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.

*Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.*

Collect of the Day

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by
Your protection we may be rescued from the
threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your
mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.

Psalm: *sung by the choir/cantor*

Psalm 122, setting by David Erb

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go into the house of the Lord.”
Our feet have been standing Within your gates, O Jerusalem!
Jerusalem is built As a city that is compact together, Where the tribes go up, The tribes of
the Lord,
To the Testimony of Israel, To give thanks to the name of the Lord.
For thrones are set there for judgment, The thrones of the house of David.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces.”
For the sake of my brethren and companions, I will now say, “Peace *be* within you.”
Because of the house of the Lord our God I will seek your good.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 11/30 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
- 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
- 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 12/01

TUESDAY 12/02 - 9:30AM - JOY GROUP
- 7:00PM - CONFIRMATION 3

WEDNESDAY 12/03 - 6:00PM-- ADVENT MEAL—TACOS, PROVIDED BY MLCA PARENTS
- 7:00PM - ADVENT EVENING PRAYER SERVICE

THURSDAY 12/04 - 6:00PM - BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MEETING

FRIDAY 12/05

SATURDAY 12/06 - 7:00AM - MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST—ROSA'S ON 377
ALTAR GUILD DECORATING SANCTUARY (ALL DAY)

CATECHESIS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 6

Scripture: Romans 10:17

So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

What is The Lord's Prayer in Latin

Pater noster qui es in caelis, sanctificetur nomen tuum, advéniat regnum tuum, fiat voluntas tua sicut in caelo et in terra. Panem nostrum cotidianum da nobis hodie; et dimitte nobis debita nostra sicut et nos dimittimus debitoribus nostris, et ne nos inducas in tentationem, sed libera nos a malo. Quia tuum est regnum, et potestas, et gloria in saecula. Amen

READINGS

Mon: Saul Resents David – 1 Samuel 17:55-18:16
Tue: David Marries Michal – 1 Samuel 18:17-29
Wed: Saul Persecutes David – 1 Samuel 19:1-18
Thu: Jonathan Befriends David – 1 Samuel 20:1-23
Fri: Isaiah 11:1-10 (OT Reading)
Sat: Matthew 3:1-12 (NT Reading)

HYMNS

516 1, 3 “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”
332 1-4 “*Savior of the Nations, Come*”
338 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: November 30—December 13

30: Is. 6:1-7:9
1 Peter 2:13-25

1: Is. 7:10-8:8
1 Peter 3:1-22

2: Is. 8:9-9:7
1 Peter 4:1-19

3: Is. 9:8-10:11
1 Peter 5:1-14

4: Is. 10:12-27a, 33-34
2 Peter 1:1-21

5: Is. 11:1-12:6
2 Peter 2:1-22

6: Is. 14:1-23
2 Peter 3:1-18

7: Is. 24:1-13
1 John 1:1 – 2:14

8: Is. 24:14 – 25:12
Obad. 1-21
1 John 2:15-29

9: Is. 26:1-19
1 John 3:1-24

10: Is. 26:20 – 27:13
1 John 4:1-21

11: Is. 28:14-29
1 John 5:1-21
2 *John 1-13*
3 *John 1-15*

12: Is. 29:1-14
Jude 1-25
13: Is. 29:15 – 30:14
Rev. 1:1-20



ADVENT MIDWEEK SERIES 2025

"The Saints are Coming"
Advent Meal at 6:00 pm
Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm

The theme for this year's Advent midweek services will be "The Saints are Coming".
We will consider Christ coming and making holy His Church in the lives of...

St. Andrew, the first of our Lord's twelve disciples,
apostle and brother of Simon Peter.

St. Thomas the twin,
apostle and confessor of our need to apprehend Jesus in the body.

St. Lucia, martyr and confessor,
known for confessing the true Light amidst the darkness of sin.

We'll begin our Wednesday evenings together with a meal at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall, followed by The Office of Evening Prayer at 7:00 in the Sanctuary.

Week 1 ~ December 3rd: "St. Andrew"
Ezekiel 3:16-21; Romans 10:8b-18; John 1:35-51
<https://allthehousehold.com/st-andrew/>
(Meal: Tacos, provided by MLCA Parents)

Week 2 ~ December 10th: "St. Lucia"
Genesis 2:15-25; 2 Corinthians 10:17-11:2; Matthew 13: 44-52
<https://allthehousehold.com/st-lucia/>
(Meal: Baked Potato Bar, provided by The Chryst Family)

Week 3 ~ December 17th: "St. Thomas"
Judges 6:36-40; 1 John 1:1-10; John 20:19-31
<https://allthehousehold.com/st-thomas/>
(Meal: Soup & Salad, provided by MLC Youth Group)

Christ the savior is born.

*"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a
Savior, who is Christ the Lord" – Luke 2:11 ESV*

Merry Christmas and God's Blessing to all who call Him their Savior. At the close of the year while looking back at the blessings God continually gives us with the ability to overcome fear and trust in His protection and provision, it is good to remember and give thanks for those who bless us in His name. Many various ideas may come to mind when this is mentioned, with the gift of family and friends to varying levels. However, one of the steady blessings we have as a church family is each other, especially the generous staff who consistently gives us their time and talents. Whether it be preaching, speaking, teaching, serving, witnessing, or making music, the church and school staff at Messiah and MLCA have shown us the meaning of serving in the way our Lord would ask us to.

