

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

*The Lutheran Church-
Missouri Synod*

1308 Whitley Rd.
Keller, TX 76248

**Sunday School &
Adult Bible Class**
9:30am

Sunday Worship
8:00am, 10:45am

CHURCH OFFICE
(817) 431-2345

Rev. Thomas Chryst
Pastor

Rev. Jeremy McDonald
Vicar

CLASSICAL ACADEMY
(817) 431-5486

www.messiahkeller.org

www.mlcatexas.org

"The Spirit of the Lord
is upon Me"



FOR OUR VISITORS....

Welcome! *When the service begins with the procession of the crucifix, you may rise and turn to face the entrance of the sanctuary at the start of the first hymn, turning back to face the altar as the cross processes past you. This gesture of respect is repeated in reverse during the singing of the final hymn.*

We encourage you to follow along with either the printed service, or with the hymnal. The page numbers for the hymnal are posted at the front of the sanctuary and on the next page. We realize it can take a while for newcomers to become familiar with our liturgy, so please feel free to ask someone near you for assistance—he or she would be happy to help.

We love children in our church! But if your little one gets fussy you may use the cry room that is located at the north end of the hallway behind the sanctuary on your right. You are able to see and hear the worship service from there.



Follow the QR code to visit our **"Virtual Guestbook"** and tell us about yourself and your visit with us today. We also have a physical guestbook in the narthex.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in our services today. In this supper, our Lord Jesus Christ graciously feeds the humble sinner with His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Scripture clearly teaches that anyone who eats and drinks the body and blood of Christ without discerning that body and blood receives a judgment rather than a blessing from God (1 Cor. 11:29). Therefore, out of a Christian concern for souls, we require a thorough instruction in the teachings of the Lutheran Church before participating in this Sacrament. Participation at the altar is also a testimony of unity of faith with all others who partake (1 Cor. 10:17). Since unity at the altar presupposes unity in doctrine and confession (Acts 2:42), we kindly request that **only those who are in confessional fellowship** with the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod participate. This includes active members in good standing of all sister Missouri-Synod congregations.



We recognize that **Closed Communion** is a sensitive issue for many and have a brochure to explain it more thoroughly. It is available in the narthex or from an usher. If you have any questions or concerns, you are welcome to speak with our pastor.

We welcome both children and adults who are not communicant members of the Lutheran Church to come to the altar during communion for a pastoral blessing. Please indicate the request for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.

This morning's liturgy, hymns and bulletin are available in larger print. Please see an usher for a copy.

Divine Service—Setting Four—LSB 203

The Hymns:

849, 839 [10:45 Choir only vs. 1 & 3], 412

During Distribution:

333, 396

Sermon Title:

"Rejecting or Receiving
the Words of Life"

Scripture:

Luke 4:16-30

Prelude:

"Prelude in F" – George Frideric Handel "O Jesu
Christe, Wahres Licht"

(O Christ, Our True and Only Light)-settings by
Gerard Bunk and Benjamin M. Culli

Postlude:

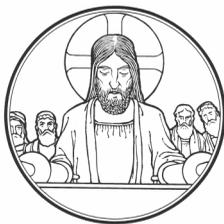
"Prelude and Fugue in F minor" – Johann Kaspar
Ferdinand Fischer

[10:45 AM] Choral Anthem:

"The Lord Is My Light" – by Michael Bedford

[10:45 AM] Psalm 19:

Sung by the choir



We welcome all who worship with us today in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who was sent to proclaim liberty to the captives. Today we hear Ezra reading to the people of Israel, newly returned to Jerusalem, from the scroll written by Moses through inspiration. The writings had long been lost and forgotten, and the people were eager to hear what God had to say. They mourned as they were convicted by the law they had neglected for years. Centuries later, the Fulfiller of that Law stood before another attentive crowd and read from the book of Isaiah, *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me...*, and declared Himself to be the One who was sent. This crowd, though, was not changed by the Word, but rejected its meaning. They listened, but they did not hear or understand. Today, we hear the Word of God read to us. In fact, we hear it every week and (hopefully) read it every day. Are we convicted by the Law as were those early Israelites? Or have we watered it down in our own minds, so that we don't seem that bad? When we hear the Gospel, do we embrace its sweetness and feel comforted by the forgiveness offered? Or are we only half listening because we have heard it all before. May God grant us all ears to listen and hearts to hear His Word, for we are the captives needing liberty, and the blind to whom sight has been restored. May we never take that for granted!

