



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

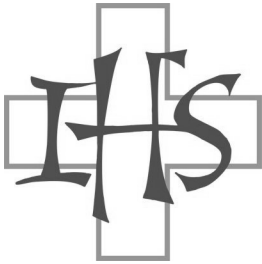
www.mlcateexas.org



⁴⁴[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field,
which a man found and covered up.
Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

(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 One—LSB 151

Hymns:

654, 713, 743

Hymns During Distribution:

536, 542

Sermon Title:

"Treasure"

Scripture:

Matthew 13

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



The Son of God Has Redeemed Us for Himself with His Holy and Precious Blood

The Lord our God has chosen us to be *"his treasured possession,"* not because of any strength in us, but solely *"because the Lord loves"* us (Deut. 7:6–8). He is faithful, and He *"keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments"* (Deut. 7:9). He has searched for us and found us in love, and He has bestowed on us *"great value"* by the great price that He has paid on the cross (Matt. 13:45–46). In His joy, He has redeemed us by His cross and gathered us into His kingdom by the Gospel. Now we are *"hidden in a field,"* covered by the cross and subject to the persecution of the world (Matt. 13:44), not for destruction, but *"to be conformed to the image of his*

Son" (Rom. 8:29). Since we *"are called according to his purpose"* (Rom. 8:28), and because Christ Jesus died, rose again and lives to intercede for us *"at the right hand of God"* (Rom. 8:34), there is nothing in all creation that can separate us from *"the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Rom. 8:39).

Serving in God's House Today

Organist: Felix Ping, Guest Organist		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
	Head Elder:	Roland Towers	Dale Addink
	Head Usher:	Randy Burk	Marty Hobson
	Acolytes:	Luther Kirby	Jacob Lemmon
Altar Guild: Nikki O'Dell Carrie Ratsch	Crucifer/ Altar	Jaxon Kirby	Cory O'Dell
Counters: Veronica Hobson			

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given by Eric & Kendra Weber to the Glory of God and in celebration of their anniversary.

Introit *Psalm 105:2–6; antiphon: v. 1*



Oh give thanks to the LORD; call up- | on his name; *
make known his deeds among the | peoples!
Sing to him, sing prais- | es to him; *
tell of all his | wondrous works!
Glory in his | holy name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD
rejoice!
Seek the LORD | and his strength; *
seek his presence con- | tinually!
Remember the wondrous works that | he has done, *
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his | servant, *
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!
**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; call up- | on his
name; *
make known his deeds among the | peoples!

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an
increase of faith, hope, and love, that,
receiving what You have promised, we may
love what You have commanded; 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* *Romans 11:33, 36*



**Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and
knowl- | edge 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 26-August 8

26: 1 Sam. 10:1-27 Acts 22:17-29	30:1 Sam. 15:10-35 Acts 24:24-25:12	3: 1 Sam. 17:48-18:9 Acts 27:9-26	7: 1 Sam. 20:24-42 1 Sam. 21:1-23:29
27: 1 Sam. 12:1-25 Acts 22:30-23:11	31:1 Sam. 16:1-23 Acts 25:13-27	4: 1 Sam. 18:10-30 Acts 27:27-44	1 Cor. 1:1-25
28: 1 Sam. 13:1-18 Acts 23:12-35	1: 1 Sam. 17:1-19 Acts 26:1-23	5: 1 Sam 19:1-24 Acts 28:1-15	8: 1 Sam. 24:1-22 1 Cor. 1:26-2:16
29: 1 Sam. 14:47-15:9 Acts 24:1-23	2: 1 Sam. 17:20-47 Acts 26:24-27:8	6: 1 Sam. 20:1-23 Acts 28:16-31	



This morning we welcome **Marc Thompson** into membership during the **10:45am** service.

