



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pentecost Sunday

May 24, 2026

THE GATHERING

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP



We welcome you to The Gathering this morning

Our Staff

Cindy Anderson, Parish Administrator Email: secretary@messiah-erie.org

Bonnie Stearns, Director of Utilities

Michelle Flaherty, The Gathering Music Minister: mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org

Pastor Tom Glasoe, Email: pastor@messiah-erie.org Cell: 814-460-8529

2025 Eastern Ave, Erie, PA 16510 814-899-6386 messiah-erie.org

Our Mission:

*Glorifying God through our worship, our witness, our service,
and our support*

Our Vision:

To build and strengthen the body of Christ

Holy Communion

To help you feel more comfortable please know that all baptized Christians who believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament and have already received Holy Communion in your home church, are welcome to come to the altar and receive Holy Communion.

To receive the sacrament:

1. Communicant should receive the consecrated host from the Pastor and then proceed to the Assisting Minister who will be standing near the sanctuary pillar on whichever side of the church is being communed to receive a prefilled communion cup;
2. If the communicant prefers the consecrated grape juice, they shall receive that from the Pastor.
3. If you are unable to come forward, please let an usher know and the pastor will bring Holy Communion to you.

Assisting at Worship:

	Today	May 31
Asst. Min.	Brian Rogala, Jr.	Blaine Waters
Lector	Jean Parker	Pam Bresee
Acolyte	Bella Alaniz	Manny Alaniz
Usher	Art Anderson	Arnold Conner
Sound System	Tim Smock	Brian Rogala, Jr.
Video	Tim Smock	Brian Rogala, Jr.
Counters	Candy Sprouse, Tim Smock	Art Anderson, Mary Rush
Altar Guild	Sandy Hough, Candy Sprouse, Mary Rush, Bonnie Magee	

Opening Song

Who You Say I Am

1. Who am I that the highest king would welcome me.
I was lost but he brought me in. Oh, his love for me.
Oh, his love for me.

Refrain 1: Who the son sets free, oh is free indeed.
I'm a child of God, yes I am.

2. Free at last he has ransomed me, his grace runs deep.
While I was a slave to sin, Jesus died for me.
Yes he died for me. (R1, R2)

Refrain 2: In my Father's house, there's a place for me.
I'm a child of God, yes I am.

Bridge: I am chosen, not forsaken. I am who you say I am.
You are for me, not against me. I am who you say I am.
(Repeat, Tag)

Tag: I am who you say I am (R1, R2 x2)

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Opening Prayer

Song

Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)

1. You call me out upon the waters,
the great unknown where feet may fail.
And there I find you in the mystery,
in oceans deep my faith will stand.

Refrain: And I will call upon your name
and keep my eyes above the waves.
When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace
for I am yours and you are mine.

2. Your grace abounds in deepest waters,
your sov'reign hand will be my guide.
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me,
you've never failed and you won't start now.(R)

Bridge: Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,
Let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me.
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
and my faith will be made stronger
in the presence of my Savior. *(sing 2x)*

Refrain: I will call upon your name, keep my eyes above the waves.
My soul will rest in your embrace.
I am yours and you are mine.

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Lesson

Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost had come, the apostles were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs - in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

A The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Lesson

John 20:19-23

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

A The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Song

Graves into Gardens

1. I searched the world, but it couldn’t fill me.
Man’s empty praise and treasures that fade are never enough.
Then you came along and put me back together.
And every desire is now satisfied here in your love.

Refrain: Oh there’s nothing better than you.
There’s nothing better than you.
Lord, there’s nothing, nothing is better than you.

2. I'm not afraid to show you my weakness.
My failures and flaws, Lord you've seen them all;
and you still call me friend.
'Cause the God of the mountain is the God of the valley.
There's not a place your mercy and grace won't find me again. (R)

Bridge: You turn mourning to dancing. You give beauty for ashes.
You turn shame into glory. You're the only one who can. (2x)
You turn graves into gardens. You turn bones into armies.
You turn seas into highways. You're the only one who can. (2x)
You're the only one who can. (R)

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Prayers of the People

Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us offer to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Song of Offering

Holy Spirit

Stand

Refrain: Holy Spirit, you are welcome here;
come flood this place and fill the atmosphere;
your glory, God, is what our hearts long for,
to be overcome by your presence, Lord. Your presence, Lord

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Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

A Let us pray. (*brief pause*) Merciful God,

C accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Thanksgiving for the Great Meal

P Lift up your hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God.

