

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A faithful, serving community, joyfully sharing Christ's love.



Day of Pentecost

May 24, 2026

228 Ramapo Valley Rd, Oakland NJ 07436

www.messiahoaklandnj.org | 201-337-4900

@MessiahOaklandNJ

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

The congregation is invited to worship in any way that is comfortable and meaningful such as standing, sitting, kneeling, coloring, etc. You may join in worship by speaking the responses in bold type.

SILENT MEDITATION DURING PRELUDE

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Have mercy, O God, against you, you alone, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us. Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for us. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for us. As far as east is from west, so far God removes our sin from us, renewing our life through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

GATHERING HYMN God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind ELW #400



1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -
2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

GREETING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



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



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



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

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



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

FIRST READING: A Reading from Acts 2:1-21

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.” ¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ ”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b will be read responsively

²⁴ How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵ **Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.**

²⁶ There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷ **All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.**

²⁸ You give it to them; they gather it:

you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹ **When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.**

³⁰ You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹ **May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
O LORD, rejoice in all your works.**

³² You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³ **I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.**

³⁴ May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.

^{35b} **Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: A Reading from 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

^{3b} No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit,⁵ and there are varieties of services but the same Lord,⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit,⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit,¹⁰ to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.¹² For 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.¹³ For in the one Spirit we

were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW pg.151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE GOSPEL: The Holy Gospel according to John 20:19-23

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



Refrain
“A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings.”
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your grace, **Tend to our prayers.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, such as a handshake, hug, or peace sign and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING

Offering can be left in the plates at the back of the sanctuary, sent to the church office, or given online by using the QR code to the right.



MUSCAL OFFERING Remain in Me, I am the Vine Messiah Singers

OFFERTORY*Let the Vinyards Be Fruitful*

ELW #184



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. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, 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.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

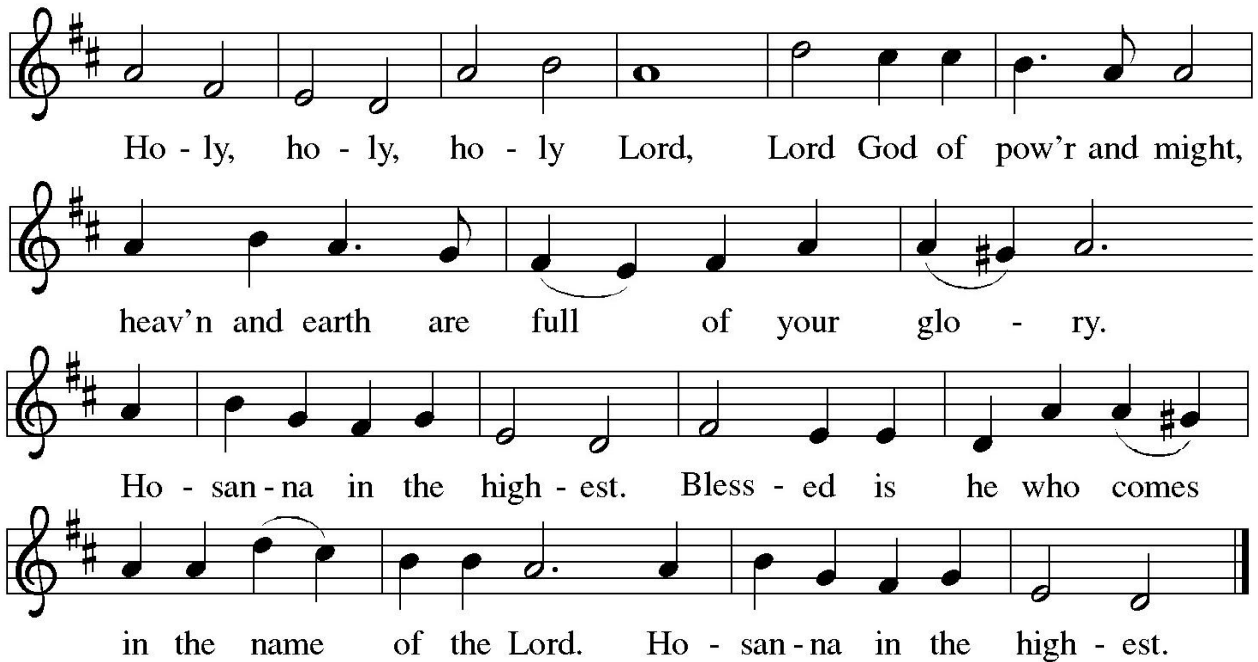
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
 heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