The Board of Elders recognizes this and asks that if it be in your heart to do so, show your appreciation with us by contributing to a Christmas gift fund that will be shared amongst the church staff. Any amount that you feel appropriate will be welcomed and warmly accepted with thanks. If intending to contribute via cash or check, please place it in a sealed envelope marked "Staff Gift" and put it in the offering plate or give it directly to an Elder to ensure it is received and recorded correctly. If contributing via the electronic tithing website, the appropriate tag will be available. The gifts will be presented to the staff after the Candlelight Service on Christmas Eve by the Elder group on behalf of the congregation.

Please remember that this is a gift of goodwill, not obligation. It is a blessing for us to have wonderful individuals leading us through meaningful and Spirit-filled services and activities. We only ask that if you have the means and desire to do so, to provide a material gift to the group of people we are blessed to call our church leadership and team.

In closing, we would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas with the happiness and comfort that comes with God's love.

In His name and with the blessing of Christmas to all of you,

2025 Board of Elders



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

On Christmas Eve the chancel area will be decorated with beautiful red poinsettias, donated by congregation members. We need 60 plants for our poinsettia “trees” plus additional plants for the chancel area. **This year the cost is \$12.00 per plant.** Poinsettias are donated for the primary purpose of adorning the sanctuary, but donors are welcome to take their plants home following the 10:00am service on Christmas Day.

Please make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church, marked “Poinsettias.” Place payment and this completed form in **the O’Dell Mailbox** or in the basket on the mailbox counter **by December 31st.**

Name (printed as you would like in the bulletin (the _____ Family, for example):

Number of Plants: _____

Check Amount: _____ (\$12.00 ea)

Make plans to join us for Christmas Services

December 24th

5:00pm ~ Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

7:30pm ~ Evening Prayers

December 25th

Divine Service ~ 10:00am



Please keep in your prayers...

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: Dennis Nietenhoefer, Janet Hazelhurst, Lisa Preston, Matt Hinde, Lee Masoian, Alli Burk, Amy Lyon, Jaana Phillips, 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: Sandra Hyden, Carolyn Blume, Susan Copen, Don & Marilyn Curry, Rudi Milbitz, LaVina Goedecke, Janet Hazelhurst, Ron and Barbara Busse, Ron Klingbeil, 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.
- Our educational ministry, especially our Academy, Sunday School, and 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. Solomon Yadessa and his work with the Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas.
- 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 Eggers (1st Year), and Vicar Peter Williams, as they prepare to serve in the Holy Ministry.
- Prayers for peace in the Middle East and Ukraine.

Pastor Chryst: pastor.chryst@messiahkeller.org
Pastor Christiansen: pastor.christiansen@messiahkeller.org
Director of Parish Music: miguel.ruiz@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Office: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
MLCA Preschool: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
School Board Chair: schoolboardchairman@mlcatexas.org
Board of Trustees: trustees@messiahkeller.org

Financial Director: jinel.munoz@messiahkeller.org
Financial Secretary: financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org
Church Office: churchoffice@messiahkeller.org
Church Office Administrator: linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30am—3:30pm.
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm



MLCA is hiring! MLCA is in **immediate need** of a permanent teacher for Grades 6-8 for the current school year. This is a full-time position. If you or someone you know might be interested in this position, please contact Mrs. Smith at alison.smith@mlcatexas.org for more information!

Jesus' Family Tree



2025 Advent Devotions
Written by Pastor Mark Birkholz
Zion Lutheran Church - Naperville, Illinois

Rev. Dr. Mark Birkholz of Zion Lutheran Church in Naperville, Illinois, has written an **Advent Devotion resource for 2025**. Beginning on November 30th, this daily Advent devotional follows the **genealogy of Jesus according to St. Matthew's Gospel**. Pastor Birkholz has generously shared these devotions, and I am happy to set them before you with his permission. May they serve you well as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of our Savior. You may find the devotion at <https://tinyurl.com/pv6kcjcy>



November 30 – Advent 1 — Matthew 21:3 – “If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” Just a colt and her foal. How significant could they be? Could they really be used by the Lord for some great, heavenly purpose? This is one facet of stewardship we often forget: the blessing it is to us to be of service in the Lord’s Kingdom. What honor the Lord bestows upon us by using our gifts for His goals



SACRED MUSIC FOR THE ADVENT SEASON...

“Savior of the Nations, Come,” “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry,” “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending,” “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding,” “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.” You can listen to sacred music for the Advent season 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.



A Life Thought in the Church Year for November 30 – Advent 1:

Being a Gospel-motivated voice for life means loving all our neighbors, regardless of their size, condition, or past. As servants in the Master’s house (Matthew 24:43), we not only need to be prepared for Christ’s coming (Matthew 24:44; Romans 13:11), we should be eager to make all others ready, preaching the Gospel to them, inviting them “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord” (Isaiah 2:3) that they, too, might be brought into the safety of the ark of the holy Church.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: **97** 10:45am: **102** (Total) **199**
Sunday School: **93** **OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$15,330.18** including 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.

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

It shall come to pass in the latter days
that the mountain of the house of the LORD
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be lifted up above the hills;
and all the nations shall flow to it,
and many peoples shall come, and say:

“Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.”

For out of Zion shall go the law,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations,
and shall decide disputes for many peoples;
and they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Epistle: Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, “Go into the village in front 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, you shall say, ‘The Lord needs them,’ and he will send them at once.” This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

“Say to the daughter of Zion,
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.’”

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, “Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!” And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said, “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”