



August 16, 2026

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.

SUMMER WORSHIP TOGETHER

9:30 AM

Prelude

Welcome / [Attendance](#)

* Gathering Songs

Children's Prayer and KID Street Release

Prayer Song

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Special Music

* Scripture: [Luke 10:38-42](#)

Message *Choosing the Better Part: Seeing Mary and Martha Again*

* Song

[Offering](#) / Offering Prayer

* Benediction

° Postlude

Mary and Martha

Glorious Day (Stanfill)

Yes I Will (Hoagland)

Sanctuary (Thompson)

Be Thou My Vision

Hal Broxey

Many Gifts, One Spirit

Aaron's Blessing (Ortega)

* 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 8/17	<u>Luke 10:38-42</u>
Tuesday 8/18	<u>Mark 3:31-35</u>
Wednesday 8/19	<u>Galatians 3:26-28</u>
Thursday 8/20	<u>Romans 12:1-2</u>
Friday 8/21	<u>Philippians 3:12-16</u>
Saturday 8/22	<u>John 15:1-5</u>

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

Altar flowers this morning are given by Linda and Paul Lohse in celebration of their 31st wedding anniversary.

At Messiah, we love walking with children and youth on their journeys to follow Jesus. To do that, we offer Sunday morning programming: **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 may be picked up downstairs following worship. Sunday School for **youth in grades 6-8** is on summer break and will resume in September. **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 are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary if your family prefers to worship together.* 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. **Large print bulletins** are available from an usher.

Two pews in the Messiah sanctuary are now designated as a Fragrance-Free Zone for those who are sensitive to fragrances. These pews are located in the far-right section as you enter the sanctuary (nearest to the lake and County Road 6). If you wear perfume, lotion, aftershave, or other heavily scented products, please avoid sitting in or directly next to this area. Thank you for helping us make worship comfortable for everyone!

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.

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.

 **In September, we'll begin a new four-week message series titled "Better Together" that invites us to grow together as a community across generations. For ONE week, we are offering this message on new Messiah tees and hoodies!** Purchase your very own "Better Together" short-sleeve t-shirt or hooded sweatshirt. All purchases will be shipped right to Messiah for

pick up in the church office in time for Celebration Sunday on September 13. We'll be taking orders in person in the atrium this morning after worship. Or you can order online with a credit card at messiahchurch.org/better-together through 11:59 pm on Tuesday, August 18. The "Gildan Softstyle" unisex short-sleeve t-shirts and unisex hooded sweatshirts feature Messiah blue & white print with the message "Better Together" across the front and the Messiah Church logo on the sleeve. The sweatshirts also have a front pocket. Both are available in BLACK or HEATHER DARK GREY in adult sizes (small-XXXL). T-shirts are \$13-17 and hoodies are \$30-33, depending on size. To help with t-shirt sizing, visit tinyurl.com/Messiahtshirtsizing. To help with hoodie sizing, visit tinyurl.com/Messiahsweatshirtsizing. If you have questions or problems ordering, please contact Miranda Spence at mspence@messiahchurch.org.

Messiah Youth are gathering to celebrate the end of summer and beginning of the new school year. The Middle School Mixer will be Wednesday, August 19 from 7-8 pm @ Messiah. Youth who are headed into grades 6-8 and their parents are invited. We'll enjoy some ice cream sundaes, play

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games, introduce leaders, share more about programming for youth in grades 6-8, and welcome incoming 6th graders. Email Sami Tierney, Director of Youth and Family Ministry, at stierney@messiahchurch.org for more info or questions. High school and middle school youth groups will start up after school starts in September. Watch for details.

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.

Our July and August Second Mile Offering supports STORM Ministries and YouthWorks. These two ministries empower young people to serve others, grow in faith, and strengthen communities. **STORM Camp** (Service To Others in Relational Ministry) equips youth to serve Jesus by serving others through yardwork, painting, building, cleaning, and more. Campers spend three days working and evenings in Chapel to deepen their faith. STORM partners with a local church for 3-5 years, investing in the community and encouraging continued service once STORM moves on. Each summer, Messiah youth serve locally with STORM Camp. STORM Ministries oversees the program, led by Executive Director Sami Tierney (also Messiah's Director of Youth and Family Ministry), with many Messiah members serving as Staff and Board Members. Your Second Mile Offering supports project materials and camp operating costs. For more information on STORM Ministries, visit stormcamp.org. **YouthWorks** provides immersive service experiences that build faith, confidence, and community through week-long mission trips, service-

