



Preaching and teaching the truth to His expanding kingdom, reaching out to all!

Lutheran Church and School of Messiah

840 North 11th Street Grand Junction, CO 81501
Office (970) 245-2838; Fax: (970) 245-8145; www.messiahlutherangj.org

First Sunday after Christmas
(December 26th, 2021)

The Lord's Supper: If you are visiting with us or have not been instructed in the unique Lutheran teaching regarding the Lord's Supper, we kindly ask you to speak to the Pastor before communing. Thank you.

† DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR †

Greeting and announcements

Sharing of God's Peace

Opening Hymn "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

LSB 367

1 Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth. Refrain

ref Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light. Refrain

3 Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain

4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear. Refrain

STAND 5 All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the_ eternal Three in One. Refrain

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

Psalm

Psalm 111; antiphon: v. 9a, b

¹Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

²**Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.**

³Full of splendor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴**He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

⁵He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶**He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

⁷The works of his hands are faithful and just;
 all his precepts are trustworthy;
⁸they are established forever and ever,
 to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
⁹He sent redemption to his people;
 he has commanded his covenant forever.
 Holy and awesome is his name!
¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
 all those who practice it have a good understanding.
 His praise endures forever!
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son
 and to the Holy Spirit;
 as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and will be forever. Amen
⁹He sent redemption to his people;
 he has commanded his covenant forever.

Kyrie

P 204

C Lord, have mercy;
 Christ, have mercy;
 Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

P 204

C 1 To God on high be glory
 And peace to all the earth;
 Goodwill from God in heaven
 Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
 We praise and bless You, Father;
 Your holy name, we sing—
 Our thanks for Your great glory,
 Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
 The Father's Son, we pray;
 O Lamb of God, our Savior,
 You take our sins away.
 Have mercy on us, Jesus;
 Receive our heartfelt cry,
 Where You in pow'r are seated
 At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
 You only are the Lord.
 Forever and forever,

**Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 13:1-3a, 11-15

¹The LORD said to Moses, ²"Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."

³Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. . . .

¹¹"When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, ¹²you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD's. ¹³Every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, or if you will not redeem it you shall break its neck. Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵For when Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of animals. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Colossians 3:12-17

¹²Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you,

so you also must forgive. ¹⁴And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is

opposed ³⁵(and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, ³⁷and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

LSB 361

1 O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth

The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

- 2 For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond'ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth!
- 3 How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still
The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!

Sermon "No Return Policy!"

Psalm 111:2-3

Prayer of the Church

Offering

† SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT †

Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P 208

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

P 208

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

- C 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world away;
 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world away;
 Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born"

LSB 624

- 1 The infant Priest was holy born
 For us unholy and forlorn;
 From fleshly temple forth came He,
 Anointed from eternity.
- 2 This great High Priest in human flesh
 Was icon of God's righteousness.
 His hallowed touch brought sanctity;
 His hand removed impurity.
- 3 The holy Lamb undaunted came
 To God's own altar lit with flame;
 While weeping angels hid their eyes,
 This Priest became a sacrifice.
- 4 But death would not the victor be
 Of Him who hung upon the tree.
 He leads us to the Holy Place
 Within the veil, before God's face.
- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see,
 As at the rail on bended knee
 Our hungry mouths from Him receive
 The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat,
 A priestly food and priestly meat;
 On sin-parched lips the chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life restores.

7 With cherubim and seraphim
Our voices join the endless hymn,
And “Holy, holy, holy” sing
To Christ, God’s Lamb, our Priest and King.

“Away in a Manger”

LSB 365

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

Nunc Dimittis

P 211

**C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav’nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God’s triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through
this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would
strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love

toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

P 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn “Angels We Have Heard on High”

LSB 368

1 Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains. Refrain

ref Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav’nly song? Refrain

3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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1st Sunday After Christmas



Psalm 111:3-4

God's "NO RETURNS" Policy

What do a lot of people do with their gifts on December 26th? Why do stores discount all their Christmas stuff on December 26th?

- "His work" points to a number of things, including God's work of Creation. He made everything out of nothing by speaking it into existence in 6, 24-hour days. What did God say differently after Day 6?

- Many people today reject and return God's Gift to them. What are some opinions of God these days by people who do not know God?

- What gift does the Christ Child present to God the Father?

- In what ways do you behave as if you have not received God's Gift?

- **Isaiah 62:3** You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Remember; The Christ Child from Bethlehem has made you one of God's crown jewels!

**The Worship Service Sunday Morning
December 26th, 2021**

Preacher	Rev. Michael Redeker	
Organist	Richard Scott	
Acolyte	Kenny Dimmick, Shyloh Dimmick	10:00am
Elders	Ray Seeley, Victor Lozano	10:00am
Ushers	Dennis Phillips, Curtis Peterson Cullen Bedford, Max Redeker	10:00am
Greeters	Lynn Jolley	10:00am
Videographer	Chris Hayes	10:00am

Announcements
December 26th, 2021

PLEASE SIGN THE RECORD OF FELLOWSHIP BOOK FOUND IN THE PEW - BE SURE AND PASS IT DOWN SO EVERYONE CAN SIGN IT.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS WERE GIVEN TODAY in memory of Walt and Lavina Schultz's.
JANUARY 2nd- Bible Study at 9:00am and Church at 10:00am

NEW SERVICE TIME-Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Due to the overall decline in membership and Sunday Service participation, and along with the departure of Pastor Schmidt, the Board of Elders, along with the Church Council with Pastor Redeker's guidance, has decided to change the Sunday worship schedule. The new schedule will be **ONE** service on Sundays starting at 9:00am followed by Bible Study at 10:30. This will better facilitate our smaller membership and take some of the workload off our Pastor. The new schedule will start **Sunday January 9th**. God's Peace and Merry Christmas, **Wade Schultz**-Chairman of the Congregation

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING- January 16th at 2:30pm to discuss our financial position and pastor vacancy.

