



March 22, 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
Welcome / [Attendance](#)
Call to Worship
* Hymn # 539 (vv 1-3) *O Spirit of the Living God*
Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Prayer Hymn *As the Deer*
Pastoral Prayer
Anthem *I'm Thirsty* (Dengler)
* Scripture: [John 19:28-29](#) Joan McNutt
Message *I Am Thirsty*
* Hymn *You Are Mine*
* [Offering](#) / Offering Prayer
* Benediction *Aaron's Blessing* (Ortega)
° Postlude

JOURNEY WORSHIP

10:30AM

* Praise Songs *Christ Be Magnified* (Carnes)
King of Kings (Hillsong Worship)
Welcome / [Attendance](#)
Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Prayer Song *It is Well* (Bethel Music)
Pastoral Prayer
Scripture: [John 19:28-29](#) Linda Brown
Message *I Am Thirsty*
Anthem *Even If* (MercyMe)
[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

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|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Monday 3/23 | John 19:28-29 |
| Tuesday 3/24 | Psalm 69:19-21, 30-36 |
| Wednesday 3/25 | Isaiah 55:1-2a |
| Thursday 3/26 | John 4:1-14 |
| Friday 3/27 | Psalm 42:1-2 |
| Saturday 3/28 | Philippians 2:6-11 |

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, 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

Altar flowers today are given in celebration of the Glory Players production of *Cinderella*.

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 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** 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.

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.

Only one show remains for Messiah's Glory Players production of *Cinderella* this afternoon at 2 pm. Tickets are \$25 for adults ages 13 and up, \$15 for children ages 5 to 12, and preschoolers ages 4 and under are free. The show is best enjoyed by ages 6 and up, but all ages are welcome. All theatergoers, regardless of age, must have a ticket. Reserve your tickets online at MessiahChurch.org/Cinderella. *Cinderella is presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.* **When you arrive for a performance of *Cinderella*, please remember to bring your tickets — either printed or on your phone.** Having your tickets ready helps you skip the box office line and head straight into the show. Thank you for helping us keep things running smoothly!

Curious about how modern cancer care is changing? On Saturday, March 28 from 10-11:30 am, join us

in Heritage Hall as Messiah member and oncology nurse Lindsay Gagliardi leads a presentation on how genetic testing and family history influence cancer risk. She will also introduce new advances in cancer care that help personalize treatment. This is an opportunity to learn more about the evolving efforts to treat a disease that touches so many lives. Coffee and light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP by this Thursday, March 26 to Heather Felt at hfelt@messiahchurch.org. *This session is part of a Living Well Series. You don't have to be a part of Messiah Church to attend — invite your friends and neighbors! Save the date for these upcoming free events in this series:*

- **Saturday, May 2 @ 10-11:30 am:** *Health Care Directives with Sondra Weinzierl.*
- **Saturday, May 16 @ 11 am-1 pm:** *Celebration of Life Planning with Pastor Tami Luckhardt and Barb Krause. Lunch will be served.*

 To learn more about the Methodist faith, Messiah Church, our pastors, and getting connected, you are invited to attend **Lunch with the Pastors** on Sunday, March 29 at 11:45 am in the Fireside Room (lower level). (This gathering was originally planned for last week, but has been rescheduled due to the weather cancellation.) Even if you

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are not "new," if you have never attended a Lunch with the Pastors, you are invited! Lunch will be provided — please RSVP by Friday, March 27 to Heather Felt at hfelt@messiahchurch.org or (763) 473-6968 ext 114. (If childcare is needed, please let Heather know.) Heather can provide more information about this casual gathering and membership at Messiah.

All Messiah women are invited to Women's Night Out on Monday, March 30 from 5:30-7:30 pm. This month we'll gather at OAK Eatery in Hamel/Medina ([190 Westfalen Trail #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 good 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, March 30 so enough tables can be reserved.

Join Messiah Church in person or online to celebrate Holy Week & Easter Sunday – the life, death & resurrection of Jesus:

- **Palm Sunday Worship**
Sunday, March 29 @ 8:45 & 10:30 am
On Palm Sunday we'll wave palms during our opening song as we remember Jesus' triumphant but humble entry into Jerusalem during the last week of his life. Together we will join the voices of the crowd who welcomed him with hope and praise. Each service will conclude at the Lord's Table as we share in communion. During this sacred time, a life-sized cross will be brought forward. It invites us to turn our hearts toward the journey ahead — to face the cross of Good Friday and the weight of Christ's love and

sacrifice. At the same time, we look with hope toward the promise that awaits us: the glory of the empty tomb on Easter morning. In person, online live at [MessiahChurch.org/Live](#), or on demand later at [MessiahChurch.org/OnDemand](#).

