

September 21, 2025

WELCOME! We're glad you joined us!

At Messiah Church, we covenant to become love in word, action, and deed. We welcome and affirm the full inclusion of all people — all LGBTQIA+, all ages, all races and ethnicities, 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 <u>Connect Card</u>.

Thank you for financially supporting Messiah Church! There are many ways to give: a secure offering box is located just outside the sanctuary doors; through our website or church app at MessiahChurch.org/Give; or you may mail your offering to Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447.

TRADTIONS WORSHIP

8:45 AM

Prelude Come Unto Him (Carter)

Welcome / Attendance

* Opening Hymn #384 (vv 1, 2, 4) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Congregational Prayer

Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Mission Moment: Bloom Early Learning & Child Care
Prayer Hymn #349 (2x) *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*Pastoral Prayer

Anthem *My Jesus, I Love Thee* (Krieder)
* Scripture: <u>Isaiah 61:1-4</u>; <u>Luke 4:16-21</u> Marlene Eyres

Message A Question Leading into "Who Am I?"

* Hymn #568 (vv 1-3) Christ for the World We Sing

* Hymn #568 (vv 1-3) Offering

* Benediction

° Postlude

Aaron's Blessing (Ortega) Recessional March (Rogers)

JOURNEY WORSHIP

10:30 AM

Gathering Music In Christ Alone (arr. Larson)

Welcome / Attendance

* Praise Songs You Never Let Go (Passion)
Yes and Amen (Housefires)

Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Mission Moment: Bloom Early Learning & Child Care
Prayer Song
Holy Spirit (Torwalt)

Prayer

Scripture: <u>Isaiah 61:1-4; Luke 4:16-21</u> Mary Jenkins
Message A Question Leading into "Who Am I?"
Anthem Who Am I? (Casting Crowns)

<u>Offering</u>

* 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.

GROW PRAY STUDY (GPS)

A Daily Devotional

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, Brenda B, Donna B, Johnna H, Dennis L, Ed P Prayers for Those Serving in the Military:

Grant C, Jin J, Matthew M, Nicholas P, Elisabeth W, Haden W, Tyler W

Today is Bloom Sunday, a day on which we highlight Bloom Early Learning & Child Care. Bloom was founded by Messiah Church in 2000 to provide quality child care and early education in our community. Through the Shirley Robinson Scholarship, enrollment is available for families that cannot afford child care. During worship this morning, you will hear more about Bloom and its impact on families in our community. To learn more, visit bloomearlylearning.org.

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 at 8:45 and 10:30 am. 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 during both the 8:45 and 10:30 am worship services. Youth begin in worship and are dismissed with the kids mid-service. Nursery care, for infants and toddlers (through age 3), is available at both services, and these children may be dropped off downstairs in 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.

For those with t-coil equipped hearing aids or cochlear implants, an **induction hearing loop** is installed for use in our sanctuary.

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.

Not a singer, dancer, or actor?
That's okay — we still need YOU for our 2026 Spring musical.
Cinderella takes a village, and your unique talents could be just what we're looking for. Do you have skills in:

- Color, fashion, or costume design?
- Painting, building, or set construction?
- Marketing or computer applications?
- Thrift shopping and finding great deals?

Teams are forming now to plan costumes, sets, marketing, and more. Come be part of the magic behind the scenes! Costumes Team is meeting tomorrow, Monday, September 22 at 6 pm in the church office; Sets team is underway, and other teams are forming soon.

There's a place for everyone! Contact Joy Ann Harmon, Show Director, at

jharmon@messiahchurch.org or Nikki Christensen, Show Producer, at nchristensen@messiahchurch.org. to get plugged in.

All Messiah women are invited to Women's Night Out next Monday, September 29 from 5:30-7:30 pm. This month we'll gather at a new-to -us local restaurant - OAK Eatery in Hamel/Medina (190 Westfalen Trl #500 - just off on Hwy 55 and Sioux Drive). Come and enjoy a glass of wine or some food (whatever you wish to order) and conversation with Messiah friends old and new. Feel free to bring a friend - 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, September 29 so enough tables can be reserved.

