

CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2025 | 4, 7 & 9 PM



MERRY CHRISTMAS & WELCOME TO MESSIAH CHURCH!

We are a community of children, youth, and adults responding to the presence of God by growing in faith and reaching out in love and service to others. We value worship, small group participation, serving others, and allowing God to use our gifts and abilities to accomplish our vision of building relationships in the world.

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 Messiah Church.

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 the printed or online Connect Card, or scanning the QR code. 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 by making 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 the ministries of Messiah Church! There are many ways to give: with cash or check dropped in the offering box just outside the sanctuary doors; online through our website at

MessiahChurch.org/give, church app, or by scanning the QR code (select "General Fund"); or by mailing a check to Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447.



LOVING GOD. LOVING EACH OTHER. LOVING THE WORLD.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING



Each year, Messiah Church selects two organizations to receive our special Christmas Offering. **This year's Christmas Offering is a gift to the Totes for Hope food shelf and the Immigration Law & Justice Network.** To contribute: with cash or check (indicate "Christmas Offering" in the memo) dropped in the offering box just outside the sanctuary doors; online through our website at MessiahChurch.org/give, church app, or by scanning the QR code (select "Christmas Offering"); or by mailing a check to Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447. Our goal is to collect \$12,000 for each of these organizations. *Gifts are distributed evenly, unless designated otherwise; gifts not marked for the Christmas Offering support the ministries of Messiah Church.*



Totes for Hope is a food shelf ministry of Messiah Church to help minimize food insecurity for Bloom Early Learning & Child Care families, located right here at Messiah Church. Started in 2018, 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. Your Christmas Offering fully funds purchasing food for this program for the entire year.



Immigration Law & Justice Network (ILJN) provides free or low-cost legal counsel, advocacy, and support to low-income immigrants seeking legal status in the United States. Through a national network, they promote justice and foster safety, trust, and belonging. Each year, ILJN serves nearly 7,000 immigrants, refugees, and asylum-seekers. ILJN was founded by UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) in 1999 as a ministry of the United Methodist Church, and continues to be a partner organization. For more information on ILJN, visit iljnetwork.org.





CHRISTMAS EVE

4 PM
FAMILY CHRISTMAS

Gathering Music	<i>White Christmas</i> <i>How Many Kings</i> <i>Your Praise Goes On</i>	Amy Teawalt Nathan Ausk Sami Tierney
* Call to Worship		Pastor Bethany Nelson
* Carol #234 (vv 1, 3 & 6)	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	
Welcome & Attendance		
Christmas Offering		
Lighting of the Christ Candle		The Madson Family
Carol #238 (vv 1-3)	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	
Pageant	<i>The Christmas Story</i>	Amy Madson & Cast
Narration & Hymn #585 (v 1)	<i>This Little Light of Mine</i>	
Narration & Carol #230 (vv 1 & 2)	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>	
Narration & Carol #217 (vv 1 & 2)	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	
Narration & Carol #240 (v 1)	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>	
Narration & Carol #227 (vv 1, 3 & 4)	<i>The Friendly Beasts</i>	
Narration & Carol #251 (v 1)	<i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain</i>	
Narration		
Message	<i>Making Room</i>	Pastor Tami Luckhardt
* Lighting of the Christmas Candles °		
* Carol #239	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i>	
* Christmas Blessing		
* Carol #246 (vv 1 & 4)	<i>Joy to the World</i>	
* Postlude		

* **Please stand** as you are able.

° As the light is passed, **hold the lighted candle upright and tip the unlighted candle** to receive the light.

Glow sticks are available for little ones, as a safe alternative to candles; if you didn't receive one when you arrived, any usher will be happy to help.

This service features a pop-up Christmas Pageant. All are welcome to participate! Please choose a character in the atrium before the service begins. Follow the instructions you received with your costume and listen for the prompts from the narrator.

Wiggly or over-stimulated child? We're not bothered by the noise, but if it's helpful, "busy bags" are available in the back of the sanctuary and there's room to run around and still experience the service in the atrium and Heritage Hall. Any of our 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.