C We gladly lift up our hearts and give God our praise and thanksgiving.

Consecration

The Lord's Prayer

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Distribution Song

House Of The Lord

1. We worship the God who was. We worship the God who is.
We worship the God who evermore will be.
He opened the prison doors. He parted the raging sea.
My God, he holds the victory, yeah.

Refrain: There's joy in the house of the Lord.

There's joy in the house of the Lord today.

And we won't be quiet. We shout out your praise.

There's joy in the house of the Lord.

Our God is surely in this place. And we won't be quiet.

We shout out your praise.

2. We sing to the God who heals. We sing to the God who saves.
We sing to the God who always makes a way.
'Cause he hung up on that cross. Then he rose up from that grave.
My God's still rolling stones away. (R)

Bridge: ('Cause) We were the beggars. Now we're royalty.

We were the prisoners. Now we're running free.

We are forgiven, accepted, redeemed by his grace.

Let the house of the Lord sing praise. (x2, *Refrain*)

Post Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Holy One,

C **through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus. Amen**

Blessing

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, + bless you now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Song

All The People Said Amen

1. You are not alone if you are lonely.

When you feel afraid, you're not the only.

We are all the same, in need of mercy, to be forgiven and be free.

It's all you got to lean on, but thank God it's all you need.

Refrain: And all the people said, "Amen." Whoa.

And all the people said, "Amen."

Give thanks to the Lord, for his love never ends.

And all the people said, "Amen."

2. If you're rich or poor, well, it don't matter.

Weak or strong, you know love is what we're after.

We're all broken, but we're all in this together.

God knows we stumble and fall,

and he so loved the world, he sent his son to save us all. *(R)*

Bridge: Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart.

Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart.

Blessed are the people hungry for another start,

for theirs is the kingdom the kingdom of God. *(R X2, E)*

Ending: And all the people said, "Amen."

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

*The Pentecost Geraniums are given to
the Glory of God and*



In Memory of:

My husband, Tarzan by Lisa Booth

James F. & Sally Bryan, James M. & Scotty Bryan, and Wayne & Mary
Magee by Bonnie Magee

Michelle by Tim Smock

Our parents, Owen & Elouise Hunter by Bonnie Stearns & Carol Lemmon

Robert Hecht, Grand Birdie Jones, Oliver G. Shadle, Jr. & Isabel Jones by
Laurie Hecht

My Parents Betty & Larry Shannon by Robin Curtis

James Swoger, our son-in-law by Joyce & Dave Hauser

Mary & John Ray by Lois Hollenbeck & Carol Ingram

Jay Hollenbeck by Lois Hollenbeck

Ken Ingram by Carol Ingram

Bill by Linda Voigt

Clyde Bartlett, Mark May, and Arthur Anderson Sr. by Cindy & Art
Anderson

Clyde Bartlett by Marylou Bartlett

Kenneth & Eleanor Defoe, John & Gertude Rettman, Wallace & Hazel

Jones, Donald & Mary Jane Rettman, & Douglas J. Rettman by Gene &
Linda Jones

Our parents by Shirley Damon

In Honor of:

Pastor Tom by Linda Voigt

Marylou Bartlett by Cindy & Art Anderson

Birthday of son, Darren Jones on May 27 by Gene & Linda Jones

My children, grandchildren, & great-grandchildren by Marylou Bartlett

My family by Shirley Damon

In Thanksgiving for:

Our dear Pastor Tom by Lisa Booth
God's many blessings by Linda Voigt
Messiah Lutheran Church by Shirley Damon

In Celebration of:

Graduation of Alyssa & Kayla Bresee by Ethelynne Cunningham
Our grandchildren, Jay & Cara Swoger, 8th grade graduation on June 8
Carrie & Brent's birthdays by Tim Smock
Messiah Lutheran Church by Gene & Linda Jones
All of our graduates by Shirley Damon

*Thank you for your generous sponsorship of the geraniums to beautify
our worship space.*

*Your geraniums may be picked up after the 11:00AM Worship
Service. Please leave the plastic trays.*

Any plants remaining will be planted in the church yard.