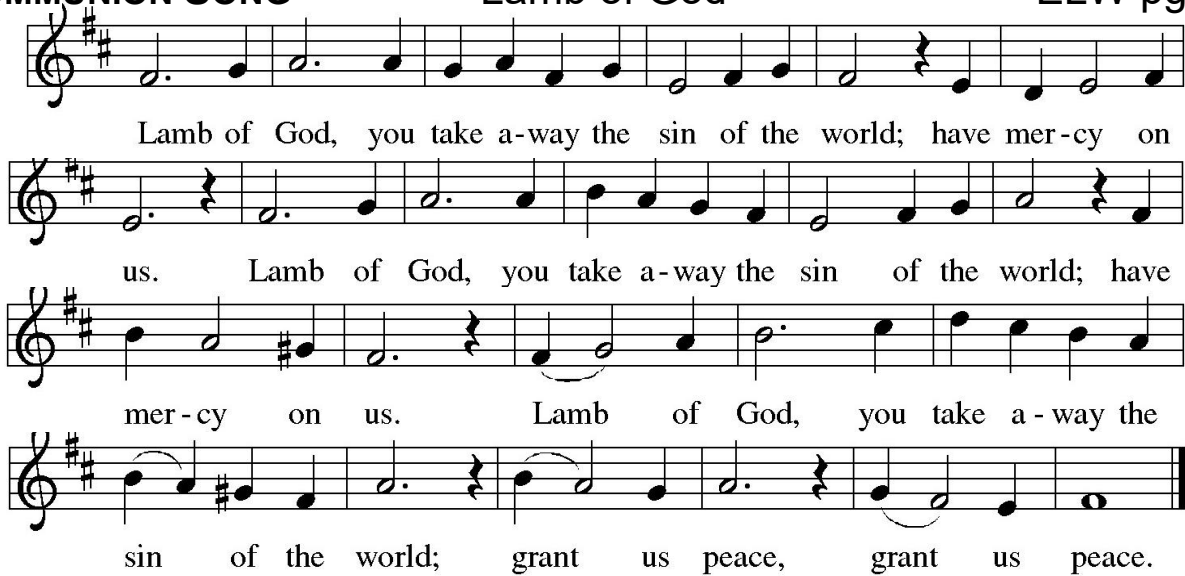
COMMUNION

We invite you to commune in whatever way is comfortable to you either from your seat using the prepackaged elements or by coming forward to the altar rail. To commune at the altar rail, please proceed down the diagonal aisles and pick up a cup from the silver plates. You will be given a wafer and then offered wine (first chalice) or grape juice (second chalice). For those communing online, please join us using whatever bread/crackers and wine/grape juice you have at home. All are welcome at God's table.

The body and blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen**

COMMUNION SONG**Lamb of God**

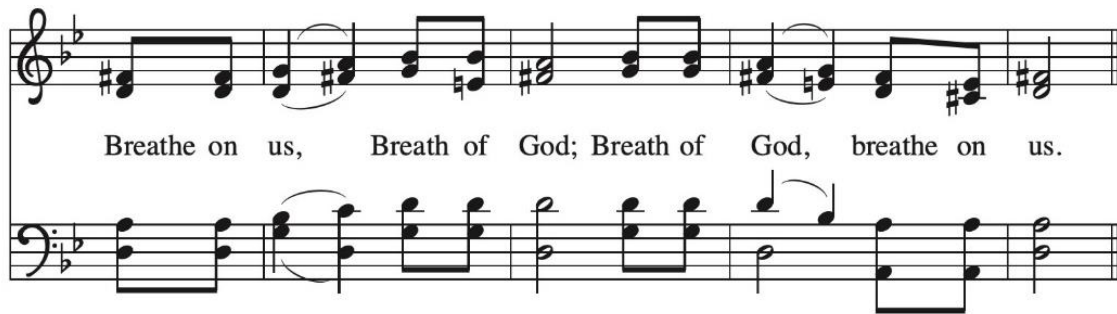
ELW pg.154



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.

COMMUNION**Breathe on Us, Breath of God**

ACS #941



Breathe on us, Breath of God; Breath of God, breathe on us.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy One, 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

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. **Amen.**



1 O Spir - it all - em - brac - ing and coun - sel - or all - wise,
 2 O Beau - ty ev - er blaz - ing in flow - er, field, and face,
 3 Come, pas - sion's pow - er ho - ly, your in - sight here im - part,



un - bound - ed splen - dor grac - ing a shore - less sea of skies:
 you show your - self a - maz - ing in un - ex - pect - ed place.
 and give your ser - vants low - ly an un - der - stand - ing heart



un - fail - ing is your trea - sure, un - fad - ing your re - ward;
 We see you and re - mem - ber what once our dreams had been;
 to know your care more clear - ly when faith and love are tried,



sur - pass - ing world - ly plea - sure, the rich - es you af - ford.
 you fan the glow - ing em - ber and kin - dle hope with - in.
 to seek you more sin - cere - ly when false i - deals have died:



Come, stream of end - less flow - ing, and res - cue us from death;
 Come, fire of glo - ry gra - cious, bless all who trust in you;
 for vi - sion we im - plore you, for wis - dom's pure de - light;



come, wind of spring - time blow - ing, and warm us by your breath.
 un - dy - ing flame te - na - cious, burn in your church a - new.
 in prayer we come be - fore you to wait up - on your light.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED

Congregational Representative: Bob, as you leave Messiah Lutheran Church, we wish to bid you farewell.

