



January 18, 2026 • Worship Together 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.

BLENDED WORSHIP

9:30 AM

Gathering Music *Great is thy Faithfulness* (Beginning to End)

Welcome / Attendance

* Gathering Hymn

Congregational Prayer

Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release

Prayer Hymn #451

Pastoral Prayer

Anthem

* Scripture: Philippians 2:1-5

Message *Courage to be Last: Living with the Mind of Christ*

Special Music

* Offering / Offering Prayer

Reception of New Members

* Benediction

◦ Postlude

We All are One in Mission

Be Thou My Vision

Lead Me Lord (arr. Cymbala)

Joan McNutt

By Our Love (Nockels)

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 1/19

Philippians 2:1-5

Tuesday 1/20

Luke 10:25-37

Wednesday 1/21

Micah 6:6-8

Thursday 1/22

Joshua 1:1-9

Friday 1/23

Mark 9:30-35

Saturday 1/24

Hebrews 10:22-25

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

Altar flowers today are given by the Broxey and Weiler families to honor the peaceful example of God's love that Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught us.

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. *All children and youth are always welcome to remain in the sanctuary if your family prefers to worship together.*

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. 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.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING FOR:

Carol B, Brenda B,
Donna B, Chuck E,
Johnna H, Dennis L,
Ed P

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

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

PRAYERS OF COMFORT AND PEACE FOR:

The family and friends of Ruth Pope—services will be today at noon at Gearty Delmore Funeral Chapel; The family and friends of Elaine Ressmeyer—a Celebration of Life will be at Messiah on Saturday, January 24 at 11am with a gathering time at 10 am

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 cloffler@messiahchurch.org, and she will place you on the email list.

Join us after worship today for a special morning of service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We'll 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. We have two stations set up — one upstairs in Heritage Hall and one downstairs in the Lakeside Room. (This event is similar to packing meals at Feed My Starving Children — involves standing and measuring ingredients into bags; some seated jobs are also available). Whether or not you signed up in advance, you are welcome to help. Please check in at the tables in the atrium so that we can try to best allocate workers to stations. *Please feel free to stay as long as you are able — We will continue until finished.* This is a family-friendly event — children as

young as 3 are welcome to participate! Thank you for honoring Dr. King's legacy of community, justice, and compassion. For more info on Harvest Pack, visit harvestpack.org.

The church office will be closed tomorrow, Monday, January 19, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. For pastoral emergencies, please call (952) 994-3683.

Join us between services next Sunday, January 25 for a tour of the Messiah Church building. Whether you're new to Messiah or have been coming for years, all are welcome on this 30-minute walking tour. Did you know we have a Prayer Room? Have you ever wondered where the youth meet? Have you seen the sacristy (...what is a sacristy)? Did you know we have a library?? We'll tour both floors and learn more about the active ministries that take place in every corner of our building. Meet outside the sanctuary at 9:50 am to join us. The elevator is available if the stairs are a challenge. (Did you know we have an elevator?)

All Messiah women are invited to Women's Night Out on Monday, January 26 from 5:30-7:30 pm at Robert's Craft Kitchen in the Medina Entertainment Center (500 Hwy 55, Medina). Come and enjoy a glass of

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wine or some food (whatever you wish to order) and good conversation with Messiah friends old and new. Feel free to bring a friend or invite someone new! All are welcome. This group meets on the last Monday of every month (except when the Monday falls on a holiday). Please RSVP to Heather Felt at hfelt@messiahchurch.org by 10 am on Monday, January 26 so enough tables can be reserved.

Continue your learning from recent and upcoming sermon series or read for fun with book recommendations from our pastors, Creation Care & Inclusion teams, and Messiah's Book Club. Visit tinyurl.com/MessiahWinterReadingList2026 to download our **Winter Reading List** or find printed copies in the atrium or in the Messiah Church library (just inside the front doors, on your right as you enter the building). Stop by the library cart on Sundays to learn more, check out a book, or make recommendations for new books. If you have any suggestions or questions about the library, please contact Evie S at eseveryn@yahoo.com.

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 January & February Second Mile Offering supports Emma Norton Services (ENS). Emma Norton combats poverty in our communities by partnering with women, children, and families who are homeless and experiencing the challenges of mental and/or chemical disabilities. ENS provides affordable housing, basic needs, and support services in an environment that fosters stability and encourages personal growth. Each year, Emma Norton Services

helps over 250 people by providing a supportive community, resources, and personal development opportunities while they work to build a better life without having to worry about basic needs, like a safe place to sleep. For more information on Emma Norton Services, visit emmanorton.org. Messiah Church has been a long-time supporter of Emma Norton Services. **You can offer your support for this organization through the end of February with a monetary donation, and/or donating much-needed items:** Give [online](#) by selecting "Second Mile Offering," or by mailing a check (indicate "Emma Norton" in the memo) to: Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447.