Please greet our new member following the service.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 07/26 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
- 9:30AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
- 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE
- 12:15PM - VOTERS' MEETING

MONDAY 07/27

TUESDAY 07/28

WEDNESDAY 07/29

THURSDAY 07/30

FRIDAY 07/31

SATURDAY 08/01 - 7:00AM - MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY—ROSA'S CAFÉ HWY 377

Thank You! A very special thank you to our guest organist, **Felix Ping**, for playing in our services this morning.

Congratulations to Pastor Chryst on his election as the **West/Southwest Region Representative** of the **LCMS Board of National Mission**. Pastor Chryst will serve a six-year term in this position, while also continuing in his call at Messiah.

The LCMS Board Of National Mission (BNM) is the Synod-level policy board responsible for domestic mission and ministry. Its formal charge is to develop and determine policies that coordinate and support district ministries serving LCMS congregations and schools. It works under the leadership of the Synod President and helps establish goals for the **Office of National Missions (ONM)**.



Dear Messiah Lutheran Church Family,

Thank you so much for helping make our trip to the Higher Things Conference in Fort Collins, CO, possible!

While we were at the conference, we worshiped, learned, and grew together in our faith. We were reminded that our hope isn't found in ourselves or the things of this world—our hope is in Jesus Christ. We learned more about His promises to us and were encouraged by the truth that, because of Him, we have strength for today and victor forever.

We also had an amazing time meeting other Lutheran youth from around the country, making new friends, laughing a lot, and, of course, playing plenty of volleyball!

Thank you for investing in us. Your support gave us the opportunity to grow in our faith, build friendships, and make memories we'll never forget. We are grateful to be part of a church family that loves us, prays for us, and encourages us to keep our eyes on Christ.

Thank you again, and God bless you!

With love,

The Messiah Lutheran Church Youth

Please keep in your prayers...

Jo Ulrich, who has suffered a serious knee injury, and will be seeing an orthopedic specialist.

Bob Martin, friend of Debbie Brashear, who has stage four cancer.

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: Christine Towers, Chelsea Lage, Karen Campbell, Tim Tomlinson, 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 Kroleczyk, 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.

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Pastor Christiansen: pastor.christiansen@messiahkeller.org
MLCA Office: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
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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

FAREWELL POTLUCK BBQ FOR THE RUIZ FAMILY— SUNDAY, AUGUST 2nd

Join us after second service as we celebrate the Ruiz family and wish them God's blessings on their next chapter!

Please take a moment to sign up using the link below to let us know you'll be attending and, if you're able, what you'd like to bring. Your RSVP helps us plan and purchase the right amount of meat for everyone.

If your plans change or you're unable to sign up ahead of time, please don't let that keep you from coming—we'd love to have you join us for this special time of food, fellowship, and celebration.

<https://tinyurl.com/4t2r57u3>



A Life Thought in the Church Year for July 26 - Pentecost 9: God does not love us because of any quality in us, such as our age, physical ability, potential, wisdom, race, etc. (Deuteronomy 7:6-7). God chose to love us from His own good grace and mercy and gave all He had, His own dear Son, to purchase the world from sin and have us as His own possession (Matthew 13:44). In doing so, God reveals that every person—regardless of their age, size, or condition—is a precious treasure to Him and is worthy of our love and protection.



LCMS Stewardship Ministry—Matthew 13:45-46 - “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.” Indeed, Jesus redeemed us, purchased us back from sin and death, with all that He had. We belong to Him now. Our generosity ought to imitate the out-sized generosity of Jesus.



EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS... 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 show topics include: Pope Leo's Encyclical on Artificial Intelligence, The Lord's Prayer in Lutheran Worship, A Lutheran View of the Scholastics, The Population Bust and more. You can listen on-demand 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 has been at the LCMS Convention, delivering daily updates.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE: Last Sunday: 8:00am: 94 10:45am: 124 Total: 218

Sunday School: 111 — OFFERINGS FOR THE WEEK: \$14,135.45 (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.



NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading Deuteronomy 7:6–9

⁶“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

Epistle Romans 8:28-39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Holy Gospel Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”