



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

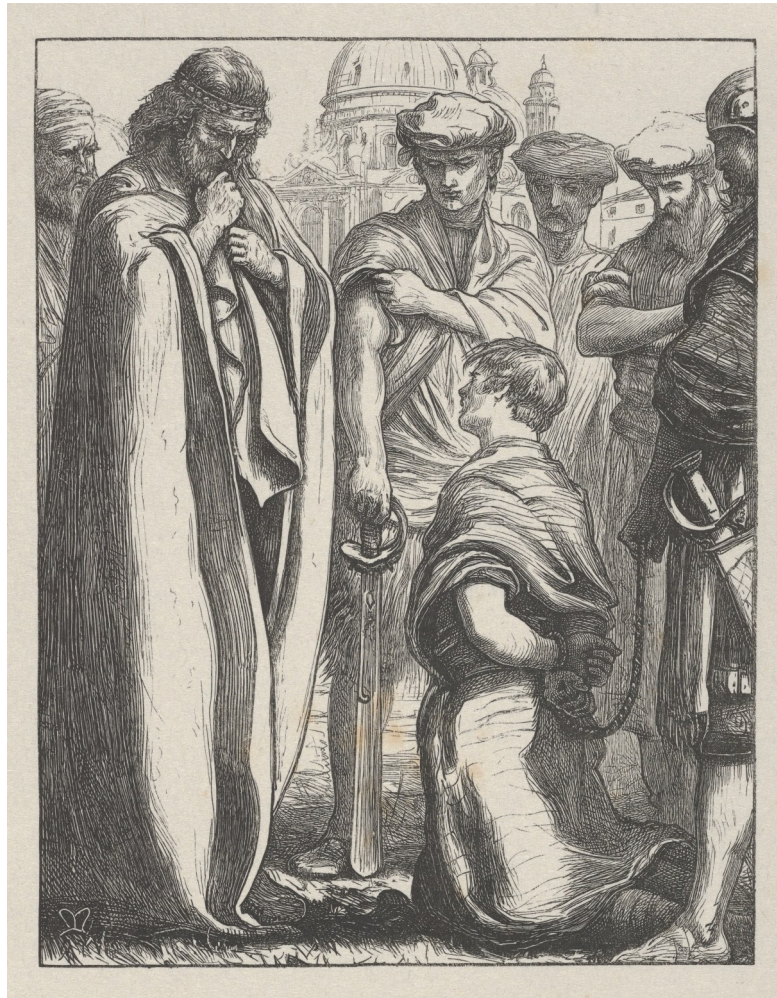
Rev. Thomas Chryst
Senior Pastor

Rev. Brennick Christiansen
Assistant Pastor

CLASSICAL ACADEMY
(817) 431-5486

www.messiahkeller.org

www.mlcatexas.org



*³²Then his master summoned him and said to him,
You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.
³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant,
as I had mercy on you?
³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers,
until he should pay all his debt.
³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you,
if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."*

(Matthew 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:
785, 504, 845

Hymns During Distribution:
697, 628

Sermon Title:
Debt

Scripture:
Matthew 18:21-35

Gradual—will be sung by all, using psalm tone provided on the next page of the bulletin



Forgiving as the Lord Forgives Us

In settling His accounts with us, our Lord acts not with anger, but with compassion. He does not imprison us as we deserve, but He forgives all our debts and releases us (Matt. 18:23-27). Therefore, our Lord bids each of us to have “mercy on your fellow servant” and “forgive your brother from your heart” (Matt. 18:33, 35). By the Lord’s forgiveness of our sins, we are free to forgive those who sin against us, because He has been handed over to the jailers in our stead and He has paid our entire debt with His lifeblood. Whether we live or die, we “are the Lord’s” (Rom. 14:8). Since we all will “stand before the judgment seat of God,” we are not to despise our brother (Rom. 14:10), but gladly forgive him. By the grace of God, our brother also “will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand” (Rom. 14:4). Though we daily sin against each other, the Lord intends “to bring it about that many people should be kept alive” (Gen. 50:20). Jesus speaks kindly by His Gospel and promises: “I will provide for you and your little ones” (Gen. 50:21).