Serving in God's House Today

		8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Organist: Miguel Ruiz			
Altar Laurie Ward Guild: Angie Richmond Joan Burk Cathy Latham	Head Elder:	Mark Boyd	Lloyd King
	Head Usher:	Mark Boyd	Paul Hedman
Counters: Amy Hedman Marnee Crutchfield	Acolytes:	Cory O'Dell Baron Brandt	James Johnstone
	Crucifer:	Davis Richmond	William Johnstone

The flowers that adorn the altar this morning are given to the glory of God by Paula Wolff in loving memory of her husband Cal Wolff.

Introit *Psalm 102:18-22; antiphon v. 13*



You will arise and have pity on | Zion;*
it is the time to favor her; the appointed | time
has come.

**Let this be recorded for a genera- | tion to
come,***

**so that a people yet to be created may |
praise the LORD:**

that he looked down from his | holy height;*
from heaven the LORD looked | at the earth,

to hear the groans of the | prisoners,*

to set free those who were | doomed to die,
that they may declare in Zion the name | of the
LORD,*

and in Jerusa- | lem his praise,
when peoples gather to- | gether,*
and kingdoms, to wor- | ship the LORD.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

You will arise and have pity on | Zion;*
it is the time to favor her; the appointed | time has
come.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things
in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of
Your people and grant us Your peace through all our
days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one
God, now and forever.

Gradual *Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8*
(sung by the Kantor)

Praise the Lord, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Catechesis for the week of January 23

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

**It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus
Christ under the bread and the wine, instituted
by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and
to drink.**

Where is this written?

**The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke,
and Saint Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ,
on the night when He was betrayed, took
bread, and when He had given thanks, He
broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:
“Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for**

**you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the
same way also He took the cup after supper,
and when He had given thanks, He gave it
to them, saying, “Drink of it all of you; this
cup is the new testament in My blood, which
is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in
remembrance of Me.”**

Scripture:

**[Jesus said...] “If you abide in my word, you
are truly my disciples, and you will know the
truth, and the truth will set you free.”**

John 8:31-32

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

TODAY 01/23 - 8:00AM - DIVINE SERVICE—STREAMING LIVE
 - 9:30AM - ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL—STREAMING LIVE
 - 10:45AM - DIVINE SERVICE AND NEW MEMBER INSTALLATION
 - 4:00PM - MESSIAH VOLLEYBALL

MONDAY 01/24 - 8:30AM - DAILY CHAPEL [MONDAY-FRIDAY-ALL ARE WELCOME]

TUESDAY 01/25 - 9:30AM - JOY GROUP—FELLOWSHIP HALL
 - 6:30PM - WOMAN'S BIBLE STUDY—CHURCH PARLOR
 - 7:00PM - CONFIRMATION 2—SCHOOL LIBRARY AND
 - CONFIRMATION 3—FELLOWSHIP HALL

WEDNESDAY 01/26 - -

THURSDAY 01/27 - -

FRIDAY 01/28 - 6:30PM - OPEN BRAILLE WORKSHOP [MAC BUILDING]

SATURDAY 01/29 - -

WELCOME

New Members

This morning we welcome **Ada Towers** and **Anne Miert** into membership at the 10:45am service. Please welcome them following the service.



THE 2022 ALTAR FLOWER CHART is up in the preschool hallway outside the copy room. As you may already know, the flowers that adorn the altar each Sunday are donated by congregation members. To choose the date to contribute flowers—simply write your name next to the Sunday date that you desire. An occasion may be designated such as a birthday, baptism, or wedding anniversary, or in memory of a family member or friend...or to the glory of God! The donor and occasion are noted each week in the bulletin. Each Sunday's flowers (2 vases) cost \$50. You may write a check to Messiah and designate "flowers" on the memo line and put it in the Collection plate on Sunday morning. If you choose to pay in cash, please be sure it is in a sealed envelope with your name and "flowers" marked on the outside. Donors may take the flowers home following the second service on Sunday.

