



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.mlcateexas.org



*37Finally he sent his son to them, saying,
‘They will respect my son.’*

*38But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves,
‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’*

39And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

(Matthew 21:37-39)

FOR OUR VISITORS....



Welcome! We encourage you to follow along with either the printed service or 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—they 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, then return the Quiet Bags 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 that explains 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 your 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 One—LSB 151

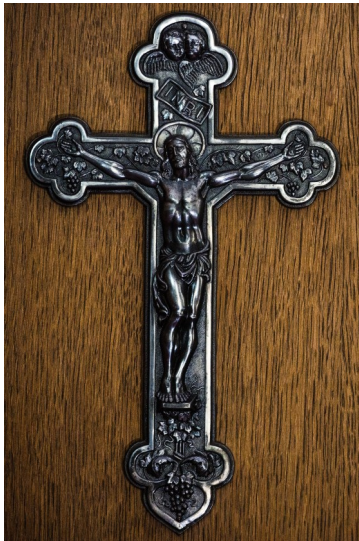
Hymns:
568, 544, 912

Hymns During Distribution:
430, 610

Sermon Title:
"The Vineyard"

Scripture:
Matthew 21:33-46

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



The True Vine Redeems the Vineyard of the LORD of Hosts

"The vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel" (Is. 5:7), which He planted *"on* clearing it of stones and planting it with *"choice vines,"* but also building the *"watchtower"* of His prophets and hewing out the *"wine vat"* of His priesthood in its midst (Is. 5:2). But when *"he looked for it to yield grapes,"* there were only *"wild grapes"* of bloodshed and unrighteousness (Is. 5:2, 7). The Lord Jesus likewise described the unfaithfulness of those who were called to care for His vineyard (Matt. 21:33-35). But in this He also describes His cross and Passion (Matt. 21:38-39), by which He has redeemed the vineyard for Himself. He is the true Vine, planted by death into the ground, and in His resurrection He brings forth *"the fruits in their seasons"* (Matt. 21:41). Among those good grapes of the true Vine is the apostle Paul. Once a zealous persecutor of the Church, he *"suffered the loss of all things"* in order to *"gain Christ and be found in him,"* to *"know him and the power of his resurrection"* (Phil. 3:8-10).

Serving in God's House Today

Organist: Josh Hatch		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Altar Guild: Linda Beecroft Nikki O'Dell Carrie Ratsch	Head Elder:	Andrew Latham	David Loeffler
	Head Usher:	Chris Nietenhoefer	Paul Cigainero
	Acolytes:	Luther Kirby	Matthias Loeffler
Counters: Cathy Keto	Crucifer:	Joseph Kirby	Nathan Munoz

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Ruby Wilson to the Glory of God.

Introit *Psalm 118:22–24; antiphon: v. 1*



Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

The stone that the builders re- | jected*
has become the | cornerstone.

This is the LORD's | doing;*
it is marvelous | in our eyes.

This is the day that the | LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be | glad in it.

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.

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for | he is good;*
for his steadfast love endures for- | ever!

Collect of the Day

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; 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 all* *Psalm 91:11; 103:1*



He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.

Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: OCTOBER 4–OCTOBER 17

4: Deut. 4:21-40 Matt. 8:1-17	8: Deut. 7:1-19 Matt. 10:1-23	12: Deut. 11:1-25 Matt. 12:1-21	16: Deut. 14:1-2, 22-23, 14:28-15:15 Matt 13:24-43
5: Deut. 5:1-21 Matt. 8:18-24	9: Deut. 8:1-20 Matt. 10:24-42	13: Deut. 11:26-12:12 Matt. 12:22-37	17: Deut. 15:19-16:22 Matt. 13:44-59
6: Deut. 5:22-6:9 Matt. 9:1-17	10: Deut. 9:1-22 Matt 11:1-19	14: Deut. 12:13-32 Matt. 12:38-50	
7: Deut. 6:10-25 Matt. 9:18-38	11: Deut. 9:23-10:22 Matt. 11:20-30	15: Deut. 13:1-18 Matt 13:1-23	

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 10/04 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
- 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
- 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE

MONDAY 10/05 - 6:00PM - LADIES' BIBLE STUDY—RECEPTION ROOM

TUESDAY 10/06 - 9:30AM - JOY GROUP—FELLOWSHIP HALL

WEDNESDAY 10/07

THURSDAY 10/08 - 6:00PM - PASTOR'S CLASS—RECEPTION ROOM
- 7:00PM - FESTIVAL CHOIR REHEARSAL

FRIDAY 10/09 -

SATURDAY 10/10 - 7:00AM - BOARD OF ELDERS—RECEPTION ROOM
- 8:30 AM - SWADDLING CLOTHES—MAC BUILDING

Thank You!

