

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

June 28, 2026

228 Ramapo Valley Rd, Oakland NJ 07436

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@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, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Parent, † Child, & Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

God Welcomes All

ACS #978

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

GREETING

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, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵ The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. ⁷ But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸ The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM: 89:1-4, 15-18 will be read responsively

¹ Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

² **For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

³ "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

⁴ **'I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.'**"

¹⁵ Happy are the people who know the festal shout!

They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

¹⁶ **They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

¹⁸ **Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD; our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3: 10-17

¹⁰ Now you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, ¹¹ my persecutions, and my sufferings, the things that happened to me in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra. What persecutions I endured! Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² Indeed, all who want to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. ¹³ But wicked people and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving others and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW #172

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

GOSPEL: The Holy Gospel According to Matthew 10:40-42

Glory to you, O Lord

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.

⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous,

⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

“A Sermon by the Book”

HYMN OF THE DAY God, We Gather As Your People ACS# 1038

¹God, we gather as your people to raise our song above,
and we dare to claim the promise of your love.
Though the day may not yet be here,
we trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.

Refrain: Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened,
fling the church doors open wide.

May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside.
For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong.
May that welcome be our song.

²Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free;
and we sing for generations yet to be,
that they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest.
May they, in your love, find rest. *Refrain*

³Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and shame,
so afraid of who they are and whom they love.
May the message now be banished that your love is for the few;
may their faith in you renew. *Refrain*

⁴God, we're working for the future when children far and wide
can live their lives with dignity and pride.
As they grow in strength and stature, may they join us hand in hand,
as against all hate we stand. *Refrain*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was
conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he
descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he
ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the
Father, and he will come 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

God, who sees and knows all things, who hears our prayers and listens to our cries, we lift these prayers to you, out loud and silently in our hearts.

God of Mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new. We thank you especially:

For the sustaining goodness of your creation

For the gifts of healing and forgiveness

For the gifts of relationships with others

For the communion of faith in your church

For what else do we thank God?..... God of Grace,

Hear our Prayer

God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord. We pray especially:

For our Bishops, Yehiel and Christa, our missionary, Kristin

For those who govern nations of the world

For the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare

For all who work for peace and international harmony

For all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction

For the believers of Christ in every land

For those in need of healing and comfort

For what and who else do we pray?..... God of Grace,

Hear our Prayer

God of Grace, we cry out to you and pray for all those in need, knowing that prayer changes lives. For what else do we want to pray to God?..... God of Grace,

Hear our Prayer

God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

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.



OFFERTORY

Create in Me a Clean Heart

W&P #34

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, O Lord,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,
and renew a right spirit within me.

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **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.

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, & the glory are yours, now & forever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

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, shed for you. **Amen**

COMMUNION SONG God Extends an Invitation ELW #486

God extends an invitation to the table of creation,
where there's wine and light and bread.

Here we gather in thanksgiving and we offer all our living.
Here the feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

COMMUNION HYMN Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ WOV #754

¹Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain: Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

²Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

Refrain

³Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!

Refrain

TABLE BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts
are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we,
through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have
shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit
nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING FOR GRADUATES 2026

We are delighted to bless our graduates today. It is our privilege to
affirm those who have completed one phase of their lives and move
with great expectations to another. Today we celebrate so many other
graduates we name out loud or silently now.

Dear graduates: At this special time in your life we are eager to show
you how delighted we are that you have reached this milestone in
your life. We rejoice with you and want you to know of our pride and
excitement as you move from this accomplishment into the next

phase of your life. We also want you to know that wherever you go and whatever you do, you are going forward with our prayers for God's continued guidance, power, protection, and strength.

Let us pray, Gracious God, you bless your servants with many achievements. We give thanks especially today for the milestones that these graduates have attained. Bless them as they begin new phases of their lives, may they know your love in all the experiences they have. Bless the parents and guardians of these students, who raised their children and nourished them in Christian faith. Give them strength in your holy presence, and give them many joyful reunions with their sons and daughters, those who are leaving home, and those staying close by. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Members and friends of Messiah Lutheran Church, will you promise to keep these graduates and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they go forth into the future? If so, please say "we will". **We will.**

Congratulations to our graduates!

Go out into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoice in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Shout to the Lord

ELW #821

Favorite of Kim Niland and Amy Ludke

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord, there is none like you.

All of my days I want to praise the wonders of your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter, tower of refuge and strength;
let ev'ry breath, all that I am never cease to worship you.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing
power and majesty, praise to the King.

Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of your name.

I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
forever I'll love you, forever I'll stand.

Nothing compares to the promise I have in you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near, go share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

JOIN US FOR SUNDAES ON SUNDAY IN CELEBRATION OF OUR GRADUATES!

UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 5, 2026 | 10:00am Worship

JUNE BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH: The Trevor Project

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

MONDAY: 7:00 pm Council Meeting on Zoom
TUESDAY: 6:30 pm AA Meeting
THURSDAY: 7:30 pm Band practice
SUNDAY: 10:00 am Worship

TODAY'S MINISTERS

GUEST PASTOR: Rev. Wayne Plumstead

BAND MEMBERS: Jerri & Klaus Angermueller, Nick DeRoda, Nancy & Steve Krause, and Jack

LAY READER: Eleanore Orman

USHER: Don Brown

GREETER: Lee Haymon

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Brigitte Albrecht & Susanne Herbst

ALTAR GUILD: Marilyn Rubner & Kristen Rios

FLOWER GUILD: Nancy Krause

FLOWERS GIVEN BY: Boyce Family

VIDEO TECH: Alex Boyce

COUNTERS: Nancy Krause & Joan Ludke

COORDINATING COUNCILOR:

Nancy Krause

COFFEE HOUR: Sundaes on Sunday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Camp-Over: For Kids of All Ages! Join us Sat. July 11th, at 3pm for an afternoon and evening of fellowship and fun! The fun starts at 3pm, but feel free to drop in whenever, no camping required. Dinner is bring-your-own, plus a side to share. We'll have the grill going, a campfire ready, and dessert. For those brave souls who choose to camp overnight, your reward will be fresh-baked cinnamon rolls for breakfast. Come for a little while or stay the night, we'd love to see you! Contact Lida with any questions!

Pride at the Oakland Elks Lodge: Today June 28th from 1:00- 5:00pm!

Bible Study: Will not meet July 2nd. Next Bible Study will be July 18th!

Book Club on Zoom, 7:00 pm: July 13th, "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi.



Please keep in prayer the following people in our Messiah family: Jonny & Natalie, Kim, Len, Mike, Sue and Alex. **And the following friends and family:** All affected by seasonal illnesses; All those in the armed forces, especially those connected to our congregation including Evan and Joseph; Erika, Kristen's sister; June, Lee's mother; Keith, Karen & Clyde, Valerie's brother & friends; Marilyn & Vincent, Lisa's parents; Melinda & Paul, Eleanore's sister & nephew; Miro, Vesna's father; Ron & June, Karen's parents; Alexa and Hank friends of Nancy; Gayle, friend of Joan & Eleanore; Janice, food pantry volunteer; Jennifer, friend of Sue & Eleanore; John, Joan, Todd, Peggy, Jim, Kathy, Carol, and Ellie, Ron and Marilyn's friends; Kim, friend of Sue; Mark and Keith, Susanne's friends; Michele H., friend of Weintraub's; Nancy, friend of Kim; Paula, friend of Nancy; Peggy & Christine, Alex's aunts; Peter, Terri's father; Julie, family friend of Nancy; Thomas, friend of Tony & Edie

Please let us know if you have changes we should make to our prayer list



Congratulations and Blessings to the Graduates!

Katie, Mass. College of Art and Design

Andrew, CDL Driving School

Noelle, 5th Grade

Zeke, Highschool & College AA Degree

Jack, 5th Grade

Allie, 5th Grade

Tristan, 8th Grade

Emily, Boston University

Sofia, High School

Dominick, High School

Natalie, Pre- K

Jason, 5th grade

Tucker, 5th Grade

Maria, High School

Nicholas, High School