We appreciate and thank all those who have so generously contributed to the beautification of the altar with flowers throughout the years past, and hope and encourage everyone to consider participating in this means of sharing God's wonderful creations in our worship services.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS: January 23—February 5

23: Joel 2:18-32 Rom. 11:25-12:13	27: Zech. 4:1-5:11 Rom. 15:14-33	31: Zech. 10:1-11:3 2 Tim. 3:1-17	04: Job 1:1-22 John 1:1-18
24: Joel 3:1-21 Rom. 12:14-13:14	28: Zech. 6:1-7:14 Rom. 16:17-27	01: Zech. 11:4-17 2 Tim. 4:1-18	05: Job 2:1-3:10 John 1:19-34
25: Zech. 1:1-21 Rom. 14:1-23	29: Zech 8:1-23 2 Tim. 1:1-18	02: Zech 12:1-13:9 Titus 1:1-2:6	
26: Zech. 2:1-3:10 Rom. 15:1-13	30: Zech. 9:1-17 2 Tim. 2:1-26	03: Zech. 14:1-21 Titus 2:7-3:15	

Please keep in your prayers...

The Lord has called home to himself our dear brother in Christ, **Joe Scroggins** who passed away peacefully on January 13th. We pray for peace and comfort for the family. The funeral took place January 19th in Waco.

The family of **Danny Lage'**, Bruce Lage's nephew, who recently died from Covid.

Continuing prayers for **Jacob Brewer**.

Barbara Blaschke's brother **Robert Wunsch**, had successful reconstructive surgery to remove cancer cells.

We continue to pray for our members and loved ones battling cancer: Harold Karner, Trey Holtzclaw, Hannah Weems, Mike Mislan, Elliot Harvey, Don Hortberg, Arielle Bates, Glenn Young, Ilene Wright, Kevin Scott, Phyllis Adams, Greg Whitman, Dale McGinnis, Larry Hyden, Jon Currie, Kathy Hip, Piper Spear.

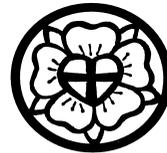
...those with other illnesses and trials: Jenna Burk, Ruth Strauch, Sharon Currie, John Sweet, Mary Lowry, Melanie Wesley, Renee Whiteside, Katie Friend, Michael Hooper, Ron and Barbara Busse, Shelly Wittman, Harold and Jane Ruppert, Maureen Haag, Lisa Preston, Chrissie Billet, Jacob Brewer, Dawn Holden, Dr Laverne Fitch, Evelyn Favre, Cody Joplin, Bruce Lage, Larry Thompson, Bob Lemmon, Bruce King, Ashley Hutto, Billie Jean Rainge, Emory Bates, Lauren Lewis, Jim Rydman, Beatriz Bailey, Allen Baker, Cathy Weddle, Patty Clark, John Guyer, Eugene Kroeger.

...and those who are unable to worship with us regularly: Walter Cornelius, Ellois Fick, LaVina Goedecke, Janet Hazlehurst, Roger & Joanna Isringhaus, Bettye Kohrs, Joe Scroggins, Annie Mae Stone, Ron Klingbeil, Rudi Milbitz.

We remember all those serving our country, particularly our members and loved ones in the military: Hannah Pinkston, Hannah Kajer, Nicolas Towers, Tony Bourassa, Tyler Burk, David Cantrell, Cassie Gessling, T. J. Greer, Austin Howell, Joseph Kajer, Seth Kirch, Andrew Latham, Matthew Latham, Stephen Simmons, Collin Snyder, Brandon Towers, Carly Towers, Chaplain Paul Weber, Frank Wilde.

We also pray for...

- our educational ministry, especially our Academy and Sunday School,
- fellow Messiah members, Pastor Chryst, Deaconess Buhler and Messiah's Vicar, Pastor McDonald.
- the voters, church council, and leaders of Messiah church and school as they deliberate on the work the Lord has given His people to do,
- our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world being persecuted for their faith,
- the spread of the Gospel around our nation and world and the work of our missionaries and relief workers
- Rev. Solomon Yadessa and his work with the Multi-Ethnic Ministry of North Texas.
- Mr. Phillip Magny and his work in Africa through the LCMS.
- our Braille ministry, that the Word will continue to reach blind or visually impaired people around the world, and for more volunteers to make it possible.
- the Swaddling Clothes ministry and those who come seeking assistance,
- the men in our seminaries, as they prepare to serve in the Holy Ministry.