Are you aware of the latest research in brain health? Science continues to reveal ways we can reduce our risk of cognitive decline and support brain wellness. On Saturday, October 4, from 11 am-1 pm, join us for a special presentation at Messiah where RN and former parish nurse Sondra Weinzierl will review these findings and offer tips for protecting our

brain health. Sondra will explore key aspects of brain wellness and share how faith and spirituality can play a role in cognitive function. You'll discover practical steps to improve and sustain brain function, along with the newest research on reducing risk factors for dementia and cognitive decline. Whether you're looking to boost your brainpower or simply stay informed, this session offers valuable insights for everyone. The cost for a brain-healthy lunch and the presentation is \$10 per person please RSVP by Thursday, October 2 to reserve your spot. Register and pay online at subspla.sh/s3dbgpx or with a paper form (available in the church atrium) and cash or check. This session is part of a Living Well series. Watch for more information on other upcoming sessions. You don't have to be a part of Messiah Church to attend — invite your friends and neighbors!

Bring your beloved pets to our 26th annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 5 at 1 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.

Messiah's Glory Players Theater Company is casting children, youth, and adult performers for the Spring 2026 production of Cinderella. Not your "Grandma's Cinderella," this Broadway adaptation of the classic story features new characters, a hilarious script, surprising twists, and the same magical, unforgettable score from Rogers and Hammerstein. Monday, October 6 OR Tuesday, October 7 auditions are open to performers ages 8 through adult. Callbacks for

all roles will be Thursday, October 9 at 6 pm. Auditions for singing children (ages 8-12) are 6-7 pm on either Monday, October 6 OR Tuesday, October 7. Be prepared to sing a song of your choice - an accompanist will be available. No need to make a reservation - first come, first served, but please arrive before 6:50 pm. Auditions for singing adults (ages 13 and up) are available starting at 9:10 pm on Monday, October 6 OR Tuesday, October 7. Sing at least 16 bars of a memorized song of your choice, be prepared to learn a simple dance, and possibly read an excerpt from the script. An accompanist will be available. Plan for up to a 45 minute time commitment. To reserve an audition slot, please email Joy Ann Harmon, Cinderella Director, at iharmon@messiahchurch.org. Show rehearsals will be Monday and Tuesday evenings, and Saturday mornings beginning January 2026. Show performance dates are March 13-15 and 20-22, 2026. Visit minnesotaplaylist.com/ audition/Cinderella-casting-call for a shareable link. Share these dates with talented singers, actors, and anyone who loves musical theater! For additional casting questions, please contact Joy Ann Harmon, Cinderella Director, at jharmon@messiahchurch.org.

Join us on Saturday, October 11 from 9:30 am-12 pm in Heritage Hall for a FREE workshop on the Enneagram, a powerful and ancient symbol that maps nine distinct ways of viewing the world. The Enneagram offers insight into how we grow in health and experience transformation, as well as how we get stuck in patterns of pain and suffering. It's a sacred guide to the territories of the soul, helping us understand ourselves and others more deeply. Facilitator Jody Thone, Director of Ministry Development for The

Minnesota Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church, will lead us through the history and uses of the Enneagram model, including an overview of each of the nine personality types. She'll also share resources and recommended reading to support your continued learning and personal development. Prior to the workshop, participants are encouraged (but not required) to take the RHETI (Riso-Hudson **Enneagram Type Indicator) online** assessment. This \$20 test can be found through The Enneagram Institute Testing Center at tinyurl.com/

EnneagramAssessmentTesting and will help you begin identifying your Enneagram type. Messiah's library cart also features a selection of Enneagram books for further exploration before or after the class. Thanks to our apportionment dollars, the workshop is free, but advance registration is required by Thursday, October 9. Register online at subspla.sh/yjtk6bv or with a paper form available in the church atrium.

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 12 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 5 and up) can receive the Fluzone (ages 5-64) or the High-Dose Fluzone (ages 65 and above) influenza vaccine. Additionally, the new 2025-26 Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are available to appropriate persons ages 12 and up. The recently FDAapproved Moderna Spikevax and Moderna mNEXSPIKE (depending on availability) vaccines will be offered to all persons ages 65 and up, and to persons ages 12-64 with at least 1 FDA-recognized high-risk condition. For persons ages 12-64 that are uncertain if they have a high . Thursday, December 18: Early -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. It is recommended to check with your insurance to see if the new COVID-19 vaccine will be covered. Both the flu and COVID-19 vaccines can be administered at the same visit. Schedule your appointment today at tinyurl.com/ VaccineClinicatMessiah. 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. Please download, print, and complete the Cub Pharmacy Vaccine Informed Consent Form at tinyurl.com/MessiahVaccineConsent 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 2 months after having a previous COVID-19 vaccine, before receiving one of the 2025-26 COVID-19 vaccines. 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 the COVID-19 vaccine for 3 months.