- **Good Friday Worship**
Friday, April 3 @ 7 pm
Good Friday Worship – *Service of the Nails* – is a series of readings, responses, silent reflection, and prayer designed to help us enter deeply into the meaning of Good Friday and the good news of the cross. Our Chancel Choir and piano will offer the beautiful music. Nursery care is available for children 4 and under in the KID Street Headquarters (lower level). In person, online live at [MessiahChurch.org/Live](#), or on demand later at [MessiahChurch.org/OnDemand](#)

- **Easter Sunday Worship**
Sunday, April 5 @ 8:45 & 10:30 am
Rejoice — Christ is risen! Join us at 8:45 am for a traditional Easter service complete with bells and brass OR at 10:30 am for a contemporary Easter service with our worship band — both with special music and the Easter message *The Last Word is Life*. In person, online live at [MessiahChurch.org/Live](#), or on demand later at [MessiahChurch.org/OnDemand](#).

Note: On Easter Sunday, families are invited to worship together. There is no KID Street or Middle School Sunday School. Nursery care is available for children 4 and under on the main level.

- **Easter Egg Hunt**
Sunday, April 5 @ 9:45 am
All kids are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday between worship services. We'll gather in the atrium first (near the sanctuary doors), then the hunt begins at 9:45 am, followed by Easter crafts and activities in

Heritage Hall. During both worship services, there will be a special message just for kids too, along with an Easter gift for every child who attends.

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 May 28, Grief Coalition meetings are at Oak Knoll Lutheran Church ([600 Hopkins Crossroad, Minnetonka](#)) 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 MessiahChurch.org/Make-an-Impact.

March is Minnesota FoodShare month, and our Second Mile Offering supports this drive with funds and food essentials. The Minnesota FoodShare campaign helps stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide. Your offering and donations specifically support the local food shelves at Interfaith Outreach and ICA.

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You can support our local food shelves with a monetary donation, or by donating food:

- **Give!** Give online at messiahchurch.org/give by selecting "Second Mile Offering," or by mailing a check (indicate "MN FoodShare" in the memo) to: Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447. For every \$1 donated, food shelves can source \$9 worth of food through partnerships in the community.
- **Donate!** We are collecting items that are in high demand at the food shelves: flour, sugar, cooking oil, canned fruit, canned tomatoes, coffee, and mayonnaise. The KID Street kids are also collecting peanut butter & jelly. Donations will be collected through next Sunday, March 29, and can be dropped off on the marked table in the atrium at Messiah on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm).

You are invited to a special pop-up Cocoa Café in Heritage Hall next Sunday, March 29 in support of the Minnesota FoodShare campaign.

Each year Ashley and Emily, two of Messiah's youth, invite their friends and neighbors to their front yard for hot cocoa and sweet treats, then donate 100% of the freewill donations they receive to the ICA and Interfaith Outreach food shelves. Last weekend was the 9th annual Cocoa Café. On March 29, Ashley and Emily will be serving up

their special cocoa and collecting freewill donations for the FoodShare campaign in Heritage Hall after each worship service. Last year these sisters raised over \$6,200! Your gift is helping our community

Help fund our spring musical, Cinderella, with an individual or business sponsorship. All

donations offset production costs, making it possible to bring this show to life! **To become a Cinderella Sponsor:** Visit messiahchurch.org/give to donate online (preferred). Select "Glory Players" from the "Fund" choices. OR drop off your donation in the offering box on Sundays or in the church office during office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm), OR mail to Messiah Church, attn: Cinderella Sponsorship, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth MN 55447. Please make checks payable to Messiah Church and in the memo indicate "Cinderella Sponsor." The theater program at Messiah is an essential part of our community outreach and the life of our church, and we are so grateful for your support!

• **Since 2003, the Messiah Living Ministry Endowment has made 93 grants totaling over \$277,621!** The endowment provides funds for worthy causes that are not in the regular church budget. These projects allow Messiah members to make a positive impact on many

lives. Previous grants have funded a variety of projects including Bloom Early Learning & Child Care, Habitat for Humanity, Iglesia Piedra Viva (IPV), Imara International, Re-Member, Thrive Kenya, and Boy Scout Eagle projects. **Grant requests for 2026 are being considered now!** If you have a ministry idea in need of initial funding or a missional need that you would like Messiah Church to support, please complete an application. Visit messiahchurch.org/endowment-grant-application to apply online, or download and print a paper application at tinyurl.com/MessiahEndowmentApplication. (Paper applications are also available in the church office and atrium.) The Application deadline is Wednesday, April 15. Online applications are automatically submitted. Paper applications can be dropped off in the church office on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm), or mailed to: Messiah Church, attn: Endowment Committee, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447. To learn more, contact Doug M, Chair of the Endowment Committee, at dgmjmcDonald@msn.com or Pastor Tami Luckhardt at (763) 473-6968 or tluckhardt@messiahchurch.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

Director of Worship

Nikki Christensen

nchristensen@messiahchurch.org

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