



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



³“...A sower went out to sow.
⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path,
and the birds came and devoured them.
⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil,
and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil,
⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched.
And since they had no root, they withered away.
⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.
⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold,
some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear...

(Matthew 13)

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 Three—LSB 184

Hymns:

823, 586, 743

Hymns During Distribution:

766, 577

Sermon Title:

“The Reckless Sower”

Scripture:

Matthew 13

Prelude

JESU, MEINE FREUDE (“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”)

– J. S. Bach, BWV 610

ST. FLAVIAN (“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”)

– Jan Bender

ES WOLL UNS GOTT GENAIG SEIN (“May God

Bestow on Us His Grace”) – Benjamin Culli

Postlude

Fugue in G minor – J. S. Bach, BWV 578



***The Preaching of the Word of Christ
Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love***

As *“the rain and the snow come down from heaven”* and *“water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout”* (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as *“an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off”* (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to

understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and *“indeed bears fruit”* (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who *“have received the Spirit of adoption as sons”* (Rom. 8:15). Thus being *“led by the Spirit of God,”* we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we *“also be glorified with him”* (Rom. 8:17).

Serving in God’s House Today

		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Organist: Miguel Ruiz			
Altar Guild: Nikki O’Dell Carrie Ratsch	Head Elder:	Andrew Latham	Brian Cade
	Head Usher:	Chris Nietenhoefer	Paul Cigainero
Counters: Laurie Ward	Acolytes:	Silas Christiansen	Matthias Loeffler
	Crucifer/ Altar	Cory O’Dell	Nathan Munoz

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Bob Knipp to the Glory of God and in honor of his grandparents, Raymond & Mary Edna Knipp, and his dear friends, Elmer & June Priddy.

Introit

Psalm 65:1-9



¹Praise is due to you, O God, in | Zion,*
and to you shall vows | be performed.

²**O you who | hears prayer,***
to you shall | all flesh come.

³When iniquities prevail a- | gainst me,*
you atone for our trans- | gressions.

⁴**Blessed is the one you choose and bring near,**
to dwell | in your courts!*

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your
house,

the holiness of your | temple!

⁵By awesome deeds you answer us with
righteousness,

O God of our sal- | vation,*
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the | farthest seas;

⁶**the one who by his strength established the |**
mountains,*

being girded | with might;

⁷who stills the roaring of the seas,
the roaring | of their waves,*

the tumult of the | peoples,

⁸**so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth**
are in awe | at your signs.*

You make the going out of the morning and the
evening to | shout for joy.

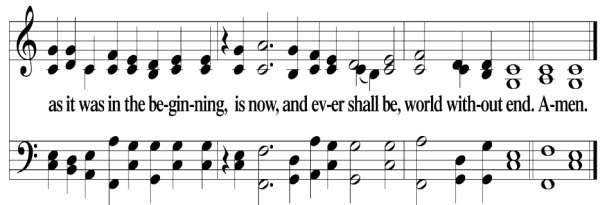
⁹You visit the earth and water it;

you greatly enrich it;

the river of God is full of | water,*

you provide their grain,

for so you have pre- | pared it.



Collect of the Day

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual *sung by the Kantor* Romans 11:33, 36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be glory forever. Amen.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: July 12-25

12: Judg. 7:1-23
Judg. 7:24-12:15
Gal. 1:1-24

13: Judg. 13:1-25
Ruth 1:1-4:22
Gal 2:1-21

14: Judg. 14:1-20
Gal. 3:1-22

15: Judg. 15:1-16:3
Gal. 3:23-4:11

16: Judg. 16:4-30
Judg. 17:1-21:25
Gal. 4:12-31

17: 1 Sam. 1:1-20
Gal. 5:1-26

18: 1 Sam. 1:21-2:17
Gal. 6:1-18

19: 1 Sam. 2:18-36
Acts 15:22-41

20: 1 Sam. 3:1-21
Acts 16:1-22

21: 1 Sam. 4:1-22
Acts 17:1-34
Acts 16:23-40

22: 1 Sam. 5:1-6:3, 10-16
Acts 18:1-11, 23-28

23: 1 Sam. 6:19-7:17
Acts 19:23-21:14
Acts 19:1-22

24: 1 Sam. 8:1-22
Acts 21:15-36

25: 1 Sam. 9:1-27
Acts 21:37-22:16

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 07/12 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
- 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
- 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 07/13

TUESDAY 07/14

WEDNESDAY 07/15

THURSDAY 07/16

FRIDAY 07/17

SATURDAY 07/18

SAVE THE DATE

Join us on **Sunday, August 2**, following the second service, for a Farewell Potluck Luncheon honoring **the Ruiz Family**.

Come enjoy food and fellowship, and help us wish the Ruiz family God's blessings as they begin their next chapter.

The church will provide part of the meal. Please consider bringing a side dish, dessert, or beverage to share.

A sign-up list will be available soon.

Now Enrolling

Messiah Lutheran Classical Academy & Preschool are enrolling now
for the 2026-2027 School Year.

Serving ages 2-8th Grade

Call or email today to schedule a tour!

817-431-5486

schooloffice@mlcatexas.org



MESSIAH LUTHERAN
CLASSICAL ACADEMY



MESSIAH LUTHERAN
CLASSICAL ACADEMY
Preschool

Please keep in your prayers...