We have returned to our regular Sunday worship schedule: a traditional service at 8:45 am and contemporary worship at 10:30 am. Save the date for these upcoming special worship times:

- . Sunday, October 26: Worship Together Sunday (one combined service) at 9:30 am, followed by Trunk or Treat at 10:30 am

of Healing & Hope at 2 pm

- Christmas Eve (Traditional Candlelight Service) at 7 pm
- · Wednesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Services - Family Service at 4 pm, Contemporary Service at 7 pm, and Traditional Service at
- . Sunday, December 28: Service of Carols Worship Together Sunday (one combined service) at 9:30 am

KID Street Wednesday Nights are back! Children pre-K through 5th grade can join us from 6:30-8 pm for dinner, a faith lesson, friendship, and an opportunity to worship through art or service. KID Street Wednesday Nights begin in the KID Street Headquarters (the Sunday School room downstairs). Care for children under age 4 may be available - contact Kari Stern, Director of Children and Family Ministry, at kstern@messiahchurch.org at least 2 days in advance to check on availability. Each year, we ask that families register their child(ren) for KID Street (Wednesday nights or Sunday mornings) so that we can update our records. Visit tinyurl.com/ MessiahKIDStreet2025 to register. (Please register all children in your family - birth through 5th grade.) Parents and families are welcome to attend any or all parts of programming and we are always looking for adult volunteers to pour into our children at Messiah! For more information on the KID Street programs, contact Kari Stern at kstern@messiahchurch.org.

Students in grades 6-12 have opportunities to connect with peers and grow in their faith at Messiah Church with several youth programs! Middle School Sunday School for youth in grades 6-8 meets in the Youth Room during • Saturday, December 13: A Service both worship services and offers

age-appropriate teaching that uses creative storytelling and thoughtful approaches to engaging with Scripture. The first Sunday of each month, instead of Sunday School, youth are invited to stay in worship with their families. Wednesday Nights from 6:30-7 pm, we have dinner together and hang out. From 7-8 pm Middle School Youth Group meets in Lakeside East and High School Youth Group meets in the Youth Room. Confirmation for Youth in High School (grades 9+) begins with a parent/Confirmand meeting on Sunday, October 5 at 9:45 am and classes in November. Stay tuned for more information, coming soon. Each year, we ask that families register their youth so that we have the best contact information for vouth and families and the necessary permissions for programming. Visit tinyurl.com/ MessiahYouth2025 to register. (Please register all youth in your family - 6th-12th grade.) We're always looking for adults to join us and come alongside youth in their faith journeys. We'd welcome new adult leaders in all program areas, but specifically have needs on the second Sunday of the month at 8:45 and the third Sunday of the month at 10:30 for Sunday School. Serve weekly, or just once or twice a month. For more information on the Youth programs, contact Sami Tierney, Director of Youth and Family Ministry, at stierney@messiahchurch.org.

Faith Groups at Messiah are a key part of the fabric of our church and a great way to connect. In a Faith Group, you will find a circle of friends who enjoy doing life together. Many will say that they felt connected in a meaningful way to Messiah the day they joined a Faith Group. Consider trying one out this fall! We have groups for everyone: men's and women's groups, couples groups, Bible

studies, in-person and online groups, groups that meet on Wednesday night when children's programming is offered, and MORE! Visit messiahchurch.org/small-groups to find a group that meets your needs and schedule, or contact Heather Felt at hfelt@messiahchurch.org for suggestions.

This fall, Pastor Tami invites parents of pre-K though Middle School kids to join her for an 8week pop-up faith group on Wednesday nights. We will gather each week from 6:30-8 pm in room 128 on the lower level. Drop your kids off for KID Street Wednesdays and/or Youth Group then stay to connect, relax, and build friendships with other Messiah parents. The group will decide on a book, study, or series to study once we're up and running. (Note: We will not meet on Wednesday, October 15 due to the MEA school break.) Please RSVP to Heather Felt at hfelt@messiahchurch.org or Pastor Tami at tluckhardt@messiahchurch.org to reserve a spot. All are welcome!