CHRISTMAS EVE

7 PM
CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS

Gathering Music	<i>Please Come Home for Christmas</i> <i>Mary, Did You Know?</i> <i>White Christmas</i> <i>How Many Kings</i> <i>Your Praise Goes On</i> <i>Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas</i>	Ed Miska Ed Miska & Amy Teawalt Amy Teawalt Nathan Ausk Sami Tierney Mary Sweet
* Call to Worship		Pastor Bethany Nelson
* Opening Carol	<i>O Come O Come Emmanuel (with Even So Come)</i> (Tomlin)	All
Welcome & Attendance		
Christmas Offering		
Lighting of the Christ Candle		The Sweet/Mazzocchi Family
Carol	<i>Angels (Glory to God)</i> (Wickham)	All
Scripture	Luke 2:1-7	
Anthem	<i>Noel</i> (Tomlin)	Amara Sweet & The Way Team
Scripture	Luke 2:8-20	
Carol	<i>The First Noel</i>	All
Message	<i>Making Room</i>	Pastor Tami Luckhardt
Anthem	<i>Make Room</i> (Casting Crowns)	The Way Team
Scripture	John 1:1-5	
* Lighting of the Christmas Candles °		
* Carol #239 (vv 1, 2 & 4)	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i>	All
* Christmas Blessing		
* Carol	<i>Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)</i> (Tomlin)	All
* Postlude	<i>Joy to the World</i> (instrumental)	The Way Band

* **Please stand** as you are able.

° As the light is passed, **hold the lighted candle upright and tip the unlighted candle** to receive the light.
To participate at home, be prepared with your own candle.

Special thank you to our **Harpist**: Camilla Testerman

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CHRISTMAS EVE

9 PM
TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS

Prelude	<i>He is Born</i> (Dobrinski)	Handbell Choir
* Call to Worship		Pastor Bethany Nelson
* Carol #240 (vv 1-3)	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i>	All
Welcome & <u>Attendance</u>		
<u>Christmas Offering</u>		
Lighting of the Christ Candle		The Brunsting Family
Carol #238 (vv 1-3)	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	All
Scripture	<u>Luke 2:1-7</u>	
Anthem	<i>Sussex Carol</i> (Hagenberg)	Choir, Piano & String Quartet
Scripture	<u>Luke 2:8-20</u>	
Anthem	<i>See Amid the Winter's Snow</i> (Forrest)	Choir, Piano & String Quartet
Message	<i>Making Room</i>	Pastor Tami Luckhardt
Special Music	<i>O Holy Night</i> (Adam)	Amy Madson
Scripture	<u>John 1:1-5</u>	
* Lighting of the Christmas Candles °		
* Carol #239 (vv 1-4)	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i>	All
* Christmas Blessing		
* Carol #246 (vv 1, 2 & 4)	<i>Joy to the World</i>	All
* Postlude	<i>Postlude on a Christmas Carol</i> (Callahan)	Stephanie Beard

* **Please stand** as you are able.

° As the light is passed, **hold the lighted candle upright and tip the unlighted candle** to receive the light.
To participate at home, be prepared with your own candle.

Special welcome & thank you to our **String Quartet**: Rachel Bottner, Jennifer Lee, Zirui (Ray) Wang & Ash Wood

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THE POINSETTIAS THAT BEAUTIFY OUR SANCTUARY
THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON
HONOR THOSE WE REMEMBER
WITH MEMORIES, LOVE & CELEBRATION:

Peter & Cheryl Albrecht –

In celebration of our dancer daughters
Cherry, Jo Ann & Grace

John & Cindy Bonczyk – In memory
of Bob & Betty Siefert; in memory of
Jane Bonczyk

Ann & Mike Brilley – In celebration
of our grandchildren: Madeline,
Elizabeth, Joseph, Harper, Holden &
Audrey

Hal & Dee Broxey – In celebration of our
loving and caring family

Grandma Shirley Buehler – In honor of
my nine great-grandchildren: Aubrey,
Robert, Jude, Josephine, Nora, Emmy,
Sadie, Reece & Ford

**Shirley Buehler's church family &
friends –** In celebration of Shirley's
birthday

Gwen Buresch – In celebration of my
wonderful family

Kaye & Wayne Corprew – In memory
of Wayne's parents, Betty & Wilmer
Corprew; and Kaye's parents, Mary &
Frank Cochran

Gail Dahl – In memory of Bob Dahl –
husband, dad & papa

Roger Dow – In memory of Bonnie Dow

Ann Egerer & family – In memory of
Bill Sr. and Billy Jr.