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Vicar: Pastor: Jeremy.mcdonald@ctsfw.edu
Pamela Buhler: deaconess.buhler@messiahkeller.org
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Director of Parish Music: miguel.ruiz@messiahkeller.org
Church Office Administrator: jaana.phillips@messiahkeller.org

MLCA Office: schooloffice@mlcatexas.org
Financial Manager: jinel.munoz@messiahkeller.org
School Board: schoolboard@mlcatexas.org
Board of Trustees: trustees@messiahkeller.org
Church Office: churchoffice@messiahkeller.org



THIS MORNING WE OBSERVE "LIFE SUNDAY". This annual observance affirms that all human life is created by God and reflects His image. Our lives are precious in His sight from conception until He calls us home. We also sadly note that in this country alone, over 62 million lives have been taken via abortion since it was legalized on January 22nd, 1973 by the Roe v. Wade decision. We pray that the Lord of Life will turn hearts toward Him in repentance and bring an end to this barbaric practice. We also rejoice in the forgiveness of Christ, whose blood covers all sins for those who trust in Him, even the sin of abortion.

North Texas FREE Conference ~ "Christians In A Woke World! A Call to Courage, Confession and Love" is being held this Saturday, January 29th from 8am-12:30pm at the Faith Lutheran Church in Plano. Guest speaker Rev. Paul Dare will speak on social justice, privilege and other dangerous ideologies and how to answer tough questions according to scripture. To register click on this link [~North Texas Free Conference](#) or contact the church at 972-423-7447.

Quarterly Voters' Meeting is meeting next Sunday, **January 30th** immediately following the second service. This meeting will include the **election of officers for the 2022 year**. If you have questions concerning your member status or are interested in serving on a board, please contact Bill Brandt at wpbd77@yahoo.com.

Messiah is in search of a VBS Director for this 2022 summer's program. If you are interested or would like to know more, **please contact** Pastor Chryst, Matthew Latham or Vera Sweet.

The weekly "GriefShare" Workshop will meet this Thursday, January 27th at 7:00pm at Holy Shepherd Church in Haslet. Email deaconess.buhler@gmail.com for questions.

Community Storehouse of Keller is collecting winter hats, gloves and scarves for the month of January. Donations can be dropped off in the narthex. Thank you!

Financial statements have been placed in all Messiah members' mailboxes and all non-member statements were mailed out last week. If you have any questions, or have found discrepancies, please email by January 31st financial.secretary@messiahkeller.org.



Be sure to check out the table in the Narthex and pick up your copy of the **Messiah Messenger Newsletter for January**. You can also click online at this link [Jan Newsletter](#) or scan the QR code.

Open Braille Workshop will meet this Friday, **January 28th** from 6pm—8pm in the MAC building. Deaconess Elizabeth from Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church will be there to assist. Contact Barbara Pinero at 682-552-3622 or email bpinero1scom@gmail.com for questions.



STEWARDS UNDER THE CROSS [January 23 – Third Sunday after Epiphany] -1 Corinthians 12:16 – "And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body." The Lord has called each of us individually and given each of us unique gifts. He has made our whole lives holy in our Baptism and has called us to a life together in the Church, His body. You are a part of that body, and that body needs you and the gifts the Lord has given you. This is your holy calling from the Lord.



LIFE THOUGHT IN THE CHURCH YEAR FOR JANUARY 23 – Epiphany III: Did Nehemiah's people weep for gladness or grief at the Word of the Lord (8:9)? Were they ashamed or excited to hear how He values even the seemingly weakest among us (1 Corinthians 12:22)? Did they resist or insist on acclaiming and proclaiming His favor unto people of whatever abilities or impairments (Luke 4:18-19)? Will we let these gracious words of good news fall silent before the altars of abortion and assisted suicide?

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE—Last Sunday 8:00am: 79 10:45: 85 Sunday School: 40
Weekly OFFERINGS: \$5,141.71 (including online giving to Gen. Fund & Special Services)



About the Cover

As Jesus unrolled the scroll of Isaiah to read, those gathered saw the fulfillment of Scripture right before their eyes. The Spirit is upon Him—the Spirit who descended upon Him in His Baptism, drove Him out into the wilderness, and worked through His mission to lift up the poor, captive, blind, and oppressed. This is the year of the Lord's favor. In Christ, we stand in an eternity of the Lord's favor, for He has died and risen to lift us up, heal us, and set us free from sin and death.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

¹All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. ²So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. ³And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . . ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. . . . ⁸They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more

representable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administering, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

Holy Gospel: Luke 4:16–30

¹⁶[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

- ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to
the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Physician, heal yourself.' What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well." ²⁴And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But passing through their midst, he went away.