Serving in God’s House Today

Organist: Luke Palmer		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Altar Guild: Nikki O’Dell Carrie Ratsch Laurie Ward	Head Elder:	Steven Latham	David Loeffler
	Head Usher:	Chris Nietenhoefer	Paul Cigainero
	Acolytes:	Luther Kirby	Liam HInskey
Counters: Laurie Ward Cathy Keto	Crucifer:	Sam Sifford	Evan Munoz

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Jim and Laurie Ward to the Glory of God and in memory of Jordan.

Introit

Psalm 143:1–2; antiphon: v. 9



Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!*

I have fled to you for | refuge!

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my

pleas for | mercy!*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your

| righteousness!

Enter not into judgment with your | servant,*

for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.

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.

Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!*

I have fled to you for | refuge!

Collect of the Day

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual: *sung by all* *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*



Fear the Lord, | you his saints, *

for those who fear him lack | nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the | righteous, *

but the Lord delivers him out | of them all.

BLESSING OF COMMUNION VESSELS

Today, Messiah places into service a new set of communion vessels:

Flagon—large vessel for pouring the consecrated wine

Chalice—common cup

Paten—plate for the consecrated host

Pyx—vessel with a lid for the host

Sincere thanks to the donors who helped fund this purchase.

May these vessels serve us well as we employ them to receive God’s most precious gifts!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: SEPTEMBER 13–26			
13: Deut. 11:26-12:12 Matt. 12:22-37	17: Deut. 15:19-16:22 Matt. 13:44-59	21: Deut. 20:1-20 Matt. 15:21-39	25: Deut. 27:1-26 Matt. 17:14-27
14: Deut. 12:13-32 Matt. 12:38-50	18: Deut. 17:1-10 Matt. 14:1-21	22: Deut. 21:1-23 <i>Deut. 22:1-24:9</i>	26: Deut. 28:1-22 Matt. 18:1-20
15: Deut. 13:1-18 Matt 13:1-23	19: Deut. 18:1-22 Matt. 14:22-2	23: Deut. 24:10-25:10 Matt. 16:13-28	
16: Deut. 14:1-2, 22-23, 14:28-15:15 Matt 13:24-43	20: Deut. 19:1-20 Matt. 15:1-20	24: Deut. 25:17-26:19 Matt. 17:1-13	

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 09/13 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
 - 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
 - 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 09/14 - 6:00PM - LADIES' BIBLE STUDY—LIBRARY

TUESDAY 09/15 - 9:30AM - JOY GROUP—FELLOWSHIP HALL

WEDNESDAY 09/16

THURSDAY 09/17 - 8:00AM - NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

FRIDAY 09/18

SATURDAY 09/19

Thank You!

A very special thank you to **Luke Palmer** for playing in our services this morning.



The baby shower for **Josh & Addie Hatch** has been **canceled** because of a scheduling issue.

However, you are still invited to gift them in celebration of the birth of their first child! Any gift would be helpful, and here is a link to Addie's registry:

https://my.babylist.com/addie-hatch?session_synced=true



Please join us for **Sunday School** after the early service or before the late service! We have classes for all ages.

Sunday School classes begin at **9:30 AM**.

Donuts and coffee are available, beginning immediately after the early worship service.

We hope to see you this morning!

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS



The Lutheran Witness is a monthly LCMS publication that features articles on a variety of topics related to Christian life and interests, as well as Synodical news and information. **To subscribe, you may do so at the discounted price of \$32.00/yr through Messiah; this also includes a subscription to the Texas Messenger**, the publication of the Texas District of the LCMS.

If interested, place a check in the offering plate made out to Messiah Lutheran Church, designated **"For Lutheran Witness,"** or bring your check to the church office. **The subscription deadline is October 23rd.**

If you have any questions, you may call or email the church office at 817.431.2345 or churchoffice@messiahlutheran.org

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

Please note that the Men's Breakfast Bible Study **will not meet on Saturday, September 19**. The Study will resume on **Saturday, October 3**, at the regular time and location (7:00 AM at Rosa's Cafe on HWY 377).

Also, if you have never attended, consider joining the October study!

Please keep in your prayers...

Linda Pinkston and family, in the death of Linda's uncle, **Charles Haynes**.

