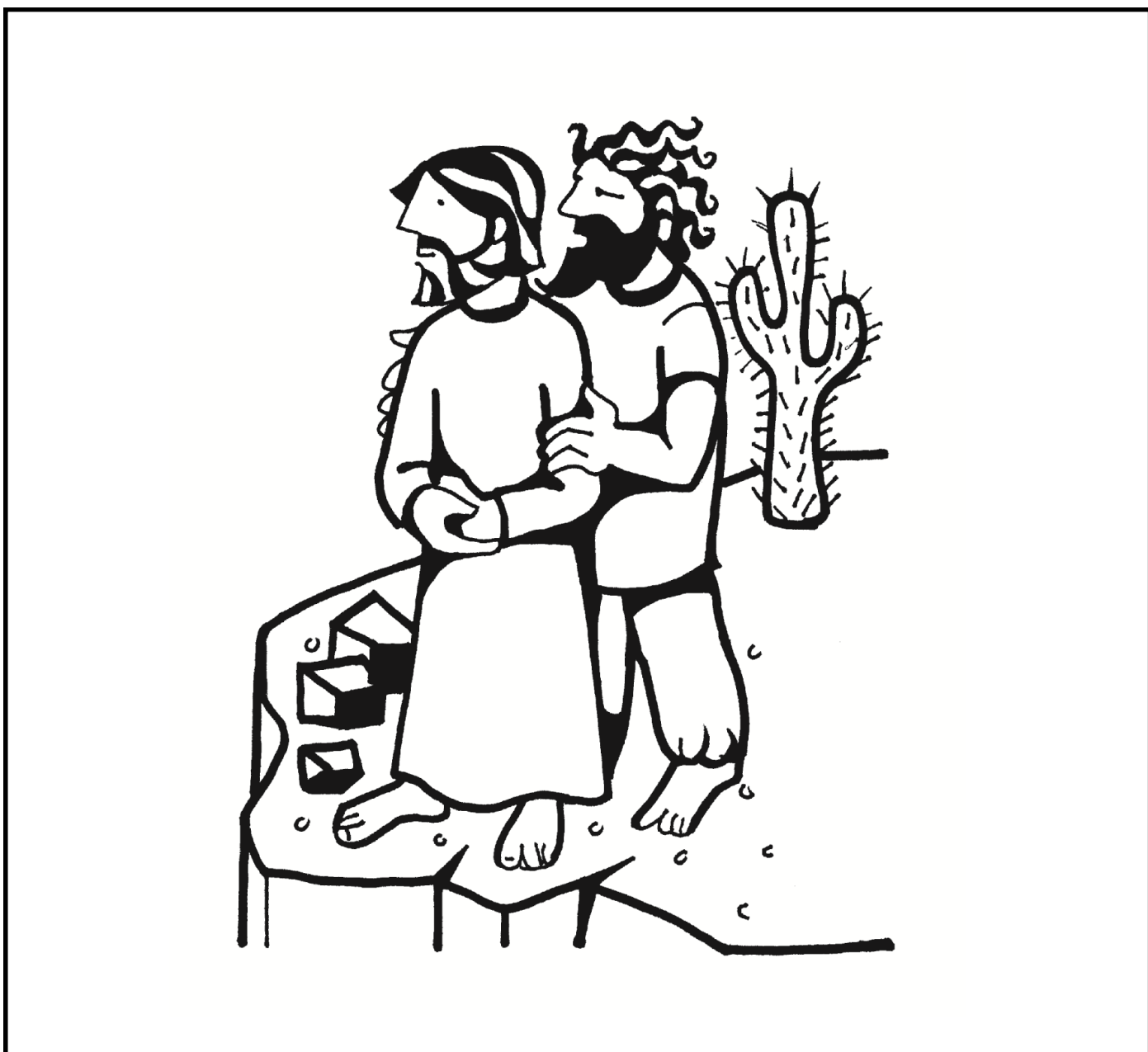


MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1st Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

Traditional Service



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

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	March 16
Asst. Min.	Brad Bresee	Savanna Conner
Lector	Laurie Hecht	Laurie Hecht
Usher	TBD	TBD
Sound System	TDB	TDB
Video	Brad Bresee	Savanna Conner
Counters	Linda Jones	Laurie Hecht
Altar Guild	Ann Kent, Linda Voigt	

We welcome Matt Lowther as our musicians today.

We welcome a New Members!

Marie Harman, Frank and Sydney Amicucci will be received as new members of Messiah today at the Gathering Worship Service at 11:00 am.