Tim Tomlinson, father of **Rebecca Tomlinson**, who fell and had to have surgery due to blood clots resulting from the fall.

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.

...also those with other illnesses and trials: Marilyn Kivit, Cheryl Traub, Family of Selina Doughty and David Grissom, Adam Greer, Connie Wesley Ramsey, Wendell Wahlstedt, Carole Cohen, Family of Dan Gholston, Terry Swender, Michael Hanson, Aaron Koppelberger, Bruce Lage, Marilyn Curry, Nikki McLeroy, Marilyn Kivit, Brian Cade's mother, Abby Carpenter, Ron Klingbeil, Vicky Krolczyk, Matt Hinde, Lee Masoian, Alli Burk, Amy Lyon, the Lewis family, Chelsea Lage, Grant Smith, William Johnstone, Marlene Eaton, Wes Liles, 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, Ethan Johnson, Clara O'Neil, Daniella Osorio, 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.

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

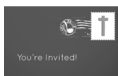
Financial Director: jinel.munoz@messiahkeller.org
Financial Secretary: financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org
Church Office: churchoffice@messiahkeller.org
Church Office Administrator: linda.pinkston@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Summer Hours: Tue-Thurs, 9:00am—2:00pm.
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-3pm



MLCA is hiring. The academy is in need of an **Algebra/Geometry teacher** for the 2026-2027 school year. This is a **part-time position, consisting of approximately 10 hrs/week.**

To apply, you may send your resume to schooloffice@mlcatexas.org, or for more information you may call the school office at **817.431.5486.**

Symposium on 1 and 2 Kings—Christ Lutheran Church in Lubbock, TX is hosting a 3-day Symposium (August 3-5) on 1 and 2 Kings, featuring Dr. Walter A. Maier III, Professor of Old Testament and Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. The symposium includes Matins, Vespers, and an opening night dinner. For details and to register, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/ym47s2sc>



Our Redeemer Lutheran in Dallas invites all LCMS Lutheran young adults to an evening of conversation, fellowship, and fun in a relaxed setting at DFW Fowling! Whether you're hoping to make new friends or explore the possibility of a future relationship, this event provides an opportunity to meet other Lutheran singles who share a common confession of faith.

For more information and to register, please visit punchbowl.com/parties/lcsmixer.



A Life Thought in the Church Year for July 12 - Pentecost 7: Oh, how many sins against life occur because the devil has snatched the Word of God from peoples' hearts and because the cares of this earthly life choke out the Word (Matthew 13:19-22)! We are often tempted to withhold preaching the Word to some, thinking that we know which people will believe and bear fruit. However, God calls us to continue casting out His Word onto every type of soil, knowing that His Word never returns to Him empty and will accomplish His purpose (Isaiah 55:11), sometimes in the most unlikely of places.



LCMS Stewardship Ministry—Romans 8:12 - “So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.” We owe the flesh, the world and the

devil nothing at all. We are not debtors to these enemies; we are freed by the blood of Christ. We are joyful servants in Christ's kingdom — servants that He calls friends. We share our Lord's plans and purposes, and this gives direction and purpose to our lives.



DIVORCE & REMARRIAGE SERIES...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to a series of interviews with Dr. Benjamin Mayes, author of the new book “Divorce and Remarriage: Ecclesiastical Discernment and Pastoral Care” at issuesetc.org/divorceandremarriage.



On The Line (OTL) is a podcast

dedicated to revolutionizing how Lutheran theology is communicated, featuring interviews with leading experts in theology, culture, and the Christian faith, offering confessional Lutheran insights. Use the QR Code below to check out the most recent episode, an interview with Rev. Zachary Zender, discussing discipleship, Christian formation, the crisis of nominal Christianity, and what it actually looks like to follow Jesus in everyday life. , an Evangelical Free pastor who offers an outsider's perspective on the LCMS.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: 60 10:45am: 103 Total: 163
 Sunday School: **92** — **OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$17,801.92** (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.



SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the
eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my
mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I
sent it.

¹²“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their
hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

Epistle

Romans 8:12-17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors,
not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.

¹³For if you live according to the flesh you
will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death
the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all
who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of
God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of
slavery to fall back into fear, but you have
received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by
whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit
himself bears witness with our spirit that we
are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then
heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with
Christ, provided we suffer with him in order
that we may also be glorified with him.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

¹That same day Jesus went
out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And

great crowds gathered about him, so that he
got into a boat and sat down. And the whole
crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them
many things in parables, saying: “A sower
went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some
seeds fell along the path, and the birds came
and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky
ground, where they did not have much soil,
and immediately they sprang up, since they
had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose
they were scorched. And since they had no
root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell
among thorns, and the thorns grew up and
choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil
and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some
sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him
hear. . . .

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When
anyone hears the word of the kingdom and
does not understand it, the evil one comes and
snatches away what has been sown in his
heart. This is what was sown along the path.
²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this
is the one who hears the word and
immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has
no root in himself, but endures for a while, and
when tribulation or persecution arises on
account of the word, immediately he falls
away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns,
this is the one who hears the word, but the
cares of the world and the deceitfulness of
riches choke the word, and it proves
unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good
soil, this is the one who hears the word and
understands it. He indeed bears fruit and
yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another
sixty, and in another thirty.”