



August 23, 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](#)

* Hymn #378 (vv 1-4)

* Congregational Prayer

Children's Prayer and KID Street Release

Prayer Hymn #593

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Anthem

* Scripture: [John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-49](#)

Message *Updating our Lenses: Healing the Man Who Was Blind*

* Song

[Offering](#) / Offering Prayer

* Benediction

° Postlude

The Penitent Heart (Higgins)

Amazing Grace

Here I Am, Lord

King of Kings (Ligertwood)

Jim Yount

In Christ Alone (Getty)

Aaron's Blessing (Ortega)

Who You Say I Am (Fielding)

* 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 8/24	Mark 8:22-25
Tuesday 8/25	Isaiah 55:8-9
Wednesday 8/26	Acts 10:34-35
Thursday 8/27	Genesis 32:22-31
Friday 8/28	Philippians 1:6-9
Saturday 8/29	2 Corinthians 5:17

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 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 on September 13. **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. We will return to two services (at 8:45 and 10:30 am) on Sunday, September 13.

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.

All Messiah women are invited to Women's Night Out on Monday, August 31 from 5:30-7 pm. This month we'll gather at Messiah for a potluck salad bar. Please bring one ready-to-go salad ingredient to share (approx. 2-3 cups). Ideas include: diced bell peppers, shredded carrots, cubed ham, shredded cheese, or sliced hard boiled eggs. Salad greens, croutons, dressings, bread, and beverages will be provided. Attendees will also have the

opportunity to create their own bottled seasoning blend to bring home. A \$3 donation is requested to help cover costs. 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 Friday, August 28 to help us plan.

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

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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.

It's back-to-school time and school supplies are on sale in stores everywhere! As we prepare for the new school year, **Messiah is partnering with Midwest Mission to collect essential supplies for students in need**. We are collecting only these specific items:

- Crayons (boxes of 24)
- Colored pencils (boxes of 12)
- Student scissors
- Pink erasers (2" or larger)
- Rulers (12" long with metric)
- Pencil sharpeners

Later this fall, our KID Street kids will assemble School Kits specifically for Midwest Mission. School supplies will be collected through Sunday, September 6 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). For more information on Midwest Mission, visit midwestmission.org.

As we get ready for fall and back-to-school, **Interfaith Outreach & Community Partners (IOCP) is especially in need of new and like-new back-to-school clothing and shoes for children**, in sizes for

toddlers through teens. We are collecting:

- Sweatshirts
- Sweaters
- Long-sleeve shirts
- Jeans
- Leggings
- Sneakers
- Other cool-weather essentials

Clean, stylish, and ready-to-wear items help local children head back to school with confidence! Kids & youth clothing and shoe donations will be collected through Sunday, September 6 and can be dropped off in the atrium at Messiah on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm). For more information on Interfaith Outreach, visit iocp.org.

You are invited to the Bloom Early Learning & Child Care "Bloom Bash" fundraiser on Friday, September 18 from 6-10 pm in the Grand Ballroom at Medina Entertainment Center ([500 Hwy 55, Medina](http://500Hwy55.Medina)). Enjoy a memorable evening of entertainment, dancing & live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres & dessert, a cash bar, chances to win great prizes, and most of all — a celebration and fundraiser for Bloom Early Learning. It's a party with a cause and it won't be the same without you! Early-bird tickets are on sale now for \$125 each or \$900 for tables of 8. (Prices go up on Tuesday, September 1.) Visit tinyurl.com/BloomBash2026 for all the event details and to purchase tickets. To learn more about Bloom, visit bloomearlylearning.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 —

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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:

- 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.

NOTES

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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Director of Youth & Family Ministry

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