Welcome/Announcements

The Great Lenten Litany

- P** Lord, have mercy.
- P** Christ, have mercy.
- P** Lord, have mercy.
- P** O Christ, hear us.
- P** God, the Father in heaven,
- P** Be gracious to us.
- G** Lord, have mercy.
- G** Christ, have mercy.
- G** Lord, have mercy.
- G** In mercy hear us.
- G** have mercy on us.
- G** Spare us, good Lord.
- P** From all sin, from all error, from all evil; from the cunning assaults of the devil; from an unprepared and evil death:
- G** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P** From war, bloodshed, and violence; from corrupt and unjust government; from sedition and treason:
- G** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P** From epidemic, drought, and famine; from fire and flood, earthquake, lightning, and storm: and from everlasting death:
- G** **Good Lord, deliver us.**
- P** By the mystery of your incarnation; by your holy birth:
- G** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** By your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by your agony and bloody sweat; by your cross and suffering; by your death and burial:
- G** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** By your resurrection and ascension; by the gift of the Holy Spirit:
- G** **Help us, good Lord.**
- P** In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
- G** **Save us, good Lord.**
- P** Though unworthy, we implore you
- G** **to hear us, Lord our God.**
- P** To rule and govern your holy catholic church; to guide all servants of your church in the love of your word and in holiness of life; to put an end to all schisms and causes of offense to those who would believe; and to bring into the way of truth all who have

gone astray:

G We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

P To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful workers into your harvest; to accompany your word with your Spirit and power; to raise up those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the fainthearted and the distressed:

G We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

P To give to all nations justice and peace; to preserve our country from discord and strife; to direct and guard those who have civil authority; and to bless and guide all our people:

G We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

P To behold and help all who are in danger, need, or tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel; to preserve and provide for all women in childbirth; to watch over children and to guide the young; to heal the sick and to strengthen their families and friends; to bring reconciliation to families in discord; to provide for the unemployed and for all in need; to be merciful to all who are imprisoned; to support, comfort, and guide all orphans, widowers, and widows; and to have mercy on all your people:

G We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

P To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to reconcile us to them; to help us use wisely the fruits and treasures of the earth, the sea, and the air; and graciously to hear our prayers:

G We implore you to hear us, good Lord.

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

G we implore you to hear us.

P Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

G have mercy on us.

P Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

G give us peace. Amen.

P O Christ, hear us.

G In mercy hear us.

P Lord, have mercy.

G Lord, have mercy.

P Christ, have mercy.

G. Christ, have mercy.

P Lord, have mercy.

G Lord, have mercy.

Gathering Hymn *The Glory of These Forty Days*



1 The glo - ry of these for - ty days we cel - e -
2 A - lone and fast - ing Mo - ses saw the lov - ing
3 So Dan - iel trained his mys - tic sight, de - liv - ered
4 Then grant, O God, that we may, too, re - turn in
brate with songs of praise; for Christ, through whom all
God who gave the law; and to E - li - jah,
from the li - ons' might; and John, the Bride - groom'
fast and prayer to you. Our spir - its strength - en
things were made, him - self has fast - ed and has prayed.
fast - ing, came the steeds and char - i - ots of flame.
friend, be - came the her - ald of Mes - si - ah's name.
with your grace, and give us joy to see your face.

Greeting

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

G **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

P Let us Pray: O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G **Amen**

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

A The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson**Luke 4:1-13**

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give

it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.”

Jesus answered him, “It is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

A The Gospel of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Hymn of the Day A Mighty Fortress is Our God



