



November 16, 2025

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

MGN - Messiah's Good News
Prelude *Rigaudon* (Campra)
Welcome / [Attendance](#)
* Hymn #545 (vv 1, 2, 4, 5) *The Church's One Foundation*
Congregational Prayer
3rd Grade Bible Milestone Video
Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Prayer Preparation Hymn #500 (vv 1, 4)
Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart
Pastoral Prayer
Anthem *More Precious Than Silver* (arr. Larson)
* Scripture: [John 15:1-12](#) Lorie Hoekstra
Message *Community and Commitment*
* Hymn #593 *Here I Am, Lord*
* [Offering](#)
* Benediction *Aaron's Blessing* (Ortega)
° Postlude *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (Prichard)

JOURNEY WORSHIP

10:30 AM

MGN - Messiah's Good News
Welcome / [Attendance](#)
* Praise Songs *Firm Foundation (He Won't)* (Carnes)
What a Beautiful Name (Hillsong Worship)
3rd Grade Bible Milestone Video & Presentation
Children's Prayer and Sunday School Release
Prayer Song *Come Lord Jesus (Even So Come)* (Passion)
Pastoral Prayer
Scripture: [John 15:1-12](#) Darrell Kula
Message *Community and Commitment*
Anthem *The Blessing* (Elevation Worship)
* [Offering](#)
* 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

Monday 11/17	John 15:1-8
Tuesday 11/18	Galatians 6:1-5
Wednesday 11/19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31
Thursday 11/20	Colossians 3:12-17
Friday 11/21	Hebrews 10:19-25
Saturday 11/22	Psalm 133:1

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, 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 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. *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.

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.

We have a limited inventory of extra "Where Life & Purpose Connect" **Messiah Church adult t-shirts** for sale. Price is \$13-17 depending on size; available in small-XXXL. We accept cash, check, or credit card. First come, first served! Contact Miranda Spence at m-spence@messiahchurch.org to reserve yours today!

This Thursday, November 20, all grieving hearts are invited to attend a **Candlelight Memorial Service** at St. Philip the Deacon Lutheran Church ([17205 County Rd 6, Plymouth](#)). This service, hosted by the West Suburban Grief Coalition, offers a meaningful time to honor lost loved ones and bring comfort, hope, and healing to those experiencing grief as we enter the holiday season. (You do not need to be a participant of the Grief Coalition to attend.) The service begins at 6 pm; please arrive between 5:30-5:45 pm for check-in and to receive your memorial candle. **Messiah is a partner of the West Suburban Grief Coalition,**

along with 15 other neighboring churches. They provide a safe environment and support for those experiencing grief and loss. Weekly meetings of this support group gather on Thursdays at various churches on a rotating basis. 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.

The **annual Charge Conference** for the purpose of setting pastors' compensation for 2026 and reviewing other annual reports will be Saturday, November 22 at 10 am at Messiah. Pastor Dick Ellis will be presiding — all members of Messiah are welcome to attend and vote. This year, the Minnesota Annual Conference is trying something new: a Cluster Charge Conference, where multiple churches gather simultaneously at one location for their individual charge conferences. Messiah will

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be hosting eight area congregations on this date. To help things run smoothly, we're looking for a few friendly faces to assist with simple hospitality. It's a great way to connect with others and support the wider church community. If you can lend a hand this Saturday, November 22 from 9 am-12 pm, please contact Carolyn Loeffler at cloeffler@messiahchurch.org or (763) 473-6968 ext 101.

Help deck the halls of Messiah for Christmas!

Next Sunday, November 23, we'll meet in the sanctuary at noon to set up and decorate the Christmas trees that set the scene in the sanctuary and atrium for the Advent season. (Advent begins on Sunday, November 30!) A pizza lunch will be provided to fuel those that help. Please RSVP to Nikki Christensen, Director of Worship, at nchristensen@messiahchurch.org or (763) 473-6968 ext. 113 to let her know you are coming. Many hands make light work!

All Messiah women are invited to **Women's Night Out** on Monday, November 24. This month, get into the holiday spirit with a fun evening of food, friends, and shopping. We will gather at Art 2 Heart in downtown Hamel ([95 Hamel Road](#)) at 5:30 pm. Appetizers, treats, and drinks will be served, then browse the shop filled with holiday décor and gifts for everyone on your Christmas list. 20% of all proceeds during the evening will be donated by Art 2 Heart to our November Second Mile Offering — the Interfaith Outreach Sleep Out. Art 2 Heart is a mission-minded marketplace that donates its profits to ministries and outreach efforts that give tangible encouragement and share the love of Jesus Christ. For more info on Art 2 Heart, visit ourart2heart.org. 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, November 24.

You're invited to participate in an **Advent study led by Bishop Lanette Plambeck**, the resident bishop for the Dakotas-Minnesota Area. In this study, United Methodists across the Dakotas and Minnesota are invited to read *A Child is Born* by Amy-Jill Levine. Dive into the narratives of Isaac, Ishmael, Moses, and Samuel to reveal how they foreshadow and enrich the timeless Christmas story. All are welcome! Mark your calendar and encourage others to join you. Discussions will be held via Zoom on Monday evenings, December 1-22 from 7-8:15 pm CT. Visit minnesotaumc.org/eventdetail/19297133 to register; order your book or e-book from [Cokesbury](#) or your favorite bookstore. The Zoom link will be provided to those who register as the first discussion nears. Attending the sessions live will provide the most meaningful experience, but each one will be recorded and sent to all registrants within a couple days of each gathering.