learning experiences, spring break trips, and custom opportunities. YouthWorks helps students serve in ways that genuinely support communities, return home with new perspectives, and grow as future leaders. Mission trips broaden perspectives, ignite passions, and inspire participants to make a difference. Each summer, Messiah high school youth serve out-of-state with YouthWorks, and several youth alumni are part of their summer staff. Your Second Mile Offering helps YouthWorks continue developing meaningful service experiences locally and nationally. For more information on YouthWorks, visit youthworks.com. **You can support STORM Ministries and YouthWorks through the end of August with a monetary donation** [online](#) by selecting "Second Mile Offering," or by mailing a check (indicate "STORM Ministries & YouthWorks" in the memo) to: Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447. Gifts are distributed evenly, unless designated otherwise.

✿ Imara International's mission trip dates are full for 2026, but plans for 2027 (and beyond) are already in the works! Experience first-hand the journey and relationship of a Msafiri (Traveler) Mission Trip with Imara: connect with Imara's moms and kids, complete projects, and experience the culture. **Find out more about Imara's Msafiri Mission Travel Program during an informational Zoom meeting** on Sunday, August 30 at 4 pm CT. No obligation — just information on what a two-week trip to Nanyuki looks like including dates, times, projects, and cost. Trips are timed with the school calendar throughout the year (winter, spring, summer, and fall). Find additional details and the Zoom link at www.imarainternational.org/

[msafiri-zoom](#). If you are interested but unable to attend, contact Amy Rintamaki, Imara's US Director at Amy.Rintamaki@ImaraInternational.org. For more information on Imara, visit imarainternational.org.

Totes for Hope, the food shelf at Messiah for Bloom Early Learning & Child Care families, would love some fresh fruits & veggies! Do you have an abundance of produce from your home garden, CSA basket, or last grocery run? Fresh produce is an incredible joy to the families who utilize this resource — it flies off the shelf as fast as it's stocked! All sorts of fruits & veggies are welcome in any size donation — bring a handful or a bushel! Donations can be dropped off directly to the Bloom office (feel free to cross through the Messiah Church office to get there) Monday-Thursday 7 am-3 pm. Please do not leave fresh produce in the Messiah atrium. Totes for Hope is a food shelf ministry of Messiah Church to help minimize food insecurity for [Bloom](#) families, located right here at Messiah. This self-select food shelf is available throughout the week, all year long, allowing families to take what food they need, when they need it. Totes for Hope is fully funded by donations.

✿ **Can you help with some much-needed items for Simpson Shelter?** Current needs include:

- Men's t-shirts (new - sizes S, M, L, XXL)
- Women's sports bras (sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44)
- Shaving cream
- Razors
- Hair care products for natural, textured, or curly hair
- Nail care kits
- Q-tips
- Baby oil
- Mouthwash (no alcohol)

Tips for Simpson Shelter donations:

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NOTES

- Simpson is currently accepting ONLY these specific items
- All items must be new, unused, and unopened
- Simpson cannot accept clothing such as jeans, shirts, coats, and shoes. Underwear and socks in NEW condition are welcome.
- Personal-sized/travel toiletries are welcome. Full sized items are too heavy for guests to carry.

Donations can be purchased from their Amazon Wish List and delivered directly to the shelter, or dropped off in the marked bin in the atrium at Messiah on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm). For more information on Simpson Shelter, visit simpsonhousing.org.

The Wayzata-Plymouth Meals on Wheels is seeking a Program Coordinator to help ensure nutritious meals reach neighbors in our community. This position is paid, part-time, and has flexible hours. If you enjoy working with volunteers while making a meaningful difference in people's lives, they'd love to hear from you. Call (763) 553-7762 and leave your name, phone number, and a brief message and they will get back to you. For more info on Meals on Wheels, visit meals-on-wheels.com.

New items in the bulletin this week.

Submit bulletin items by Tuesday at 3 pm to office@messiahchurch.org.

CONNECT WITH US

Senior Pastor

Tami Luckhardt

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Associate Pastor

Bethany Nelson

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Pastor of Congregational Care

Brian Hacklander

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Director of Finance and

Director of Children &

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Kari Stern

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