The Fowser Family – In memory of
Derek Fowser with love from Mom,
Dad, Dean & Dave

Robert Frazee – In memory of Fran
Lenth Frazee

Steve & Kathy Frick – In memory of
Bob & Mary Anne Frick, and Lloyd &
Polly Helms

Judy Gibson – In honor of Christine,
beloved daughter; in memory of Laura
Gibson, beloved daughter

Dan & Ann Goodmundson – In honor
of our grandchildren: Sam, Max,
Josephine, Johnny, Natalie & Maddie

Madeline, Elizabeth & Joseph Gossard

– In memory of our grandparents
Vicki & Doug Gossard

Bob Gustafson – In memory of Ken, Lil,
Linda, and Dave Gustafson

Joanne Hagen & family – In memory
of Fred Hagen – husband, father &
grandfather

Fred Hegele – In memory of Sharon

Grandpa Fred Hegele – In honor of the
Berg and Hegele families

Lyle & Cindy Hilbrands – In celebration
of having our wonderful daughter &
her family in our lives – Michelle, Tom,
Nathan, Kelsey & Tyler Anderson;
in memory of our son, Brent, whom
we think of so often – you are deeply
missed

John, Tracy, Laura & Katie Ickes –
In celebration of the blessings of our
family

Pat Jenson & family – In memory of
Tom Jenson; in memory of Bud &
Delores Ford

Mary Docherty & Bill Johander –
In memory of Warren Docherty;
in memory of Joyce Johander

Russ & Mimi Kaegebein –

In celebration of our family;
in memory of our parents

Jenny Kamm – In memory of Erv Kamm

Jan & Bob Levens – In celebration of
our Messiah Church family

Carolyn, Rick & Lauren Loeffler –
In memory of Irv & Vera Loeffler and
Les & Wanda Matheson

Linda & Paul Lohse – In memory of
Betty Truth; in memory of Don &
Thelma Lohse

Judy Mahn-Kilpeck – In celebration of
family; in memory of Daniel Kilpeck

Larry Manthei – In honor of Janet
Stroebl

Larry, Bruce & Melissa Manthei –
In memory of Pat Manthei

Megan, Rob, Luke & Violet McNabb –

In memory of Grandma Jeanne &
Grandpa Al, and Grandma B &
Grandpa Herman

Reg & Joan McNutt – In celebration of
our children and grandchildren

**Teri Johnson, Angela Saul & Jillian
Miller –** In memory of Darrel Johnson
by his wife and daughters

David & Dianne Moore – In honor of
our grandchildren: Julia, Zachary,
Gabriela, Taylor & Maya

Floyd & Helen Peltier – In memory
of daughter Valerie, and brothers Carl
& Jim

Dick & Lorraine Prazich –

In celebration of family and friends

Melanie Raska – In memory of Judy
Stevens, mom; in memory of Sharon
Stevens, aunt

Carolyn & Mike Sherck – In celebration
of our four grands

Benjy, Miranda, Emily & Ashley Spence –
In memory of Laurie Spence;
in memory of Frank Zarello

Janet Stroebl – In celebration of my
beautiful family

Mary & Gerry Tucker – In celebration
of our children Greg, Andrea, Justin
& Anne; and our grandchildren Brady,
Morgan, Jackson & Hannah

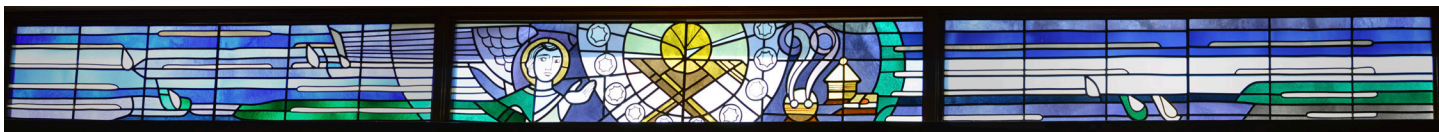
Bob & Pat Vogt – In honor of our son
and his family, who traveled to be
with us

John & Tammy Ward – In celebration of
all the blessings in our lives; in honor
of those serving in our military

Karen Weil – In memory of my parents,
Jim & Joann Weil

Phil & Brenda Weiler – In memory of
Bonnie Weiler, Phil's mother





You are **always** welcome at Messiah Church!

CONSIDER JOINING US FOR...

Worship

Join us at our **weekly worship services** in person, online live at MessiahChurch.org/live, or on demand later at MessiahChurch.org/ondemand:

Traditions Worship Sundays at 8:45 am

Journey Contemporary Worship Sundays at 10:30 am

Sundays during worship, we also offer nursery for children birth-age 3 and Sunday School for preschool-8th grade.

This Sunday, December 28, let's worship together! We'll gather for **ONE combined Service of Carols at 9:30 am** on this last Sunday of the year. Led by both The Way praise band and organ, we'll sing familiar and not-so-familiar carols and hear stories about them shared by our pastors. If you love Christmas music, you won't want to miss this! In person, online live at MessiahChurch.org/live, or on demand later at MessiahChurch.org/ondemand.

On Sunday, January 4, we begin a new **four-part message series titled *Courageous***. Our world often tells us that being courageous is about strength, bravery, and heroic acts. This series will help us expand our understanding of courage. Together, we will learn how courage can help us raise other people up, transform our communities, and face new and challenging situations. Join us Sundays in January at 8:45 or 10:30 am in person, online live at MessiahChurch.org/live, or on demand later at MessiahChurch.org/ondemand.

