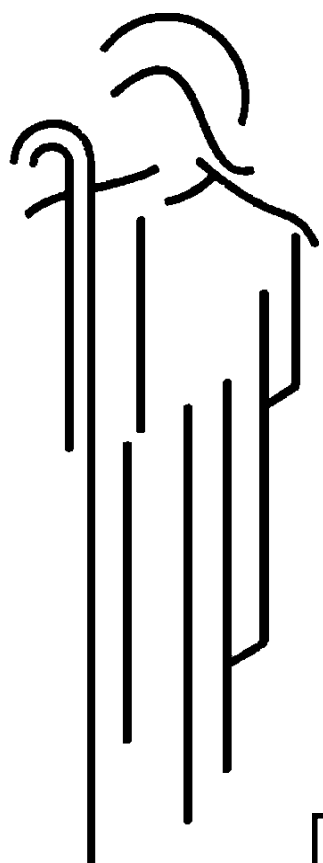




MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

Traditional Service

Christmas in July



We welcome you to The Traditional Service 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.	Ray Bennett	Savanna Conner
Lector	Laurie Hecht	Laurie Hecht
Usher	TBD	TBD
Sound System	TBD	TBD
Video	Savanna Conner	Savanna Conner
Counters	Linda Jones	Laurie Hecht
Altar Guild	Ann Kent, Linda Jones, Linda Voigt	
Altar Guild August	Sandy Hough, Candy Sprouse, Mary Rush, Bonnie Magee	

Welcome/Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness *[stand/kneel as able]*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.
(Reflection) Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

P Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love.

C Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Joy to the Word

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the
ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -
room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, joy, found, love,
 and re - peat, far as, and
 heav'n, re - peat, far as,
 and heav'n, the sound - ing joy.
 won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

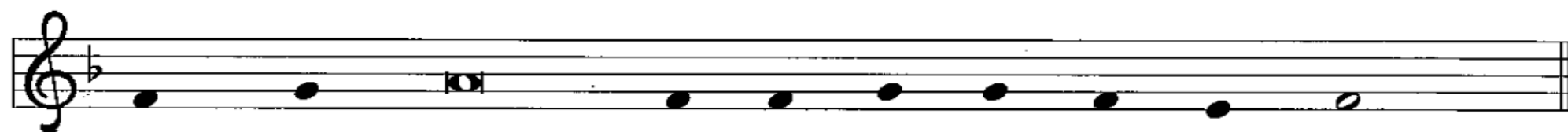
C And also with you.

Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
 For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mer - cy.
 For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,
 and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
 Lord, have mer - cy.
 For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their wor - ship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - - - men.

This is the Feast

Refrain

S 169



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us Pray: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

Please be seated.

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.

Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Glory to you, O Lord

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

Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE

Hymn of the Day

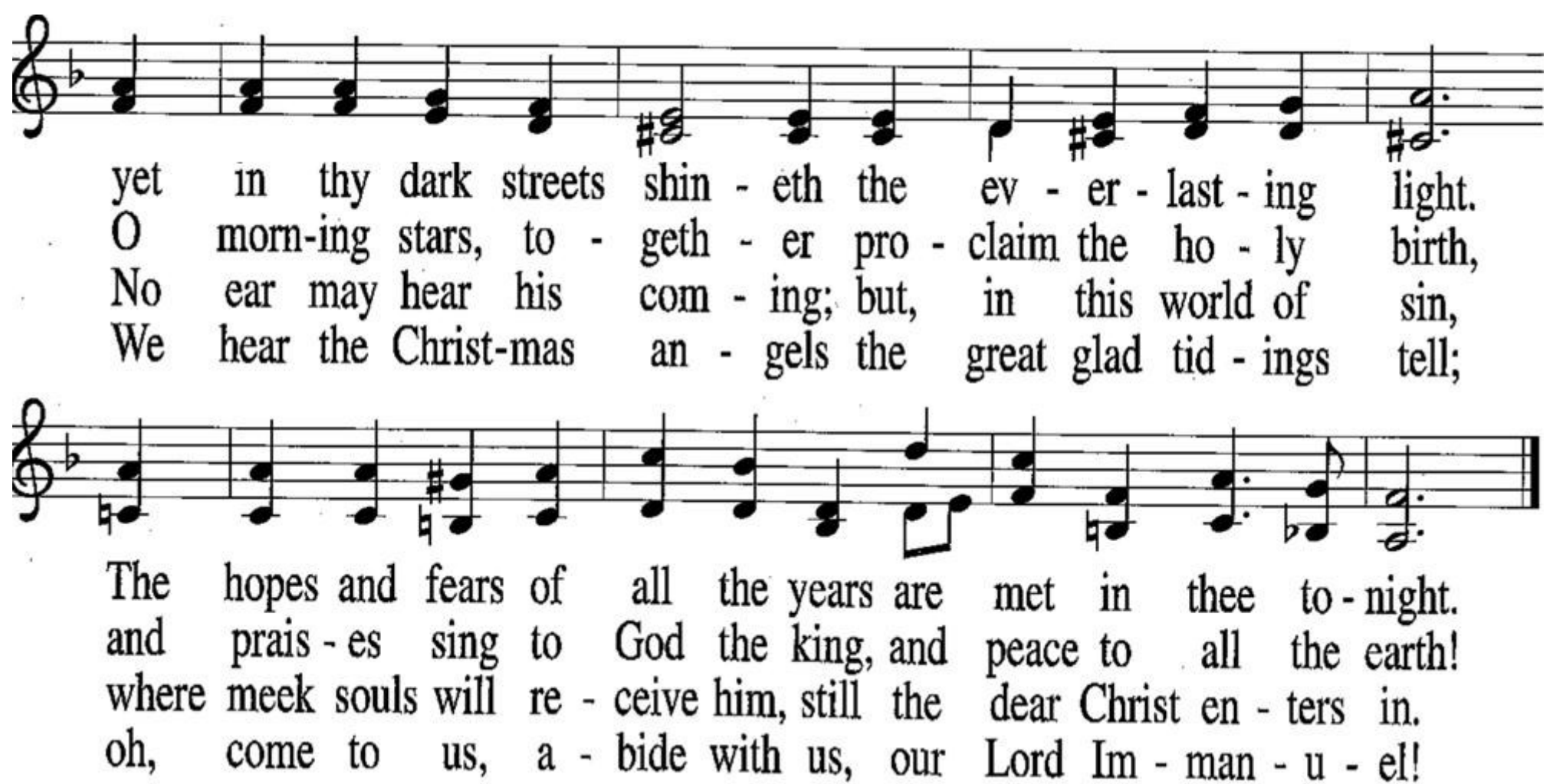
O Little Town of Bethlehem



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ-mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Apostles' Creed

P Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed:
C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

A Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the church and the needs of the world.....God of grace,
C hear our prayer.
P Trusting you receive all our prayers, we commend our spoken and unspoken prayers to you, O God, through Jesus our Savior.
C Amen.

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C And also with you.
P Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Instrumental music while the Altar is being prepared

Offertory Hymn

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

[stand]



Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, Lord,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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.

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
Lord God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

- P ...Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.
P ...Do this for the remembrance of me.
P ...Do this for the remembrance of me.
P ...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
P ...We look with hope for his coming.
C Come, Lord Jesus.
P ...Bring the gift of peace on earth.
C Come, Holy Spirit.
P ...Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

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.

Invitation to Communion

A Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Lamb of God

S 174

Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on

us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the

world; grant us

peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of Communion [sit]

Communion Music Instrumental

Post Communion Blessing

A The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.
C Amen.

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.

Sending Hymn **Go Tell It On the Mountain**

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,

2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth

3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain

be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.

rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.

and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

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.**

Announcements

S **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!

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.

S **ound 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.

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

N **ational 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.

B **each 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 Christ Center parking lot. We are collaborating with Wesley United Methodist 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.

(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**

Portions of this bulletin are reprinted from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, copyright © 2006. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #8102-L. Other portions are from Sundays and Seasons, copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. Some music reprinted from With One Voice, © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by Permission. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-711684. Used by permission CCLI License #253409