While the music teams always welcome new members, fall is a great time to join! If you attend the 8:45 service, our Chancel Choir rehearses in the sanctuary on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm. (Childcare is available through KID Street Wednesdays.) Have you ever wanted to try handbells? Join us for a month, a series, or a season. No prior experience necessary. We meet in the handbell room (lower level past the choir room) on Wednesdays from 6-7 pm. If you attend the 10:30 service, our Praise **Choir** rehearses in the sanctuary on Thursday nights from 7-7:45 pm. Do you play an instrument (piano, guitar... other)? We have a way for you to serve too! Contact Nikki

Christensen, Director of Worship, at nchristensen@messiahchurch.org for more info.

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 14 other neighboring churches. Weekly meetings of this support group gather on Thursdays at various churches on a rotating basis. Through November 20, Grief Coalition meetings are at St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church (17205 County Rd 6, Plymouth) from 4:30-6 pm. For more information on the Grief Coalition, 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.

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

Messiah Church.org/Make-an-Impact.

Our September & October Second Mile Offering supports Massie's Mobile Mission. Massie's Mobile Mission 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. Through

dedicated volunteer efforts, they strive to empower individuals to navigate their challenges with dignity and resilience, 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:

- **Give!** Give <u>online</u> by selecting "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! We are collecting these specific items: men's & women's tshirts (new; sizes M-XXL); peanut butter & jelly; dog bowls, leashes, and collars; cat litter; wet wipes; feminine hygiene products; flashlights; blankets & sleeping bags; travel-sized personal care items; hair brushes & combs (new); and drawstring bags & backpacks. All donations will be collected through Sunday, October 26 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).
- Volunteer! Massie's Mobile
 Mission is always in need of
 weekly volunteers to help with
 sandwich making, blessing pack
 assembly, and serving in the field
 to support those in need. Click
 here for more information and to
 sign up.

Make a difference in the lives of others by giving blood. Please consider donating blood at the American Red Cross blood drive on Monday, October 6 from 12-6 pm in Heritage Hall. Visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter "MessiahPlym" to schedule an appointment. Save the date for the next blood drive at Messiah: Tuesday, January 13, 2026.

NOTES

You are invited to the Bloom Early Learning & Child Care "Bloom Ball" fundraiser on Friday, October 10 from 6-10 pm at the Metropolitan Ballroom & Clubroom (5418) Wayzata Blvd, Golden Valley). Enjoy a memorable evening of entertainment, activities, great food, chances to win great prizes, and most of all - a 25th anniversary celebration and fundraiser for Bloom Early Learning. It's a party with a cause and a celebration you won't want to miss! Tickets for the evening are \$137 each or \$1200 for tables of 10. To purchase tickets, visit bloomearlylearning.org/ events/bloom-ball-2025 . Can't make it to the Ball? Donations are always welcome through their website at bloomearlylearning.org/ ways-to-help. For more information on Bloom Early Learning & Child Care, visit bloomearlylearning.org.

Do you have a passion for helping students learn to love to read? Consider joining the Wayzata **Schools Literacy Volunteer** Program for the 2025-2026 school year! The Literacy Volunteer Program is a reading program that focuses on improving the reading skills of struggling readers in all Wayzata Public Schools' elementary schools. Volunteers listen to and support students as they read aloud from books for 20-30 minutes once a week during the school day, November through May. Each

volunteer is paired with one school and matched with a single student there, forming a reading partnership that lasts the entire school year. Important upcoming dates:

- Monday, October 13 from 10-11:30 am or Monday, October 20 from 6-7:30 pm - Literacy training meeting (optional) at Ridgedale Library
- October/November Volunteer orientation meetings (optional for returning volunteers; required for new volunteers). Dates & times to be determined.
- · Week of November 3 Reading with students begins
- Week of May 18 Reading with students ends.

Find more information at tinyurl.com/ <u>LiteracyVolunteerInformation</u> or register at tinyurl.com/ LiteracyVolunteerSignUp. If you have questions about this program, contact Julie Menk, Volunteer Specialist at Wayzata Schools, at (763) 745-5207 or julie.menk@wayzataschools.org.

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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