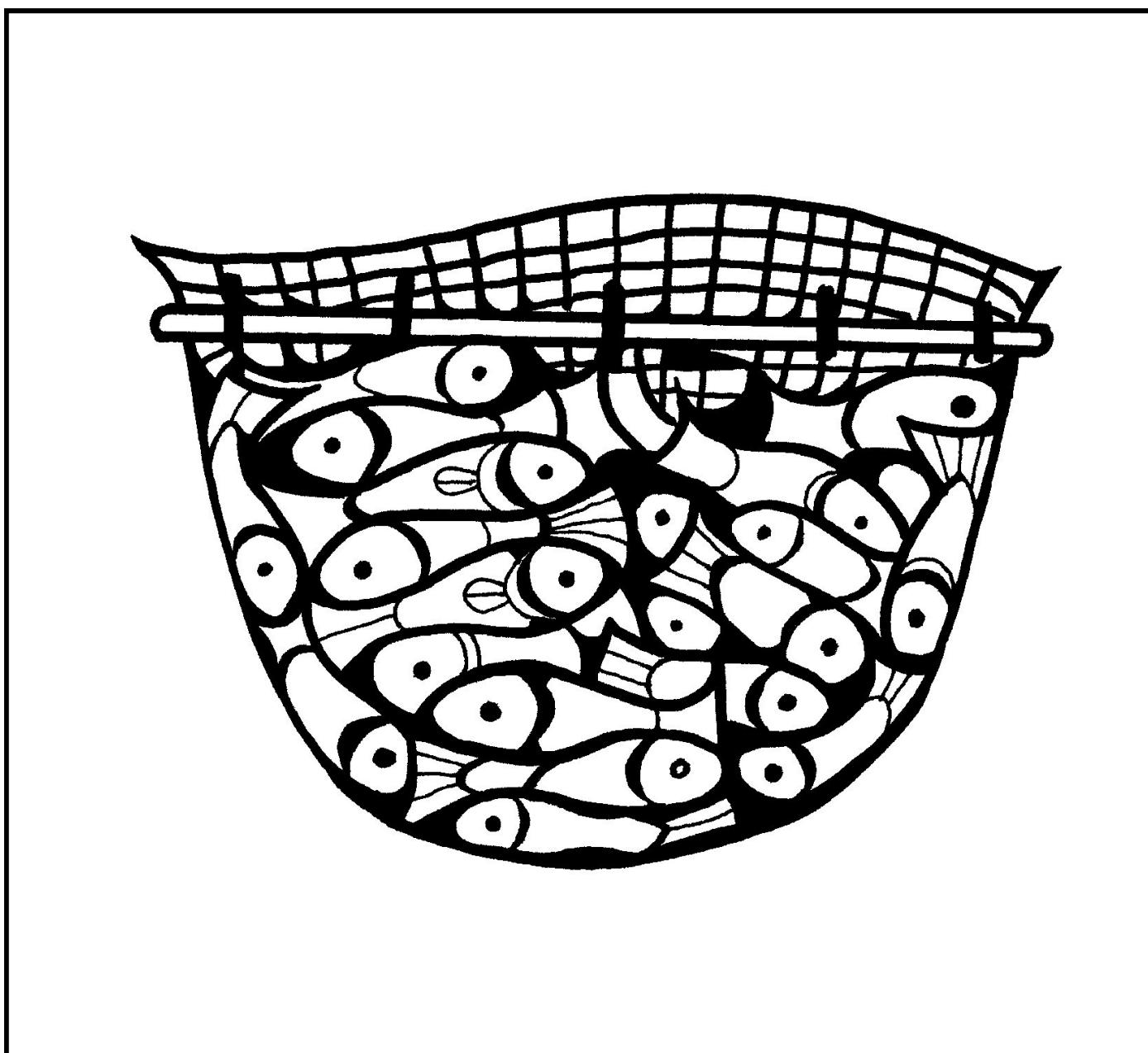


MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
4th Sunday after Epiphany
February 1, 2026

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

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 | February 8 |
|---------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Asst. Min. | Brian Rogala, Jr. | Bella Alaniz |
| Lector | Tammy Johnson | Bella Alaniz |
| Acolyte | Maddie Bartlett | Manny Alaniz |
| Usher | Art Anderson | Brian Rogala |
| Sound System | Rich Alaniz | Rich Alaniz |
| Video | Manny Alaniz | Rich Alaniz |
| Counters | Art Anderson, Karen Pistner | Candy Sprouse, Tim Smock |
| Altar Guild | Sandy Hough, Candy Sprouse, Mary Rush, Bonnie Magee | |

Opening Song

My Jesus

1. Are you past the point of weary? Is your burden weighing heavy?
Is it all too much to carry? Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.
Do you feel that empty feeling 'cause shame's done all its stealing,
and you're desperate for some healing?
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.

Refrain: He makes a way where there ain't no way.

Rises up from an empty grave.

Ain't no sinner that he can't save.

Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.

His love is strong and his grace is free,
and the good news is I know that he
can do for you what he's done for me.

Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus.

And let my Jesus change your life.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah, amen, amen.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah, amen, amen, amen

2. Who can wipe away the tears
from broken dreams and wasted years,
and tell the past to disappear? Oh,
and let me tell you 'bout my Jesus,
And all the wrong turns that you would
go and undo if you could.
Who can work it all for your good?
Let me tell you about my Jesus. (R)

3. Who would take my cross to Calvary?
Pay the price for all my guilty
Who would care that much about me?
Let me tell you 'bout my Jesus, oh (R x2)

Ending: Hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

Let my Jesus change your life.