Community

Would you like to get better connected at Messiah Church? **Small Groups** at Messiah are more than just a Bible study — they “do life together,” building supportive relationships while growing together in faith. We want that for you! Step into a Small Group experience this winter to find a place to belong. We offer groups for men, women, couples, and parents; some meet in person, some online, and some on a hybrid basis. Visit MessiahChurch.org/small-groups for a complete list of Small Groups. For questions or help connecting with a group that is right for you, contact Heather Felt, Director of Community Engagement, at hfelt@messiahchurch.org or (763) 473-6968 ext. 114.

Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo! For two weekends this spring, Messiah Church's Glory Players Theater Company invites you to step into the magic of **Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella***

in a dazzling full-scale musical production. Save the date! Six performances will run March 13-15 and 20-22. Tickets will be available at the end of January on our website at MessiahChurch.org/cinderella. *Cinderella* is presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

Messiah Church has an app! This discipleship tool is the perfect way to help you grow in faith and strengthen your relationship with Messiah Church and one another. We are thrilled to share this with you, and invite you to download it at subsplash.com/messiahchurch/app.

Service

On Sunday, January 18, join us for a **special day of Worship & Service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** We'll gather for ONE combined worship service at 9:30 am and come together to pack meals with Harvest Pack, an organization that addresses food insecurity through meal-packing events. Our goal is to pack 16,500 fortified oatmeal meals that will be distributed to support those in need right here in our community. There will be opportunities to serve either before or after worship, with shifts lasting about 45 minutes (similar to packing meals at Feed My Starving Children — involves standing and measuring ingredients into bags; some seated jobs are also available). This is a family-friendly event — children as young as 3 are welcome to participate! A sign-up will be available starting January 1 at MessiahChurch.org/make-an-impact to help us plan, though walk-ins are also welcome. Please note the special worship time and invite others to join us for this meaningful day as we honor Dr. King's legacy of community, justice, and compassion. For more info on Harvest Pack, visit www.harvestpack.org.

Messiah Church is a church of compassion and community outreach. Members and friends of Messiah devote their time and talents to support local, national, and global missions. There is a place for you to get involved! For a complete **list of ways to serve**, visit MessiahChurch.org/make-an-impact.

Youth

Students in grades 6-12 have opportunities to connect with peers and grow in their faith at Messiah Church with several youth programs. Wednesday nights we connect at 6:30 pm for **Open Youth Room + Dinner**, and at 7 pm we offer

— continued

— continued

Middle School and High School Youth Groups — expect assorted shenanigans, connection with friends and leaders, and time studying the Bible. Sunday mornings, 6-8th graders gather for **Sunday School**, and **Confirmation classes** provide opportunities for high school students to study scripture and what it means to follow Jesus and be part of the Church. This summer, the youth will be busy serving and making a difference. At **STORM Camp** in Woodbury, July 12-16, they'll build, paint, garden, and clean — all while fostering connections with each other and the community. They'll also travel to Louisville, KY, July 25-August 1 for a **YouthWorks Mission Trip**, partnering with local organizations to meet community needs through projects like painting, yard work, and kids' programs. Registration is open for both of these mission opportunities — for students and adult volunteers. For more information on Youth programming visit MessiahChurch.org/youth or contact Sami Tierney, Director of Youth and Family Ministry, at stierney@messiahchurch.org or (763) 473-6968 ext. 116.



Children

At Messiah, we love walking with children on their journeys to follow Jesus. We strive to reach the lives of children through a variety of engaging activities, partnering with families to nurture children's faith. On Sunday mornings, children in preschool-5th grade gather for **KID Street Sunday School** during worship; the **nursery**, for children from birth through age 3, is available at both services. On Wednesday nights, **KID Street Wednesdays** gather from 6:30-8 pm for dinner, a faith lesson, friendship, and an opportunity to worship through art or service. Save the date! June 8-12, join us at **Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible Camp** for music, art, games, science, and more! Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids preschool-5th grade will plunge into an adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their safe place in life's storms. In August, get ready for singing, puppets, fine arts, theater, dancing, and more at **KID Street Arts Camp**. Registration information for all summer camps will be available on our website in the spring. For more information on Children's programming visit MessiahChurch.org/kids or contact Kari Stern, Director of Children and Family Ministry, at kstern@messiahchurch.org or (763) 473-6968 ext. 115.



Visit our website, MessiahChurch.org, to learn more about how you can connect with Messiah Church.

CONNECT WITH US

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