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

...also those with other illnesses and trials: Natalia Boniek, Sharon Boniek, Jacob Brewer, Alli Burk, Brian Cade's mother, Abby Carpenter, Carole Cohen, Marilyn Curry, Marlene Eaton, Helen Fletcher, Family of Dan Gholston, Adam Greer, Michael Hanson, Matt Hinde, Rose Hughes, William Johnstone, Marilyn Kivit, Ron Klingbeil, Aaron Koppelberger, Vicky Krolczyk, Brooke Lage, Bruce Lage, Chelsea Lage, Wes Liles, The Lewis family, The Lowry Family, Amy Lyon, Family of Bob Martin, Lee Masoian, Nikki McLeroy, Sandy McDougal, Family of Keith Leicht, Shelby Renfro, Connie Wesley Ramsey, Grant Smith, Patsy Smith, Terry Swender, Cheryl Traub, Tim Tomlinson, Helen Vacha, Peggy Wahlstedt, Wendell Wahlstedt.

...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly: Carolyn Blume, Ron and Barbara Busse, Don & Marilyn Curry, LaVina Goedecke, 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, Morgan Chryst, Maranda Crutchfield, Dorian Crutchfield, Ethan Johnson, Erin O'Dell, Camilea O'Neill, Clara O'Neill, Daniella Osorio, Matthew Palmer, Ethan Salgado, Mia Salgado, Max Tonniges, Charlie Umayam, Audrey Weber, Emily Weber.

We remember all those serving our country, particularly our members and loved ones in the military: Jesus Aranda, Tony Bourassa, Tyler Burk, David Cantrell, Cassie Gessling, Hannah Kajer, Joseph Kajer, Seth Kirch, Andrew Latham, Andrew Lowry, Hannah Pinkston, Carly Schwarzenburg, Brandon Towers, Nicolas 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 James Buhler (1st year), Vicar Abram Egger, 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
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 Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8:00am—4:00pm
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-4:00pm



A Life Thought in the Church Year for September 13 - Pentecost 16: Joseph was a

man wronged, repeatedly. However, as we find him in Genesis 50, those wrongs against him did not lead him to live with bitterness or a desire for revenge. Instead, we find that God provided him with patience and compassion even against those who had so terribly sinned against him. We are often quick to anger and slow to forgive. May He work patience and wisdom in our hearts when we hear about the numerous ways God's gifts are twisted. Thanks be to God that He is "slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (Psalm 103:8).



LCMS National Mission—September 13— Romans 14:7 - "For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself."

We just don't belong to ourselves — we belong first of all to God, and through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocation: as a Christian you serve others in the church, as a neighbor you serve others in society, and as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother, you serve your family.



YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW...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 subjects include: Social Emotional Learning, The False Masculinity of the Tate Brothers, Gloria Steinem's Legacy, The Gay Rights Movement's Anthropological Problem, and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.



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. This past week, OTL featured a discussion between host, **Rev. Bryan Stecker**, and **Rev. Duncan McLellan**, Senior Pastor at Trinity Lutheran in Waconia, MN, where OTL began. They discuss Pastor Stecker's move to Redeemer Lutheran in Ft. Wayne, IN, and the future plans for OTL in light of that move. Click on the QR code to hear the latest episode.



The fall **Pastor's Class** will begin on **Thursday, September 24**. Class will meet from **6:00 — 8:00 PM** in the Reception Room.

This class is for those interested in becoming Lutheran and those who want to study through the Small Catechism again. Please speak with Pastor Chryst or contact the church office at churchoffice@messiahkeller.org if you are interested in attending.



The fall **Ladies' Bible Study** will begin next **Monday, September 14**, at **6:00 PM**. This 10-week class will meet in the Reception Room and will study the book *Proverbs, God's Gift of Wisdom*. If you are interested, please contact Linda at churchoffice@messiahkeller.org.



North Texas Giving Day is this Thursday, September 17th! But you can give to help MLCA **right now!** Scan the QR Code to the left to give today.

Please help **Messiah Lutheran Classical Academy** reach its \$20,000 goal. Funds raised will support campus and classroom improvements, upper school lockers, teacher and student technology, and other items as needed.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: 76 10:45am: 130 Total: 206

Sunday School: 114 — OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$ 16,253.02 — (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.



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Epistle Romans 14:1-12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall confess to God."

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Holy Gospel Matthew 18:21-35

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?"

²²Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."