



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Transfiguration of Our Lord

March 2, 2025

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	March9
Asst. Min.	Butch Karnes	Bella Alaniz
Lector	Bella Alaniz	Jean Parker
Acolyte	Bella Alaniz	Josh Bartlett
Usher	Art Anderson	Arnold Conner
Sound System	Tim Smock	TBD
Video	JJ Conner	Brian Rogala, Jr.
Counters	Tim Smock, Candy Sprouse	Art Anderson, Mary Rush
Altar Guild	Ann Kent, Linda Voigt	

Opening Song

Less Like Me

1. Oh I have days I lose the fight.
Try my best but just don't get it right.
Where I talk a talk that I don't walk,
and miss the moments right before my eyes.

Pre-Refrain: Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped.
Somebody with a hand that I could have held.
When I just can't see past myself. Lord, help me be.

Refrain: A little more like mercy. A little more like grace.
A little more like kindness, goodness, love, and faith.
A little more like patience. A little more like peace.
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me.

2. Yeah there's no denying I have changed.
I've been saved from who I used to be.
But even at my best, I must confess,
I still need help to see the way you see. (*Pre-R, Bridge*)

Bridge: Oh to feed the beggar on the street.
Love to be your hands and feet.
Freely give what I receive, Lord, help me be.
I want to put you first above all else.
Love my neighbor as myself.
In the moments no one sees, Lord, help me be. (*R, Ending*)

Ending: A little more I'm living, everything I preach.
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me.

Opening Prayer

Song

Gratitude

1. All my words fall short; I got nothing new.
How could I express all my gratitude?
2. I could sing these songs, as I often do,
but every song must end and you never do. (*R*)

Refrain: So I throw up my hands and praise you again and again, cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah.

And I know it's not much, but I've nothing else fit for a king except for a heart singing, "hallelujah, hallelujah."

3. I've got one response, I've got just one move:
with my arms stretched wide I will worship you. (R)

Bridge: Come on, my soul, oh, don't you get shy on me.

Lift up your song, cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs.
Get up and praise the Lord. (x2 R)

Lesson

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

A The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 9:28-36

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter

and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah” - not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

A The Gospel of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

Song

We Believe

1. In this time of desperation when all we know is doubt and fear,
there is only one foundation: we believe, we believe.
In this broken generation, when all is dark, you help us see.
There is only one salvation; we believe, we believe.

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)

2. So let our faith be more than anthems,
greater than the songs we sing,
and in our weakness and temptations we believe, we believe. (R)

Bridge: Let the lost be found, and the dead be raised;
in the here and now let love invade.
Let the church live loud! Our God will save.
We believe! We believe!
And the gates of hell will not prevail,
for the pow'r of God has torn the veil.
Now we know your love will never fail.
We believe! We believe! (R, Ending)

Ending: He's coming back again! He's coming back again!
We believe, we believe!

Prayers of the People

Peace

- P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
- G** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us offer to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Song of Offering

Breathe

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.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

- A** Let us pray together. *(brief pause)* God of grace,
- G** **your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

Thanksgiving for the Great Meal

- P** Lift up your hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God.
- G** **We gladly lift up our hearts and give God our praise and thanksgiving.**

Consecration

The Lord's Prayer

- G** **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

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)

Blessing

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

G Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

- A** Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Nourishing God,
G at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

Blessing

- P** The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.
G Amen.

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.

Dismissal

- A** Go in peace. Live in hope.
- G** **Thanks be to God.**

*The Bulletins are given to the Glory of God and in Thanksgiving for Messiah's
Church Leadership by Jean Parker*

Announcements

Second Mile Giving is that stewardship we offer in addition to our regular giving. For **March, Youth Ministry** 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.

Mardi Gras Party: **Tuesday, March 4, at 5:30 pm** in Fellowship Hall. Come for a taste of New Orleans at Messiah! Signup in the Narthex.

Ash Wednesday: **March 5, at Noon & 7:00 pm** with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion.

Lenten Soup Supper & Vespers: **Wednesday, March 12, 19, 26, April 2 & 9, at 5:30 pm for supper, 6:00 pm Vespers** in Fellowship Hall. Sign up in the Narthex to bring a soup or see Cindy for more options!

OWLs: Lunch at Fiddle Inn. **Tuesday, March 11 at 11:30am**. RSVP to Candy Sprouse at 814-440-0214 by **March 9**.

Lenten Devotional: pick up one from the counter in the Narthex.

Purim Party: **Saturday, March 22, 5:00 pm** in Fellowship Hall. Join us for a fun night of spaghetti & meatball dinner and a play on Esther. Free will offering to offset costs. Signup in the Narthex.

It's All Greek to Me Bible Study: Pastor Tom is leading a weekly Bible study on **Wednesdays at 6:30PM** Study Lounge.

Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

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

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

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

March 18 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

Technology

Add Screens in sanctuary (2025)

Update website (2025)

Obtain Hearing Assisted Devices (2025)

Music Ministry

Build out the Band (2025)

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Bubble Church (2025-2026)

School Day Off Camp (2025)

Milestone Ministry (Sept. 2025)

PROPERTY

Fix Front Electronic Sign (ASAP)

Repair/Purchase Boiler (DONE)

Plumbing Upgrades/Restrooms (2027)

Buy New Freezer (ASAP)

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 (2025-2027)

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 & 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. 3/2	<i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	9:45AM	Servant Outreach
Mon.	6:30PM	Guided Meditation
Tues.	10:00PM	Sewing Circle
	5:30PM	Mardi Gras Party
Wed.	12:00 & 7:00PM	Ash Wednesday Service
	1:00PM	Bound Together
	6:30PM	It's All Greek to Me Bible Study-SL
Thu.	10:00AM	Grateful Prayer Group-CC
	12:00Noon	CYFM
	7:30PM	NA Group
Fri.	7:30PM	AA
Sun. 3/9	<i>First Sunday in Lent</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	9:45AM	Property