



September 20, 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.

TRADITIONS WORSHIP

8:45 AM

Prelude *Festival Intrada* (Honore')
Welcome / [Attendance](#)
* Hymn *All are Welcome* (Haugen)
Opening Prayer
Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Greetings from Imara International Carol Erickson
Prayer Hymn #451 *Be Thou My Vision*
Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer
Anthem *The Gift of Love* (Hopson)
* Scripture: [1 Timothy 4:6-16](#) Marlene Eyres
Message *Formed and Freed*
* Hymn #111 *How Can We Name a Love*
[Offering](#) / Offering Prayer
* Benediction *Aaron's Blessing* (Ortega)
° Postlude *Ye Servants of God* (Wilson)

JOURNEY WORSHIP

10:30 AM

Gathering Song *Breakaway* (Gerrard)
Welcome / [Attendance](#)
Greetings from Imara International Carol Erickson
* Praise Songs *Unstoppable God* (Joye)
Revelation Song (Riddle)
Sacrament of Baptism Hogan Davis
Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Scripture: [1 Timothy 4:6-16](#) Mary Jenkins
Message *Formed and Free*
Anthem *The Stand* (Houston)
[Offering](#) / Offering Prayer
* Benediction *Aaron's Blessing* (Ortega)
° Postlude

* 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 9/21	1 Timothy 4:6-16
Tuesday 9/22	Acts 18:24-28
Wednesday 9/23	1 Corinthians 3:1-8
Thursday 9/24	2 Corinthians 3:1-6
Friday 9/25	Galatians 5:13-15
Saturday 9/26	Matthew 28:16-20

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

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 the service is ended. **Youth in grades 6-8** gather in the Youth Room for Sunday School during worship. 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. **Large print bulletins** are available from an usher. **Fragrance-Free** pews are located in the far-right section as you enter the

sanctuary (nearest to the lake and County Road 6) for those who are sensitive to fragrances.

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.

This fall, **we're creating a printed directory** to help our Messiah family stay connected, and we'd love for you to be part of it! Stop by the directory table in the atrium this morning or on Sundays, September 27 or October 4 to review and update your household information. We'll also be taking casual head-and-shoulders photos to complete your directory listing. *Only those who choose to opt-in will be included in the printed directory or receive a printed copy.* Whether you'd like to be included or prefer to opt-out, please take a moment to stop by the table so we can make sure our records are accurate. All who call Messiah their church home are invited to participate!

Coping with the death of a loved one is one of life's most difficult experiences, but the **West Suburban Grief Coalition** provides a safe environment and support for

those experiencing grief and loss. Messiah is a partner of the West Suburban Grief Coalition, along with 15 other neighboring churches. Weekly meetings of this support group gather on Thursdays at various churches on a rotating basis. Through November 12, Grief Coalition meetings are here at Messiah Church from 4:30-6 pm. For more information, visit westsuburbangriefmn.org.

Messiah's Congregational Care Ministry Team also provides confidential, caring concern through personal contact with members of the Messiah family who have a special need for spiritual or emotional support. If this is the care you need, contact Pastor Brian Hacklander, Messiah's Pastor of Congregational Care, at bhacklander@messiahchurch.org or call the church office at (763) 473-6968 ext. 123.

Every generation has stories to tell, and when it comes to faith, some of the most meaningful stories are the ones we share with one another. Join us next Sunday, September 27 from 6 -7:30 pm for our first-ever storytelling night, *The Stories We Carry: Faith Across the Generations*. To make this a memorable night, we're looking for storytellers of all ages to share an 8-minute story from their faith journey. What shaped your faith? When did your understanding of

— continued

God change? What have you learned along the way that you hope another generation will carry forward? You don't need to be a polished speaker or to memorize your story — simply share an authentic experience that has shaped your relationship with God. All storytellers must sign up in advance — visit tinyurl.com/MessiahStories to reserve a time slot. If you're wondering how to shape your story or where to begin, Messiah member Gail S, an accomplished and published author, is happy to help. Whether you need assistance organizing your thoughts, getting started on a draft, or polishing a story you've already written, Gail would love to assist. Call the church office at (763) 473-6968 for help connecting.

✿ All Messiah women are invited to **Women's Night Out** on Monday, September 28 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 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 next Monday, September 28 so enough tables can be reserved.

✿ The **Glory Players** Board invites theater lovers and anyone interested in supporting the arts at Messiah to join us for a planning meeting on Tuesday, September 29 at 6:30 pm in the Fireside Room (lower level) to discuss the possibility of a two-evening musical revue in April 2027. In addition to sharing preliminary plans for the production, we will introduce

opportunities to serve on our ticketing, hospitality, technical, and set teams. Training will be provided for all roles, making this a wonderful opportunity to learn how Glory Players productions come together while having fun and supporting Messiah's outreach to the community. The Glory Players Drama Team has brought the joy of live theater to Messiah Church through productions ranging from Broadway classics to family-friendly favorites including *Cinderella* in 2026, *One Night Only: Musical Revue* in 2025, and *The Wizard of Oz* in 2024. Everyone is welcome! Please RSVP to Joy Ann Harmon, Glory Players Director, at jharmon@messiahchurch.org so we can reserve a seat for you. We hope to see you there!

✿ Bring your beloved pets to our 27th annual **Blessing of the Animals** on Sunday, October 4 at 12 pm under the pergola — rain or shine. We will have a brief celebration of God's creatures with a personal blessing of each pet and owner. All pets of any size are welcome to attend and bring their owners.

✿ Flu season is just around the corner! Be prepared with the **Flu & COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic** at Messiah, provided by Cub Pharmacy, on Sunday, October 11 from 9:30 am-12:30 pm in the church office. Come for worship, stay for fellowship, and get your flu and/or COVID-19 vaccinations too! Adults and children (ages 9 and up) can receive the Flublok (ages 9-64) or the Fluzone High-Dose (ages 65 and above) influenza vaccine. The 2026-27 Moderna mNEXSPIKE COVID-19 vaccine will also be offered and is appropriate for all persons ages 65 and up, and for those ages 12-64 at high risk for severe COVID-19 infection. For persons ages 12-64 that are uncertain if they have a high-risk

condition that qualifies them to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, please contact your health care provider for guidance, but no formal documentation is required to receive the vaccine and Cub pharmacy staff will offer the mNEXSPIKE vaccine to anyone 12 and older desiring the vaccine. Both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be administered at the same visit. Schedule your appointment at tinyurl.com/VaccinesatMessiah. Walk-ins will also be welcome, but appointments are preferred. On the day of, please bring your health insurance card and your prescription/pharmacy insurance card (if applicable), or be prepared to pay cash. The Cub Pharmacy Vaccine Informed Consent Form can be downloaded from the link above and should be completed prior to your appointment. For questions or help scheduling contact Carrie Thompson, NP at pennnurse03@yahoo.com. *Note: A person should wait a minimum of 3 months after having a previous COVID-19 vaccine before receiving the mNEXSPIKE COVID-19 vaccine. A person previously infected with COVID-19 may receive the flu shot at least 10 days after diagnosis and once symptoms are gone. The CDC advises that persons who recently had COVID-19 may delay getting a COVID-19 vaccine for 3 months.*

✿ **Just one life lost to suicide is too many.** Just one conversation can make all the difference. Just one life matters. Join us on Wednesday, October 21 from 6:30-8 pm (doors open at 6 pm) at Wayzata High School Auditorium 2 (4955 Peony Lane N, Plymouth) for Just One — a free, community-wide concert & suicide prevention event. Designed especially for middle and high school students, this event offers valuable resources and encouragement for parents, caregivers, educators, and anyone

— continued

who cares for or works with teens. The evening features Sam Eaton, founder of the Recklessly Alive Foundation and author of several books on mental health and healing, who will share his powerful story of hope, resilience, and the day suicide didn't win. Hip-hop artist Kaboose will bring energy and inspiration through music, delivering a message of hope that reminds us we are not alone in life's struggles. Before and after the program, you'll have a chance to connect with local organizations, explore helpful mental health resources, and enter to win a variety of door prizes. Just One is FREE and open to the entire community. Invite a student, parent, friend, or neighbor who could benefit from this message of hope and support. Visit tinyurl.com/JustOnePlymouth26 for more info & to register (not required, but is encouraged). *Please note: Messiah Youth Group will not meet at Messiah on Wednesday, October 21. Instead, students are encouraged to attend this Just One event at Wayzata High School as our youth group gathering for the evening.*

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 September & October Second Mile Offering supports Massie's Mobile Mission, an organization that

provides emergency aid to people experiencing homelessness in the Twin Cities. Their mission is to extend a compassionate hand to those facing adversity by providing essential supplies and fostering human connection, fostering a community where everyone feels supported and valued. For more information, visit

massiesmobilemission.com.

You can support Massie's Mobile Mission through the end of October with a monetary donation or by donating needed supplies.

Give online at messiahchurch.org/give (select "Second Mile Offering,") or by mailing a check (indicate "Massie's Mobile Mission" in the memo) to: Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447. **Donate** these specific items: new or very gently used blankets, new or very gently used sleeping bags, new pillows, new hoodies, and new hats & gloves. Donations will be collected through Sunday, October 25 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).

Consider donating blood at the American Red Cross blood drive on Monday, October 5 from 12-6 pm in Heritage Hall. Your donation could save a life! Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood due to accidents, surgeries, or ongoing treatments for illnesses,

and your generosity provides hope and healing for patients who depend on it. Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "MessiahPlym" to schedule now!

The next time you go shopping, pick up something extra to **donate to Interfaith Outreach and ICA, our local food shelves**. Most needed items are cereal, pasta sauce, diced tomatoes, flour, and pancake mix. 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](http://1605CountyRoad101N.Plymouth)) during their donation hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 10 am-5 pm; or ICA ([11588 K-Tel Dr, Minnetonka](http://11588K-TelDr.Minnetonka)) during their donation hours: Mondays 10 am-6:30 pm, Tuesdays 10 am-3:30 pm, Wednesdays 9 am-3:30 pm, Thursdays 10 am-3:30 pm, Fridays 10 am-12 pm, and Saturdays 10 am-12 pm (1st & 3rd Saturdays only). For more information on the Interfaith Outreach food shelf, visit iocp.org/outreach-services/food-shelf. For more information on the ICA food shelf, visit icafoodshelf.org.

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
tluckhardt@messiahchurch.org

Associate Pastor
Bethany Nelson
bnelson@messiahchurch.org

Pastor of Congregational Care
Brian Hacklander
bhacklander@messiahchurch.org

Director of Finance and
Director of Children &
Family Ministry
Kari Stern
kstern@messiahchurch.org

Director of Youth & Family Ministry
Sami Tierney
stierney@messiahchurch.org

Director of Community Engagement
Heather Felt
hfelt@messiahchurch.org

17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447 | (763) 473-6968 | MessiahChurch.org