Donate! We are collecting these specific items:

- razors
- shaving cream
- hair styling products
- hair accessories (clips, hair ties, scrunchies, pins)
- kitchen scissors
- baking sheets
- spatulas
- new bath towels
- floor cleaner
- sponges
- dish soap
- disinfectant wipes, and
- paper towels.

All donations will be collected through Sunday, February 22 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).

We know you are praying and asking **how to support our immigrant neighbors**. Lord, what is mine to do? Here are a few ways:

- **Give to our Emergency Food Drive fund.** Funds will provide groceries & other critical support for those unable to

safely access basic needs. Your generosity helps provide hope and tangible support for those most affected. Give [online](#) by selecting "Emergency Food Drive," or by mailing a check (indicate "Emergency Food Drive" in the memo) to: Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447.

- **Write a note of encouragement**, reminding our siblings in Christ they are not alone. Leave your card in the church office and we'll pass it along.
- **Join our Faith In Action Team** to be contacted as additional needs and opportunities arise. [Click here](#) to sign up.
- **Pray together.** We're inviting all of Messiah Church to pray at noon each day: *Loving God, quiet my heart and open my mind. Shape me by your grace and form in me the mind of Christ. Guide me to ask honestly, What is mine to do? Give me the courage to live into this moment to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. Amen.*

The "Friends of Bloom" need your help to fulfill Bloom Early Learning & Child Care classroom wish lists.

Next Sunday, January 25, visit the Giving Tree set up in the atrium to see items Bloom teachers would love to have for their classrooms. Each butterfly hanging on the tree lists a classroom item. If you would like to purchase an item, remove the butterfly from the tree and make your donation for that item in one of two ways: Visit the Bloom website at bloomearlylearning.org and click on Donate Now. In the comment box, write the name of the item you are purchasing. Or, make your check payable to Bloom Early Learning & Child Care and write the name of the item you are purchasing in the memo line. Leave your check with one of the "Friends

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of Bloom" on Sunday morning or drop in the offering box just outside the sanctuary doors. Can't make it to the Giving Tree in person? Donations are always welcome through the Bloom website at bloomearlylearning.org/ways-to-help. For more information on Bloom Early Learning & Child Care, visit bloomearlylearning.org. Thank you for blessing the teachers, classrooms, and children at Bloom! Friends of Bloom is a group of volunteers building connections between Bloom Early Learning & Child Care and Messiah Church. Its primary mission is to support the Bloom staff at the Messiah location. For more information on Friends of Bloom at Messiah, contact Kay S at kaylschultz@aol.com.

John Harmon, Thrive Kenya founder, and Buck Manning, Messiah Church member, will travel with a team of five others to Kenya in early February on **Thrive Kenya's next mission trip**. The team is gathering supplies that travel easily to take with them. Can you help? We are collecting:

- Children's clothing - new or gently used for boys & girls in sizes toddler to 18 year olds
- Student backpacks - new or gently used
- Toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss

All donations will be collected through Sunday, February 1 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). Thrive Kenya rescues abandoned, abused, and orphaned children living in the slums of Kenya. They collaborate with existing children's homes operated by Kenyans who share the same values and passion for these children. They are currently supporting 430 boys and girls, striving to impact these young lives through love, hope, and a path toward stability. For more information on Thrive Kenya, or to make a monetary donation, visit thrivekenya.org.

Donations are down for our local food shelves. Next time you go shopping, pick up something extra to donate to Interfaith Outreach.

Most needed items:

- Hearty brand name soup (not condensed varieties) - Progresso, Campbell's Chunky, etc.
- Canned salmon
- Diced tomatoes
- White rice
- Diapers - size 6
- Paper grocery bags

We are always collecting food shelf donations in the round marked bins just inside the front doors at Messiah — drop off on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm). OR drop off your donation directly at Interfaith Outreach (1605 County Road 101 N, Plymouth) during their donation hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and

Fridays 10 am-5 pm. For more information on the Interfaith Outreach food shelf, visit iocp.org/outreach-services/food-shelf.

 New items in the bulletin this week.

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

NOTES

CONNECT WITH US

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