The Apostle Paul writes: I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:3-5)

The Psalmist sings: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before the Lord with joyful

songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is God who made us and we belong to God: we are God's people. Enter the gates with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks to God and praise God's name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; God's faithfulness continues through all generations (Psalm 100)

When you came to this congregation, we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share as the people of God. God has blessed you in this community, and God has blessed us through you.

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servant Bob who has enriched this congregation through his work as our organist and music director these many years. For the gifts you have given him that he might serve your people, for opportunities to grow and learn, for relationships built through years of connection, we give you thanks O God. Now bless and preserve him at this time of transition. By your Holy Spirit be present in his pilgrimage, that he may go with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

You have been a blessing to this congregation and to the world. We now bless you as you enter this next phase of life.

Go with love. Go with joy. Go with music. Go with peace. The Spirit of God goes with you. Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

**PLEASE JOIN US AFTER WORSHIP FOR A FAREWELL COFFEE HOUR
IN CELEBRATION OF BOB'S 20 YEARS SERVING MESSIAH LUTHERAN!**

TODAY'S MINISTERS

GUEST PASTOR: Rev. Dean Brown

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Bob Luderer

LAY READER: Michele Weintraub

USHER: Ron Rubner

GREETER: Marilyn Rubner

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Michele
Weintraub & Susanne Herbst

ALTAR GUILD: Brigitte Albrecht &
Susanne Herbst

FLOWER GUILD: Brigitte Albrecht

VIDEO TECH: Nick DeRoda/ Don Brown

COUNTERS: Nancy Krause & Arnold Ludke

COORDINATING COUNCILOR:
Michele Weintraub

COFFEE HOUR: Farewell Coffee
Hour in celebration of Bob

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

MONDAY: Office Closed for Memorial Day
TUESDAY: 6:30 pm AA Meeting
THURSDAY: 7:30 pm Band practice
SUNDAY: 10:00 am Worship

UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Holy Trinity, May 31, 2026 | 10:00am Worship Service

MAY BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH: Cross Roads Camp and Retreat

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ponds Food Pantry: Spring Stock Up! Help fill the shelves! Drop off hrs: Tuesday 10-1, Thursday 3-7 and Saturday 10-1. Please see QR code on the right to see their Amazon Wish List.



Ray Cordell Concert to Benefit Ponds Food Pantry

Saturday, May 30th, 2026 from 7 to 9 pm at Ponds Reformed Church
Enjoy a magical evening of music featuring international recording artist and singer Ray Cordell. Tickets are \$10 using the QR code.



Special Program for Father's Day As a way to honor the special men in your life, we will have a special bulletin insert on Father's Day with a list of your loved ones. If you would like, you may donate \$1.00 per name (or whatever amount you wish) which will go to Pastor's Discretionary Fund. Please mark your check or envelope with notation of "Father's Day" to assist our counters. Forms are due by June 14th.



Please keep in prayer the following people in our Messiah family: Jonny & Natalie, Kim, Len, Mike, Alex and Sue. **And the following friends and family:** All affected by seasonal

illnesses; All those in the armed forces, especially those connected to our congregation, Evan and Joseph; Jeff; David; Kurt; Peter & Joyce; Mark and Keith, Susanne's friends; Gayle, friend of Joan & Eleanore; June, Lee's mother; Miro, Vesna's father; Erika, Kristen's sister; Thomas, friend of Tony & Edie; John, Joan, Herb, Todd, Gus, Peggy, Jim, Kathy, and Carol, Ron and Marilyn's friends; Kim, friend of Sue; Marilyn & Vincent, Lisa's parents; Ron & June, Karen's parents; Melinda & Paul, Eleanore's sister & nephew; Jennifer, friend of Sue & Eleanore; Nancy, friend of Kim; Peggy & Christine, Alex's aunts; Alexa & Hank friends of Nancy; Peter, Terri's father; Julie, family friend of Nancy; Paula, friend of Nancy; Janice, food pantry volunteer; Joan, Friend of Ron & Marilyn; Keith, Karen & Clyde, Valerie's brother & friends; The friends and family of Helen Elrod.