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Opening Prayer

Song**Good, Good Father**

1. I've heard a thousand stories of what they think you're like, but I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night. You tell me that you're pleased, and that I'm never alone.

Refrain: You're a good, good Father; it's who you are, it's who you are, it's who you are. And I'm loved by you; it's who I am, it's who I am, it's who I am.

2. I've seen many searching for answers far and wide, but I know we're all searching for answers only you provide. Because you know just what we need before we say a word. (R,B)

Bridge: You are perfect in all of your ways, you are perfect in all of your ways, you are perfect in all of your ways to us.(2x)

3. Love so undeniable, I can hardly speak. peace so unexplainable, I can hardly think, as you call me deeper still, as you call me deeper still, as you call me deeper still into love, love, love.(Rx2)

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Lesson**Micah 6:1-8**

Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my

transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

A The Gospel of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Song

One Thing Remains

1. Higher than the mountains that I face.

Stronger than the power of the grave.

Constant in the trial and the change.

One thing remains, one thing remains.(Last time) Your love.

Refrain: Your love never fails, it never gives up,
never runs out on me. (repeat) Your love.

2. On and on and on and on it goes.
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul.
And I never, ever have to be afraid.
One thing remains, one thing remains. (*R, Bridge*)

Bridge: In death, in life, I'm confident and
cover'd by the power of your great love.
My debt is paid; there's nothing that
can separate my heart from your great love. (*R, V2*)

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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.

| <i>Song of Offering</i> | <i>Breathe</i> | <i>Stand</i> |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| | This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe: your holy presence living in me. | |
| | This is my daily bread, this is my daily bread: your very word spoken to me. | |

Refrain: And I, I'm desperate for you. And I, I'm lost without you.

Ending: This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe.

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Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

A Let us pray. (*brief pause*) God of majesty,
C **no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for
those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of
your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign
of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

Chain Breaker

1. If you've been walking the same old road For miles and miles;
If you've been hearing the same old voice tell the same old lies;
If you're trying to fill the same old holes inside,
There's a better life. There's a better life.

Refrain: If you've got pain, he's a pain taker.

 If you feel lost, he's a way maker.

 If you need freedom or saving, he's a prison shaking Savior.

 If you got chains, he's a chain breaker.

2. We've all searched for the light of day in the dead of night.
We've all found ourselves worn out from the same old fight.
We've all run to things we know just ain't right,
when there's a better life. There's a better life.

Bridge: If you believe it; if you receive it; if you can feel it;

 Somebody testify. (x2, R)

Ending: Oh if you need freedom or saving,

 He's a prison shaking Savior.

 If you got chains, well he's a chain breaker.

Music & Words by Jonathan Smith, Mia Fieldes, Zach Williams CCLI Song #7060031 © 2015 Anthems of Hope; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Hipgnosis Songs Essential; So Essential Tunes; Upside Down Under; Wisteria Drive CCLI License #253409

Post Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. (brief pause) Radiant God,
C we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Blessing

P May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise + bless you now and forever.
C Amen.

Prayers of the People

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. Do justice. Love mercy.

C Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Second Mile Giving is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **February Pastor's Discretionary Fund** 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!

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

Inform the office if you would like a copy of your 2025 Giving Statement.

It's All Greek to Me Bible Study: Pastor Tom is leading a weekly Bible study on **Tuesdays at 1:00 pm & Wednesdays at 6:30 pm** in the Study Lounge.

Taize Service: **Sunday, February 15 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.

Mardi Gras Party: **Tuesday, February 17, at 5:30 pm** in Fellowship Hall. Come for a taste of New Orleans at Messiah! We will have a magic show with Magic De Jorge. Signup in the Narthex.

Ash Wednesday: **February 18, at Noon & 7:00 pm** with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

February 3 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.

February 9 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.

February 16 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.

February 17 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
PRELIMINARY 3-YEAR VISION
APPROVED - 2025 to 2027**

| WORSHIP | Start? |
|---|---------------|
| <u>Technology</u> | |
| Add Screens in sanctuary | (DONE) |
| Update website | (ongoing) |
| Obtain Hearing Assisted Devices | (DONE) |
| <u>Music Ministry</u> | |
| Build out the Band | (2025) |
| CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY | |
| Bubble Church | (ongoing) |
| School Day Off Camp | (Fall 2025) |
| Milestone Ministry | (Fall 2025) |
| 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 | (2025-2027) |
| Continue participation in Community National Night Out | (2025-2027) |
| FELLOWSHIP | |
| Explore more group events | (ongoing) |
| Continue to grow OWLs ministry (spiritually and fellowship) | (ongoing) |
| Lutheran Walkers | (2025) |

This Week at the Church

(See Newsletter for More Detail)

**Office Hours :Monday Closed, Tuesday 10:00am-5:00pm,
Wednesday Closed, Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm,
Friday 10:00am-5:00pm**

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sun. 2/1 | 4th Sunday after Epiphany | |
| | 8:30 and 11:00AM | Service of Holy Communion |
| | 9:45AM | Servant Outreach |
| | 2:00PM | FootSteps Board Meeting |
| Mon. | 6:30PM | Guided Meditation |
| Tues. | 10:00AM | Sewing Circle |
| | 1:00PM | Bible Study |
| Wed | 6:30PM | Bible Study |
| Thu. | 10:00AM | Grateful Prayer Group-CC |
| | 7:30PM | NA Group |
| Fri. | 7:30PM | AA |
| Sun. 2/8 | 5th Sunday after Epiphany | |
| | 8:30 and 11:00AM | Service of Holy Communion |