



# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

7th Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2026

## THE GATHERING

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP



**We welcome you to The Gathering this morning**

### Our Staff

**Cindy Anderson, Parish Administrator** Email: [secretary@messiah-erie.org](mailto:secretary@messiah-erie.org)

**Bonnie Stearns, Director of Utilities**

**Michelle Flaherty, The Gathering Music Minister:** [mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org](mailto:mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org)

**Pastor Tom Glasoe, Email:** [pastor@messiah-erie.org](mailto:pastor@messiah-erie.org) Cell: 814-460-8529

2025 Eastern Ave, Erie, PA 16510    814-899-6386    [messiah-erie.org](http://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:**

	<b>Today</b>	<b>May 24</b>
<b>Asst. Min.</b>	Bella Alaniz	Brian Rogala, Jr.
<b>Lector</b>	Bella Alaniz	Jean Parker
<b>Acolyte</b>	Maddie Bartlett	Bella Alaniz
<b>Usher</b>	Brian Rogala	Art Anderson
<b>Sound System</b>	Manny Alaniz	Tim Smock
<b>Video</b>	Rich Alaniz	Tim Smock
<b>Counters</b>	Karen Pistner, Mary Rush	Candy Sprouse, Tim Smock
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Sandy Hough, Candy Sprouse, Mary Rush, Bonnie Magee	

## **Opening Song**

## **Open The Eyes of My Heart**

**Refrain:** Open the eyes of my heart Lord, open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you. I want to see you. (2x)

1. To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power and love, as we sing holy, holy, holy. (R)

**Bridge:** Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy, holy,  
I want to see you.

Words & Music Paul Baloche © 1997 Integrity's Hosanna! Music. Used by permission. CCLI License #253409

## **Opening Prayer**

### **Song**

### **Lord I Need You**

1. Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.  
And without you, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

**Refrain 1:** Lord, I need you, oh, I need you.  
Ev'ry hour I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness:  
oh, God, how I need you.

2. Where sin runs deep, your grace is more.  
Where grace is found, is where you are.  
And where you are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me.  
And where you are, Lord, I am free.  
Holiness is Christ in me. (R then Bridge)

**Bridge:** So, teach my song to rise to you,  
when temptation comes my way.  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on you.  
Jesus, you're my hope and stay.  
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on you.  
Jesus you're my hope and stay.

**Ending:** Lord, I need you, oh, I need you. Ev'ry hour I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness:  
oh, God, how I need you.  
My one defense, my righteousness:  
oh, God, how I need you.

My one defense, my righteousness:  
oh, God, how I need you.

*Words & Music Jesse Reeves, Klristian Stanfill, Matt Maher, Christy Nockels and Daniel Carson © 2011 Sixsteps Music/Sweater Weather Music/  
Thankyou Music/Valley of Songs Music/worship together.com songs. Used by permission. CCLI License #253409*

## **Lesson**

**Acts 1:6-14**

When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus , “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **Gospel Lesson**

**John 17:1-11C**

After Jesus had spoken these words to his disciples, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

A The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## **MESSAGE**

### **Song**

### ***Great Are You Lord***

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.  
You give hope. You restore ev'ry heart that is broken.  
And great are you, Lord.

**Refrain:** It's your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise,  
we pour out our praise. It's your breath in our lungs,  
so we pour out our praise to you only. (V, R)

**Bridge:** And all the earth will shout your praise.  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing,  
great are you, Lord! (x3, Rx2)

Words & Music by David Leonard | Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan © 2012 Integrity's Alleluia! Integrity's Praise! Music / Open Hands Music / So Essential Tunes Used by permission CCLI License #253409

## ***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.

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

Words & Music by Bryan & Katie Torwalt @2011 Capitol CMG Genesis/Jesus Culture Music Used by permission CCLI License #253409

***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***

## ***Revelation Song***

1. Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain; holy, holy is he.  
Sing a new song to him who sits on heaven's mercy seat.

*Refrain:* Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was and is and is to come.  
With all creation I sing, praise to the King of kings.  
You are my ev'rything, and I will adore you.

2. Clothed in rainbows of living color,  
flashes of lightning, rolls of thunder;  
blessing and honor, strength and glory, and power be  
to you, the only wise King. (R)
3. Filled with wonder, awestruck wonder,  
at the mention of your name;  
Jesus your name is power, breath and living water,  
such a marv'lous mystery, yeah. (R 2x)

Words & Music Jennie Lee Riddle © 2004 Gateway Create Publishing (Admin. EMI). Used by permission. CCLI License #253409

## ***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**

## **My Lighthouse**

1. In my wrestling, and in my doubts,  
in my failures, you won't walk out.  
Your great love will lead me through;  
you are the peace in my troubled sea, whoa oh,  
you are the peace in my troubled sea.
2. In the silence, you won't let go.  
In the questions, your truth will hold.  
Your great love will lead me through;  
you are the peace in my troubled sea, whoa oh,  
you are the peace in my troubled sea.

*Refrain:* My lighthouse, my lighthouse, shining in the darkness,  
I will follow you! Oh, my lighthouse, my lighthouse,  
I will trust the promise: you will carry me safe to shore,  
safe to shore, safe to shore, safe to shore.

3. I won't fear what tomorrow brings.  
With each morning, I'll rise and sing.  
My God's love will lead me through;  
you are the peace in my troubled sea, whoa oh,  
you are the peace in my troubled sea.

*Bridge:* Fire before us, you're the brightest.  
You will lead us through the storms. (hey)(3X) (Rx2)

Words & Music by Gareth Gilkeson, Chris Llewellyn© 2013 Thankyou Music Used by Permission. CCLI License #253409

## **Dismissal**

- A** Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!  
**C** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**



## *Announcements*

**S**econd 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.

**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**aize 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.

**W**esleyville Food Pantry **Volunteers Needed**

May 18 at 10:00am to unload food delivery.

May 19 at 10:00-11:00am & 5:00-6:00pm for regular food distribution.

# 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)

## 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**

<b>Sun. 5/17</b>	<b><i>7th Sunday of Easter</i></b>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
<b>Mon.</b>	6:30PM	Guided Meditation
<b>Tues.</b>	10:00AM	Sewing Circle
<b>Thu.</b>	10:00AM	Grateful Prayer Group-CC
	6:00PM	Church Council
	7:30PM	NA Group
<b>Fri.</b>	7:30PM	AA
<b>Sun. 5/24</b>	<b><i>Pentecost Sunday</i></b>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion