




May 17, 2026 • Commitment Sunday


WELCOME! We're glad you're here!

At Messiah Church, we covenant to *become love* in word, action, and deed. **We welcome and affirm the full inclusion of all people** — all ages, all races and ethnicities, all LGBTQIA+, all political affiliations, all economic statuses, and all abilities — into the life and ministry of the church. Moving forward in bold hope, we renew our commitment to follow the inclusive example and teachings of Jesus. We choose to *become love*.

This bulletin can also be accessed online on our website and church app. To view the online version, visit MessiahChurch.org/Resources. The online bulletin includes web links for any gray, underlined text.

 **Let us know you worshipped with us** by using our printed or online [Connect Card](#). You can also include a prayer request which will be shared with our Pastors and Prayer Team.

First time here? We'd like to thank you with a donation in your honor to one of our community partners. Select the organization of your choice on your [Connect Card](#).

 **Thank you for financially supporting Messiah Church!** There are many ways to give: an offering box is just outside the sanctuary; online at MessiahChurch.org/Give; through our app; by scanning the QR code; or by mailing your offering to Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447.

Prelude *Let All Talents and Tongues Employ* (arr. Austin)

Welcome / [Attendance](#)

* Call to Worship

* Praise Songs

Glorious Day (Passion)

God is Able (Hillsong Worship)

Sacrament of Baptism

Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release

Anthem *What a Beautiful Name / Agnus Dei* (Cottrell)

* Scripture: [Luke 16:1-13](#) Joan McNutt

Message *Children of the Light: Created to Bless*

Stewardship Video

Dedication of Gifts

Special Music

Take My Life and Let it Be

[Offering](#) / Offering Prayer

Reception of New Members

* Benediction

Aaron's Blessing (Ortega)

° Postlude

Marche Religieuse (Hinton)

* Please stand as you are able.

° You are invited to be seated and enjoy the postlude or to leave the sanctuary quietly.

LOVING GOD. LOVING EACH OTHER. LOVING THE WORLD.

GROW PRAY STUDY (GPS)

A Daily Devotional

Monday 5/18

Tuesday 5/19

Wednesday 5/20

Thursday 5/21

Friday 5/22

Saturday 5/23

[Luke 16:1-13](#)

[Luke 9:1-6](#)

[Luke 17:1-6](#)

[Acts 2:43-47](#)

[Mark 2:18-20](#)

[Micah 6:6-8](#)

Find the weekly GPS online at MessiahChurch.org/Resources. To receive the daily GPS by email, contact Carolyn Loeffler in the church office at cloeffler@messiahchurch.org.

PRAYER

Lift Up Our Church Family in Prayer

Prayers for Health and Healing for:

Carol B, Chuck E,
Johnna H, Dennis L,
Ed P, Barb W

Prayers for Those Serving in the Military:

Grant C, Jin J, Tim M,
Tyler W, Elisabeth W

Prayers of Comfort and Peace for the families and friends of: James Shrack, who passed away April 28 - a Celebration of Life will be at Messiah on Saturday, June 6 at noon with a gathering time beginning at 11 am.

Altar flowers today are given by Hal & Dee Broxey in celebration of Imara International and motherhood.

At Messiah, we love walking with children and youth on their journeys to follow Jesus. To do that, we offer several Sunday morning classes: **Children in pre-K through 5th grade** gather for KID Street Sunday School during worship. Kids begin in worship, are released to Sunday School mid-service, and can be picked up downstairs after worship. **Youth in grades 6-8** gather in the Youth Room for Sunday School. Youth begin in worship and are dismissed with the kids mid-service. **Nursery care** is available during worship for infants and toddlers (through age 3). Children can be dropped off downstairs in the KID Street HQ before worship begins. *All children and youth are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary if your family prefers to worship together.* Prefer to keep your little one with you? We're not bothered by wiggles or noise! If it's helpful, **"busy bags"** are available at the back of the sanctuary, and worship is streaming in the atrium and Heritage Hall. Ushers are happy to help guide you.

An **induction hearing loop** is available in our sanctuary for those

with t-coil hearing aids or cochlear implants.

COMING UP @ MESSIAH

Stay connected to all things Messiah during the week at MessiahChurch.org, "Messiah United Methodist Church" on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#) and the "Coming Up @ Messiah" weekly email. To receive our weekly emails, contact Carolyn Loeffler at cloeffler@messiahchurch.org, and she will place you on the email list.

Beginning today through Sunday, September 6, we will unite for ONE blended worship service at 9:30 am. Let's worship, sing, and grow in faith together all summer.

This morning is **Dedication Sunday**, when we will be inviting all of our members to return their Estimate of Annual Giving Cards toward the work of Messiah's ministry in 2026-27. We will present our Giving Cards during worship this morning, but you can return your card any time in May by mailing it to the church office (Messiah Church, attn: Kari Stern, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447), dropping it off in person during church office hours (Monday -Thursday 9 am-4 pm), or by submitting your card online at MessiahChurch.org/pledge. Paper Giving Cards were mailed last week, are available in the church office, are available from an usher before worship, or can be downloaded and printed at MessiahChurch.org/pledge. We ask

that everyone return an Estimate of Annual Giving Card, even if you can only make a limited financial commitment at this time. You can always increase or decrease your commitment if your situation changes. If you have questions about how to fill out your Giving Card contact Kari Stern, Director of Finance, in the church office at (763) 473-6968 ext. 115 or at kstern@messiahchurch.org. We are grateful for you!

The church office will be closed Tuesday morning, May 19, while the staff is offsite for team building. We should return by 1:30 pm, but we suggest you call before making a special trip.

This summer, we're offering three opportunities for people of all ages to experience the Bell Choir. Whether you're curious and want to try handbells for the first time, have a child eager to explore music, or want to join our *Summer Single-Sunday Bell Choir Series*, there's a place for you.

- **Handbell "Petting Zoo":** Handbells are for kids too! Come explore at our *Handbell "Petting Zoo"* on **Wednesday, June 3 at 6 pm** in the bell room (lower level). Children and youth can see, touch, and try all the different instruments we ring and play. Best suited for grades 3 and up (younger children are

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welcome with an adult helper). Participants are encouraged to join us for the *Summer Single-Sunday Bell Choir Series* (more info below).

- **Introduction to Handbells:** If you've ever wondered what ringing handbells is like, join us for an *Introduction to Handbells* session on **Wednesday, June 3 at 6:45 pm** in the bell room (lower level). Adults and youth in grades 6-12 are invited to explore the handbells and chimes in a hands-on environment. Participants are encouraged to join us for the *Summer Single-Sunday Bell Choir Series* (more info below).
- **Summer Single-Sunday Bell Choir Series:** Our Bell Choir is offering single Sunday opportunities each month this summer — rehearse on one Wednesday from 6-7:30 pm, then ring in worship the next Sunday at the 9:30 am Worship Together Service. Everyone is welcome to try this out! If you're new to handbells, start with the *Introduction to Handbells* session (more info above) and we'll help you get ready. **We'll ring on Sundays, June 14, July 19, and August 16, with rehearsals the Wednesday before each date (June 10, July 15, and August 12).** Participate in one, two, or all three of these drop in opportunities.

Contact Danell Dalton, Handbell Director, at ddalton@messiahchurch.org for more information on the Bell Choir or to let her know you're coming.

Graduation Sunday is June 7 — the day we'll celebrate Messiah's Class of 2026. Messiah celebrates our high school graduates with a gift of a new *The Message Bible* filled with notes from the congregation as support and encouragement for their next chapter. In Heritage Hall,

you'll find a display of senior pictures and a table full of these Bibles. Take a minute to write a note, share some inspiration, print a photo, or write a favorite verse or memory on a card and place it in the Bibles. (Please do not write directly in the Bibles.) Feel free to write a note for everyone, or just the graduates of your choosing. On Graduation Sunday we'll give these Bibles to our graduates during worship. Please leave your notes by Thursday, June 4. Notes can be dropped off in Heritage Hall on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm), OR mailed to Messiah Church, attn: Sami Tierney, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth MN 55447. Congratulations Messiah's Class of 2026: Myles Castleberry, Kalyn Hatcher, Laura Ickes, Landon Koster, Austin Meyer, and Owen VanScoyk.

Join us on Sunday, June 7 for the third annual **Messiah Church Golf Outing**. Come for an afternoon of golf, fellowship, and fresh air. Tee times start at noon at Shamrock Golf Course in Corcoran ([19625 Larkin Rd.](https://www.google.com/maps/place/Shamrock+Golf+Course/@44.755,-93.255,15z)). Create your own foursome — we'll play a "best ball" format. Cost is based on the course's weekend greens fees (pay at the course on the day of the event). To sign up, by Monday, June 1, contact Gerry T at 13catcher@gmail.com, or catch him after worship on Sundays.

June 8-12, join us at Rainforest Falls Summer Vacation Bible Camp for music, art, games, science, and more! Kids preschool-5th grade will explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their safe place in life's storms. Rainforest Falls will immerse kids in five mornings (9 am-12 pm) of faith-building fun. All are welcome! **Kids have the option of staying all day too, for even more adventures.**

Extended afternoon camp (for children already attending Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible Camp) is available Monday-Thursday until 4 pm. Kids eat lunch at camp then continue their camp adventures through art, service projects, and games. Sign up for the extended day as part of camp registration. If your child is staying for extended afternoon camp, late pick-up (as late as 4:30 pm) is also available. Please indicate if you need late pick-up when you register. *Please note: Afternoon extended camp is NOT offered on Friday, June 12; all children must be picked up by 12 pm.* Please register by tomorrow, Monday, May 18 to guarantee your child's t-shirt size and your family's music gift preference (digital download or music CD). Online registrations will be accepted through Monday, June 1 (as space permits), but early registrations help us plan. Visit vbspro.events/p/events/messiahcamp2026 to register & for all the details. Rainforest Falls Summer Camp is just \$40/child (\$80 family maximum). Optional extended afternoon camp is an additional \$50/child. Scholarships are available — we believe that no child should miss this! **Summer Camp requires a lot of volunteer support!** Adults and youth finishing 6th grade and older are welcome to volunteer for this high-energy week. Register today, at the same link above! For more information or questions about this exciting week, visit vbspro.events/p/events/messiahcamp2026 or contact Kari Stern, Director of Children and Family Ministry, at kstern@messiahchurch.org.

MAKE AN IMPACT

Messiah is a church of compassion and outreach. We serve through mission, locally and internationally. For a complete list of opportunities visit MessiahChurch.org/Make-an-Impact.

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Our May & June Second Mile Offering supports Re-Member.

Re-Member is a nonprofit organization that works with the Oglala Lakota Nation on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Your Second Mile offering will go towards purchasing a van that will pull their "Veggie Wagon" and transport staff and volunteers to and from the vegetable gardens. The "Veggie Wagon" is a climate-controlled, full-service vegetable distribution trailer, bringing fresh produce to people in every corner of the reservation. Messiah began helping to raise funds last year, and now just \$10,000 is needed to complete the fundraising so that the van can be purchased before the summer and fall harvest. For more information on Re-Member, visit re-member.org. You can support Re-Member through the end of June with a monetary donation [online](#) by selecting "Second Mile Offering," or by mailing a check (indicate "Re-Member" in the memo) to: Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447.

We are looking for a few volunteers to **help tend the beautiful gardens located around our church grounds**. Would you consider adopting a garden...or helping on a one-time project? Volunteers will adopt an area to weed and trim throughout the summer. No experience needed! For more information, visit the table in the

atrium after worship this morning or contact Phil Weiler, Director of Operations, at pweiler@messiahchurch.org.

Throughout May, we are partnering with Midwest Mission to support two outreach efforts: providing Bibles for the Jamaican Prison Ministry and collecting gently used (or new) school supplies for children in Honduras.

Bibles for Jamaica: Midwest Mission has been asked to help supply 6,000 Bibles for a prison ministry in Jamaica. If you have a gently used or new Bible you no longer use, your donation can place God's Word directly into the hands of someone seeking hope. These Bibles will ship alongside disaster relief supplies as Jamaica continues rebuilding after Hurricane Melissa. Visit midwestmission.org/post/bibles-needed-for-jamaican-prison-ministry for more information on this ministry.

School Supplies for Honduras: As the school year ends, many usable supplies are thrown away or left behind. Meanwhile, students in Honduras often lack the most basic tools needed for learning. We can help give children the resources they need. We are collecting:

- Backpacks
- Pencil cases
- Markers (color, dry erase, or permanent)
- Highlighters
- Pencils

- Pencil sharpeners
- Erasers
- Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Glue
- Scissors
- Spiral or composition notebooks
- Construction paper
- Pens (red, black, blue)
- Rulers
- Compass sets
- Geometry kits

Tips for school supply donations:

- Used items must be clean and fully functional. (If you wouldn't give it to a loved one, please don't donate it.)
- Please do not donate broken or worn out items, items with missing pieces, or 3-ring binders
- New items are welcome too!

Bibles and school supplies will be collected through Sunday, May 31 and can be dropped off in the marked bin in the atrium at Messiah on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm).

New items in the bulletin this week. Submit bulletin items by Tuesday at 3 pm to office@messiahchurch.org.

CONNECT WITH US

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