Announcements

S **Second Mile Giving** is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **May Back to School Bash** is our Second Mile Giving beneficiary. Contributions may be made throughout the month by using the yellow envelopes found in the pews. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

W **esleyville Food Pantry:** Please consider a financial gift. Checks should be made payable to Messiah Lutheran Church marking "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

O **WLs:** Erie Zoo Glow Wild on **June 11 at 7:00 pm**. Meet at the Zoo.

B **aby Bottle Tree: Last Day** To help support Foster Care Children in the Erie area, we will be collecting baby items, ages preemies to 18 months. Some bottles will have a monetary donation, made out to the church, to reimburse purchases made.

T **aise Service: Sunday, May 31 at 4:00 pm** in the church. As part of our alternative worship experiences, join us for a meditative and singing liturgy at our Taizé worship. Taizé worship is a contemplative, music-driven form of Christian prayer that grew out of the Taizé Community, an ecumenical monastic community in Taizé, France. It emphasizes silence, simple repeated songs, and space for personal, interior prayer rather than preaching or long spoken sermons. **10**

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3-YEAR VISION

APPROVED - 2025 to 2027

WORSHIP

Start?

Technology

Add Screens in sanctuary

(DONE)

Update website

(ongoing)

Obtain Hearing Assisted Devices

(DONE)

Music Ministry

Build out the Band

(2025)

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Bubble Church

(ongoing)

School Day Off Camp

(On hold)

Milestone Ministry

(On hold)

PROPERTY

Fix Front Electronic Sign

(DONE)

Repair/Purchase Boiler

(DONE)

Plumbing Upgrades/Restrooms

(2027)

Buy New Freezer

(DONE)

IN-REACH

Recruit and Train More Volunteer

(2025)

Train in-home communion ministry

(2025)

EDUCATION

Bible Study (Adult and Children) - have more options

(2025-2027)

OUTREACH

Maintain Community Garden

(ongoing)

Continue Back to School Bash

(ongoing)

Continue participation in Community National Night Out (ongoing)

FELLOWSHIP

Explore more group events

(ongoing)

Continue to grow OWLs ministry (spiritually and fellowship)

(ongoing)

Lutheran Walkers

(2025)

Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

June 2 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.

June 8 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.

June 15 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.

June 16 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES: WHAT IS YOUR LIFE COSTING YOU?

You're already carrying something: stress, pressure, expectations, exhaustion, the weight of trying to hold everything together. Jesus asks a deeper question: What is it all for? Join us this summer for a

7-week journey through the Gospel of Matthew: "The Real Cost of Following Jesus." This is not a series about easy answers or shallow positivity. Jesus never promised comfort, approval, or an easy life. He promised something more dangerous and more meaningful. If you've ever wondered:

- Why following Jesus feels difficult
- Why life still feels heavy even when you're "doing everything right"
- What is actually worth giving your life to

...this series is for you.

Beginning **June 14** come to wrestle with the words of Jesus. Come to discover a life that matters. Because an easy life won't satisfy you. But a meaningful one just might.

<u>This Week at the Church</u> <i>(See Newsletter for More Detail)</i>		
Office Hours :Monday Closed, Tuesday 10:00am-5:00pm, Wednesday Closed, Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm, Friday 10:00am-5:00pm		
Sun. 5/24	<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
Mon.	6:30PM	Guided Meditation
Tues.	10:00AM	Sewing Circle
Thu.	10:00AM	Grateful Prayer Group-CC
	7:30PM	NA Group
Fri.	7:30PM	AA
Sun. 5/31	<i>Holy Trinity Sunday</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	2:00-4:00PM	FootSteps
	4:00PM	Taize Service

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