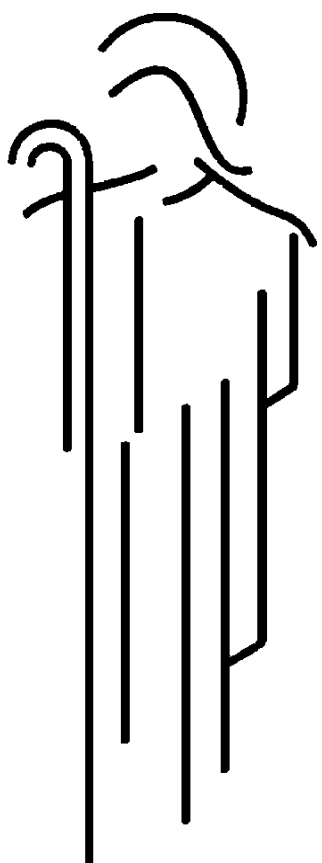




MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

THE GATHERING

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Christmas in July



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:

- 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;
- If the communicant prefers the consecrated grape juice, they shall receive that from the Pastor.
- 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	August 2
Asst. Min.	Brad Bresee	Brian Rogala, Jr.
Lector	Pam Bresee	Pam Bresee
Acolyte	Maddie Bartlett	Manny Alaniz
Usher	Arnold Conner	Art Anderson
Sound System	JJ Conner	Rich Alaniz
Video	JJ Conner	Rich Alaniz
Counters	Mary Rush, Tim Smock	Art Anderson, Mary Rush
Altar Guild	Ann Kent, Linda Jones, Linda Voigt	
Altar Guild August	Sandy Hough, Candy Sprouse, Mary Rush, Bonnie Magee	

Opening Song

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

1. O, come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel
That morns in lonely exile here. Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel. Shall come to you, O Israel.

2. O, come, O come, come wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay,
teach us your will and guide our way. (R)

3. O, come, O come, great Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
in cloud, and majesty, and awe. (R)

4. O come, O branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny.
From depths of hell your people save
and give them vict'ry o'er the grave (R)

Words by Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln; tr. John Neale Musicby French processional, 15th cent.

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Opening Prayer

Song

The First Noel

1. The first Noel the angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

2. They look-ed up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. (R)

3. And by the light of that same star
three Wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it went. (R)

4. This star drew near to the northwest.
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay. (R)
5. Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. (R)

Words & Music English carol. Public Domain.

Lesson

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you."

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Another parable he put before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven which a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.”

“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.

“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.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net which was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind; when it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous, and throw them into the furnace of fire; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.

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

A The Gospel of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Song

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1. Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
3. Hail the heav'n born prince of peace!
Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Music: MENDELSSOHN, 77 77 D with refrain; Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847 Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

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 O Little Town of Bethlehem Stand

1. O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.
2. For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring
love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

Words Phillips Brooks. Music Lewis H. Redner. Public Domain.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

A Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Good and loving God,
C we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our 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

Silent Night

1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!
3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from your holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

Words Joseph Mohr; tr. John F. Young. Music Franz Gruber. Public Domain.

Post Communion Prayer

A Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Radiant God,
C with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Blessing

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, + one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
C Amen.

Song ***Go Tell It On The Mountain***

Refrain: Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching, o’er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *(R)*
2. The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth. *(R)*
3. Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *(R)*

Words African American Spiritual, refrain John W. Work, Jr. Music A.A.S. Public Domain.

Dismissal

A Glory to God in the highest!
C And peace to God’s people on earth!
A Go in joy. Embody God’s redeeming grace.
C Thanks be to God.

The Bulletins are given to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Colson's 5th birthday by Candy & Nate Sprouse

Announcements

Second Mile Giving is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **August Bweranyange Girls School** 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.

Sound Bath: **Sunday, August 2 at 4:00 pm** Join us in Fellowship Hall for an uplifting meditative service. Bring comfortable chair or yoga mat if you like.

OWLs: **Tuesday, August 4, 11:00 am.** Erie Water Works tour on the Bayfront Parkway off Sassafras. Lunch downtown following the tour.

National Night Out: **Tuesday, August 4, 6:00-9:00pm** behind the Wesleyville Borough Hall. Free event for all to attend. We need volunteers to hand out information about Messiah at our table. See the signup sheet in the Narthex. You can team up for a half hour or an hour at a time.

Beach Service: **August 9, 10:00 am** at the Cookhouse Pavilion at Presque Isle. This will replace our regular services. Bring a lawn chair to sit in and a dish to pass if you want to stay for the picnic.

Church Picnic: **August 16, 1:00 pm,** Hinkler Park 3614 Edison Ave . Sign up on poster in Narthex.

Back to School Bash: **Wednesday, August 19 6-8pm** in Wesley UM Center parking lot. We are collaborating with Wesley UM Church again this year. Free event including food, games, bounce houses and music. We need volunteers to help make this event a success! Sign up to help in the Narthex.

Calling all bakers: Love to bake? We need cookies for the dessert table. Store bought cookies are welcome too! Please drop cookies off by **Tuesday, August 18.**

Back to School Bash items needed: We would like several items to place in the backpacks we are given out. If you are able, please purchase one or more of the items; box of tissues, pencil box/bag, sandwich or gallon zip-lock bags.

Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

August 4 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.

August 10 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.

August 17 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.

August 18 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

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. 7/26	<i>9th Sunday after Pentecost-Christmas in July</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. 8/2	<i>10th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	9:45AM	Servant Outreach
	4:00PM	Sound Bath

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