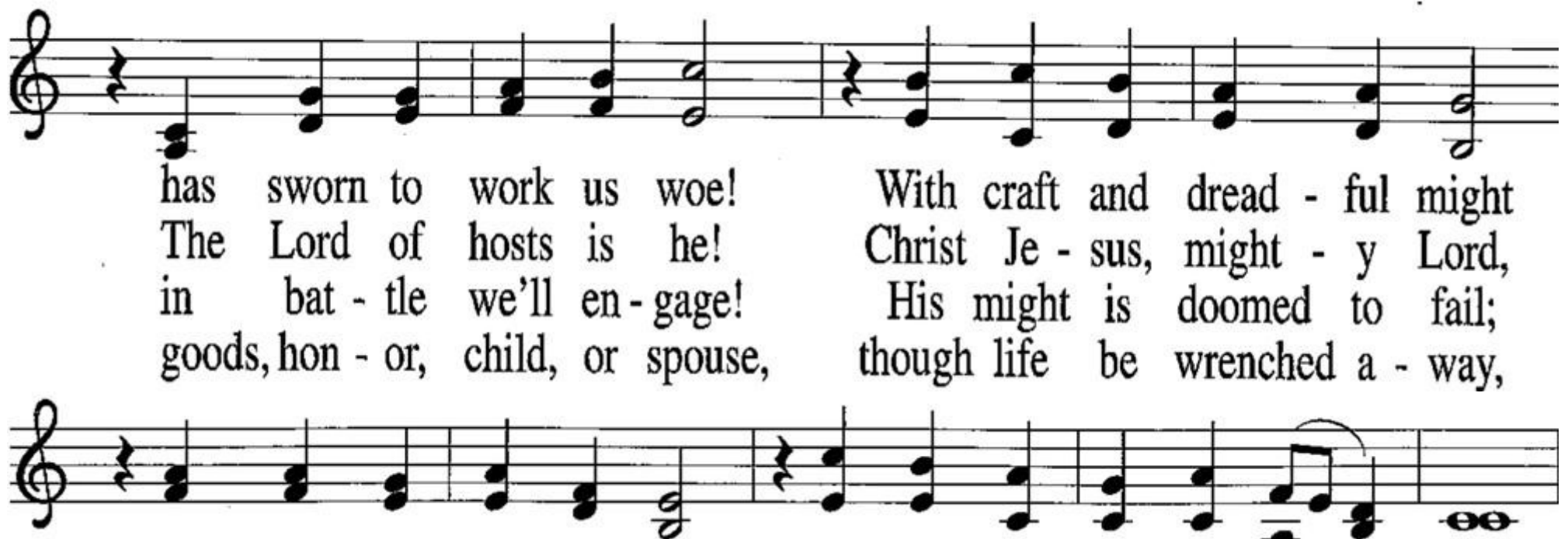
1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Creed

- P** Let us confess our faith with the word 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** Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need. God, in your mercy,
- C** **receive our prayer.**
- P** Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
- 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

Seek Ye First

[stand]

1 Seek ye . . . first the king - dom of God and its
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and

righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
you shall find; knock and the door shall be

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self

- A** Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Gracious Provider,
- C** **you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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.**

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
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

The Lord's Prayer

☩ 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

☩ All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

Lamb of God

☩ 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.

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.
- G** Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

- A** Let us pray. *(brief pause)* Generous Host,
- G** you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Blessing

- P** God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.
- G** Amen.

Sending Hymn *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious
bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me
with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er-more, ev - er-more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might-y arm, might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er-more, ev - er-more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Dismissal

- A** Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*The Palms are given to the Glory of God and in Memory of Bud Bresee by
the Bresee Family*

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.

New Member Reception: today after the Gathering Worship Service in Fellowship Hall.

Blood Drive at Erie Community Blood Bank: **March 10-15** M,TH,F: 8-5 W,T: 10-6 Sat: 9:30am-12:00; sign up at Fourhearts.org; Call the Blood Bank at 814-456-4206; Walk-ins are welcome; DONORS MUST: Be at least 17 years old or 16 with parental consent, Weigh at least 110 pounds, No tattoo or piercing in past 3 months, be in general good health and eat before donating; Photo ID is REQUIRED.

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 **Today**.

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.

Easter Flowers: order forms are on the counter in the Narthex. Help us beautify our church for Easter by sponsoring a spring, potted flower. for \$8.00 per plant. All orders are due by **Sunday, March 30!**

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

Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

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
PROPOSED - 2025 to 2027**

WORSHIP

Start?

Technology

Add Screens in sanctuary	(2025)
Update website	(2025)
Obtain Hearing Assisted Devices	(2025)

Music Ministry

Build out the Band	(2025)
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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)
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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 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**

Sun. 3/9	<i>1st Sunday in Lent</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion
	12:00Noon	Reception for new members
Mon.	6:30PM	Guided Meditation
Tues.	10:00PM	Sewing Circle
Wed.	11:00AM	Worship Committee
	5:30PM	Lenten Soup Supper
	6:00PM	Vesper Service
	6:30PM	It's All Greek to Me Bible Study-SL
Thu.	10:00AM	Grateful Prayer Group-CC
	7:30PM	NA Group
Fri.	7:30PM	AA
Sun. 3/16	<i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i>	
	8:30 and 11:00AM	Service of Holy Communion