A very special thank you to **Josh Hatch** for playing in our services this morning.

2027 Officer & Board Member Nominee Solicitation

The elections for officers and board members will occur at the January 2027 Voters' Assembly. All members 18 years old and older are encouraged to provide recommendations for nominees.

We are using an online form to gather submissions. This form will be available until October 31, 2027 at 11:59 P.M. Scan these codes:

Online Form



Constitution (Refer to Section 4.)



For more information, please read the **Look Ahead** newsletter.

Please direct questions to Steven Latham at Steven.W.Latham@Verizon.net or 214.769.4999.

PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY



The LCMS has designated October as Church Worker Appreciation Month, and next **Sunday, October 11**, is **Pastor Appreciation Day**. Messiah is truly thankful for our wonderful Senior Pastor, Rev. Thomas Chryst, and our Assistant Pastor, Rev. Brennick Christiansen. Please be sure to let them know how much you appreciate their faithfulness in consistently sharing God's good gifts with us.

Please keep in your prayers...

Tim Speight, who remains hospitalized

We continue to pray for our members and loved ones battling cancer: 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, Family of Dan Gholston, LaVina Goedecke, Adam Greer, David Gruben, Michael Hanson, Matt Hinde, Rose Hughes, William Johnstone, Dennis Kitzman, 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, Louise Nelson (daughter of Marilyn Kivett), Shelby Renfro, Connie Wesley Ramsey, Grant Smith, Patsy Smith, Terry Swender, Cheryl Traub, Tim Tomlinson, Peggy Wahlstedt, Wendell Wahlstedt, Jeff Wilson.

...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly: Carolyn Blume, Ron and Barbara Busse, Don & Marilyn Curry, Susan Gruben, 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—3:00pm
Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 8am-4:00pm



A Life Thought in the Church Year for October 4 - 19th Sunday after Pentecost -

Proper 22 A: The master sent servants to harvest, and the tenants beat them and treated them harshly. Even worse, they killed the son. We too can treat the messengers of the Gospel harshly, especially when they speak the truth of God's Law to us. And yet, the Son of God went to the cross for us who are wicked and sinful (Matthew 21), and the vineyard of the Lord will yield good grapes on the last day (Isaiah 5). So, we press on toward that goal of everlasting life and share the Gospel with others, knowing that it is only by the grace of God that we are counted as perfect (Philippians 3).



LCMS National Mission— 19th Sunday after Pentecost—Matthew 21:43 - “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.”

The Pharisees were not bearing fruit. Though they were faithful to the letter of the Law in keeping the Sabbath, tithing and all the rest, they neglected the heart of God's will. The grace of God belongs at the center. Our giving and all our other good works flow forth from receiving God's grace and living in that grace on a daily basis.



REVELATION BIBLE STUDY... The Word of the Lord Endures Forever

is a daily 15-minute verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. Pastor Weedon will begin a study this week on the Book of Revelation this week, and you can listen on demand at thewordendures.org, the LPR mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, and 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, and offering confessional Lutheran insights. This past week, host **Rev. Bryan Stecker** was joined by **Dr. John Bambaro**, Senior Pastor of St. James



Lutheran Church in Lafayette, Indiana, and LCMS Chaplain in the US Navy Reserve. The topic was **The Biblical Vision of Marriage We've Forgotten**. Click on the QR code to hear the latest episode.



REFORMATION DAY FESTIVAL CHOIR

To celebrate Reformation Day, we have put together a festival choir! Rehearsals are on **Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM**. If you are interested in singing with us, please call or text **Carrie Ratsch at (217) 685-3736**.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: — 97 10:45am: — 88 Total: — 185

Sunday School: — 100 — OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$ 6,437.19 (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.



NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

¹Let me sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.
²He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.
³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.
⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard,
that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?
⁵And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.
⁶I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and briars and thorns shall grow up;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.
⁷For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice,
but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness,
but behold, an outcry!

Epistle: Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may

know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21: 33-46

³³[Jesus said:] “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.