This Christmas, we invite you to donate a poinsettia as a way of celebrating the birth of Jesus while remembering or honoring a friend or family member.

Dedications can be made in "Celebration of," "Memory of," or "Honor of" a loved one. (Suggested donation is \$20 for each dedication.) A list of those honored or remembered will be printed in the Christmas Eve worship bulletins. Submit your dedications online or with a paper form:

Online - visit messiahchurch.org/poinsettias to complete the dedication form then visit messiahchurch.org/give to pay online (select "Worship Flowers").
Paper Form - pick up a dedication

form in the church atrium or [download one here](#). Drop off your completed form and donation in the offering box on Sundays or to the church office during office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm), OR mail to Messiah Church, attn: Carolyn Loeffler, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth MN 55447. Please make checks payable to Messiah Church and indicate "poinsettias" in the memo.

The deadline to submit your dedications is Sunday, December 7. Questions? Please contact Carolyn Loeffler in the church office Tuesdays-Thursdays at (763) 473-6968 ext 101, or by email at cloeffler@messiahchurch.org.

Jingle those bells and grab your crew — there's a night of festive fun waiting for you! **On Sunday, December 7, join us for Jingle Bell BINGO & Soup Supper**, a FREE community event for all ages. Enjoy a warm soup supper from 5-6 pm, fresh bread and Christmas cookies, followed by BINGO at 6 pm with fun prizes and plenty of holiday cheer! Bring your friends, your family, your neighbors too — there's room at the table just for you! **A few hands are needed to host this event and welcome the community and Messiah family alike.** Visit tinyurl.com/BINGOhospitality for a list of serving opportunities and to sign up today. Volunteer shifts are set up so that you can help serve AND attend the event. Consider signing up for a shift with a family member, friend, or fellow faith group member. **Would you like to bake Christmas cookies for this event?** A sign up to bake cookies is available on Sunday mornings at the name tag station, or contact Heather. Questions? Contact Heather Felt at (763) 473-6968 ext. 114 or hfelt@messiahchurch.org.

Amid the joy and celebration of the Christmas season, we recognize that not everyone feels like this is

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“the most wonderful time of the year.” For many, this season can stir feelings of grief, loneliness, or longing. On Saturday, December 13 at 2 pm, you are invited to a **Service of Healing and Hope** — a sacred time of worship, prayer, and remembrance for anyone who carries heartache during the holidays. Together, we will find comfort in Scripture, lift our voices in song, and remember loved ones with quiet acts of hope and love. Come as you are, with whatever your heart holds. Maybe you know someone who is struggling? Invite them to come and sit with you...or slip in alone. All are welcome — in person, online live at MessiahChurch.org/live, or on demand later at MessiahChurch.org/ondemand. A time of fellowship with warm beverages and treats will follow.

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 November Second Mile Offering supports Interfaith Outreach and their Sleep Out campaign — a community-wide effort to raise awareness and funds for struggling families in the west suburbs. Each year, gifts to the Sleep Out help more than 2,000 local families not only with food and housing, but also with life-changing

support in areas like employment, clothing, early childhood education, and transportation. For more information on the Sleep Out, visit the Interfaith Outreach website at iocp.org/donations/sleepout. **You can support Interfaith Outreach and their Sleep Out campaign through the end of November with a monetary donation and/or by volunteering:**


- **Give!** [Give online](#) by selecting “Second Mile Offering,” or by mailing a check (indicate “Sleep Out” in the memo) to: Messiah Church, 17805 County Road 6, Plymouth, MN 55447.
- **Volunteer!** Interfaith Outreach is always in need of volunteers. Visit iocp.org/volunteers to register for New Volunteer Training or to view current needs.

Due to the recent government shutdown, **millions of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients are not receiving their benefits. In response to this need, Messiah has launched an Emergency Food Drive** to support local families facing food insecurity. We will continue this effort until SNAP Benefits are reinstated and the need for emergency assistance has passed. You can help in three meaningful ways:

- **Donate funds** to support the Bloom Totes for Hope, Interfaith Outreach, and ICA food shelves. 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.

- **Donate grocery gift cards.** Gift cards to Aldi, Cub, or Hy-Vee will be distributed to Bloom Child Care families as needed. Please write the dollar value directly on the card. Gift cards can be dropped off in the offering box on Sundays or in the church office during office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm). *To avoid scams, NEVER email gift cards to the church.*
- **Donate non-perishable food.** Most needed items this week are: sugar, vegetable oil (24 oz.), canned chicken, hearty soups (cans), and spaghetti sauce (jars). Food donations can be dropped off in the round marked bins in the atrium on Sundays or during church office hours (Monday-Thursday 9 am-4 pm) and Messiah volunteers will deliver your donation. OR drop off your donation directly at Interfaith Outreach ([1605 County Road 101 N, Plymouth](https://1605CountyRoad101N.Plymouth)) or ICA Food Shelf ([11588 K-Tel Dr, Minnetonka](https://11588K-TelDr.Minnetonka)) during their donation hours — visit their websites for donation hours. Together, we will do our part to ensure no one in our community goes hungry during this time.

 New items in the bulletin this week.

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

CONNECT WITH US

Senior Pastor
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