



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026
The Gathering Contemporary Service



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	April 12
Asst. Min.	Brian Rogala, Jr.	Bella Alaniz
Lector	Cyndi Allen	Bella Alaniz
Acolyte	Kayla Bresee	Manny Alaniz
Usher	Brian Rogala	Art Anderson
Sound System	Brad Bresee	Rich Alaniz
Video	Brad Bresee	Rich Alaniz
Counters	Tim Smock, Mary Rush	Art Anderson, Candy Sprouse
Altar Guild	Ann Kent, Linda Voigt, Linda Jones	

Opening Song

This is Amazing Grace

1. Who breaks the power of sin and darkness,
whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The king of glory the king above all kings.
2. Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
and leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The king of glory the king above all kings.

Refrain: This is amazing grace, this is unfailing love,
that you would take my place, that you would bear my cross.
You laid down your life that I would be set free.
Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that you've done for me.

3. Who brings our chaos back into order,
who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The king of glory the king of glory.
4. Who rules the nations with truth and justice,
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The king of glory the king above all kings. *(R, Bridge)*

Bridge: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy, worthy, worthy! *(R)*

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Opening Prayer

Song

Raise A Hallelujah

1. I raise a hallelujah in the presence of my enemies.
I raise a hallelujah louder than the unbelief.
I raise a hallelujah; my weapon is a melody.
I raise a hallelujah; heaven comes to fight for me.

Refrain: I'm gonna sing in the middle of the storm.
Louder and louder, you're gonna hear my praises roar.
Up from the ashes hope will arise.
Death is defeated; the king is alive.

2. I raise a hallelujah with everything inside of me.
I raise a hallelujah; I will watch the darkness flee.
I raise a hallelujah in the middle of the mystery.
I raise a hallelujah; fear, you lost your hold on me. (R)

Bridge 1: (L) Sing a little louder. (C) Sing a little louder.
(L) Sing a little louder. (C) Sing a little louder.
(L) Sing a little louder. (C) Sing a little louder.
(L) Sing a little louder. (C) Sing a little louder.

Bridge 2: (L) Sing a little louder, (C) in the presence of my enemies.
(L) Sing a little louder, (C) louder than the unbelief.
(L) Sing a little louder, (C) my weapon is a melody.
(L) Sing a little louder, (C) Heaven comes to fight for me.
(Repeat B2, R)

Ending: I raise a hallelujah. I raise a hallelujah.
I raise a hallelujah. I raise a hallelujah.

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Lesson

Acts 10:34-43

Peter began to speak to Cornelius and his household: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ - he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how

he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

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

We Believe

Stand

Refrain: We believe in God the Father. We believe in Jesus Christ.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, and he's given us new life.
We believe in the crucifixion.
We believe that he conquered death.
We believe in the resurrection,
and he's coming back again. We believe

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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 What a Beautiful Name

1. You were the word at the beginning,
one with God the Lord most high.
Your hidden glory in creation,
now revealed in you, our Christ.

Refrain: What a beautiful name it is, what a beautiful name it is,
the name of Jesus Christ my king.

What a beautiful name it is, nothing compares to this.

What a beautiful name it is, the name of Jesus.

2. You didn't want heaven without us,
so Jesus, you brought heaven down.
My sin was great, your love was greater;
what could separate us now?

Refrain 2: What a wonderful name it is, what a wonderful name it is,
the name of Jesus Christ my king.

What a wonderful name it is, nothing compares to this.

What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus.

What a wonderful name it is, the name of Jesus.

Bridge: Death could not hold you, the veil tore before you.
You silence the boast of sin and grave.
The heavens are roaring the praise of your glory
for you are raised to life again.

Bridge 2: You have no rival, you have no equal.
Now and forever God, you reign.
Yours is the kingdom, yours is the glory,
yours is the name above all names.

Refrain 3: What a powerful name it is, what a powerful name it is.
The name of Jesus Christ, my King.
What a powerful name it is, nothing can stand against.
What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus.

Ending: What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus.
What a powerful name it is, the name of Jesus.

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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 The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign,
C Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. Amen.

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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Dismissal

A Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Announcements

Second Mile Giving is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **April: Lutheran Disaster Response** 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.

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.

OWLs: **Tuesday, April 14 at 11:00 am.** (Note time change) Speaker Lawyer, Julie from Entrusted Legacy. Bring your own lunch

Sound Bath: **Sunday, April 26 at 4:00 pm** Join us in Fellowship Hall for an uplifting meditative service. Bring comfortable chair or yoga mat if you like.

Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

April 7 at 5:00-6:00pm for Country Fair distribution.

April 13 at 10:00am to unload senior boxes.

April 20 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.

April 21 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

The Bulletins are given to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Nate's 50th birthday love Mom

Both Lilies are given to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Our Risen Lord by the Bresee Family

The Vigil Candle is given to the Glory of God and in Celebration of Nate's 50th birthday love Mom

*The Easter Flowers are given to
the Glory of God and*



In Memory of:

Tarzan Booth by Lisa Booth

Blane Dessy, Marianne Marin & Katrina McDougall by Robin Curtis

James Swoger, our parents & Valerie George Lindner by Joyce & Dave Hauser

Bob Sprouse, Rose & Allen Simmons by Candy Sprouse

Bill Voigt by Linda Voigt

All my loved ones who passed by Cyndi Allen

Craig Cunningham by Ethelynn Cunningham

My parents, Ed & Florence Crane by Shirley Damon

Ralph & Eileen Niebauer and Donna Harman by Marie & Michael Harman

Isabel Jones, Grand Birdie Jones, and Robert Hecht by Laurie Hecht

Kenneth & Elenor Defoe and Wallace & Hazel Jones by Gene & Linda Jones

My departed loved ones by Bonnie Magee

My parents, Clifford & Sara Parker

Owen & Elouise Hunter by Carol Lemmon & Stearns family

In Honor of:

Christine Lohse by Cyndi Allen

All my family by Shirley Damon

In Thanksgiving for:

Our pastor by Shirley Damon

In Celebration of:

Our Risen Lord by Shirley Damon

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

*They 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.

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. 4/5	<i>Easter Sunday</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
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. 4/12	<i>2nd Sunday of Easter</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion

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

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