2022 OFFERING ENVELOPES- Can be picked up in the narthex. If you currently do not have offering envelopes and would like to have some, or if you have envelopes and do not use them, please let the Church office know.

POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS- Thanks to everyone who brought their poinsettia to share. Please pick up your poinsettia after service today.

OFFICE ADMIN- We are looking to hire a full time Office Administrator. It is 40 hours per week, pay based on experience. Knowledge of QuickBooks, Microsoft Office, Organizational and leadership skills and communication and interpersonal abilities needed. Submit resume to glacia@messiahlutherangj.org or admin@messiahlutherangj.org. Questions contact the office at 970-245-2838.

BLESSING TO GLACIA AS SHE TAKES ON A NEW ROLE- After 13 years of faithful service to God and Messiah, Glacia Peck is leaving her position as office administrator. She has blessed us in so many ways. We cannot thank her enough. Her final day in the office will be January 7th. Godspeed Glacia!

GIVING TREE- Thank you to everyone who gave to the Giving Tree. It was a blessing to our families of Messiah Church and School. The gifts and cash donation were very much appreciated.

LINENS VOLUNTEERS- Volunteers are needed for linens. We will train. Come and help. Call Carolyn Baker 970-434-1524 if you have any questions.

LWML MITES- Mite boxes are used for the collection of money for missions. Twenty-five percent of the mite offering is sent to international LWML for mission projects and the remaining seventy-five percent is used for your district's mission projects. Mite Money is used to further God's kingdom through the mission projects selected by

delegates at district and international conventions. Place your mite box wherever you can feed it: dressing table, office desk, laundry room, car, kitchen counter, etc. You mite want to give a mite box to family members and friends.

NEW SCIENCE CURRICULUM- Our school has been blessed with an entire new science curriculum, and 2 new microscopes. We are still in need of items to provide hands on labs, experiments and more. If you would like to donate or purchase some of these amazing items, there is a wish list in the school office.

3rd SUNDAY SERVICE- Join us the 3rd Sunday of
The month for our service in the gym:

Noon-1PM- FREE lunch with Fellowship and Discussion

1PM-2PM- Worship together in the Gym (a Service of the Word—No
Communion)

GREETERS- Thank you to all of you who have signed up to be greeters and to all future greeters. There are still Sundays available. Help be a welcoming smile to all members and visitors to Messiah. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex next to the Communion Help sign-up sheet.

UNDERSTANDING OUR BELIEF— Every Tuesday, at 6:00PM, Mr. Scott Mauser is hosting a class on apologetics, discussing how to share what we believe in truth, love, gentleness, and respect. These classes are over at the Alpha and Omega Institute 1011 N 10th St, Grand Junction, CO 81501. Hope you can make it!

COMMUNION VOLUNTEERS needed for 2022! Please consider serving our Lord and your church by volunteering to help with communion. Sign up in the narthex on the bulletin board. If you need to be trained or have questions, please contact Laura Ryden at (970) 260-6766

PRAYER REQUESTS- *"But when you pray, go to into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you," (Matt. 6:6).* Prayer requests for you, family with permission, or by a pastor, may be sent to Beth Weber at weber4342@acsol.net.

GIFT PLANNING- Who will be best blest by gifts from my estate someday? Just as you think about how your family will be blessed, you can also ponder about the blessing that will take place in ministries that you support with God's gifts. Try to picture and imagine someone coming to faith and inheriting eternal life through the ministry you support with your estate gift. Then pray for God to make that happen. Your Messiah counselor can help you focus your God given attention on ministry gifts. Contact Jason Jones at Jason.Jones@lfnd.org or call him directly at (970) 988-0305.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS- Acts 7:54-55 "Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God." The world will always rage against Christ and His Christians. From St. Stephen's Day down to ours the Church has faced persecution. But let them rage. We have peace with God

through His Son, who took up our flesh and saved us. This gives us confidence to live the lives God has called us to live without fear.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS- Thrivent members, do not forget to direct your Choice Dollars® to the church general fund or to the school scholarship fund. You have two easy options to direct your Choice Dollars: Online at www.thrivent.com or by calling 800-847-4836

MESSIAH'S RADIO MINISTRY-Sunday mornings at 8:30am -9:00am on 1100AM/KNZZ radio station. It is followed by The Lutheran Hour at 9:00am. If you would like to be a sponsor for our radio ministry, contact the church office, 970-245-2838.

December Income-

Week of Dec. 17-23	\$16,944.74
Weekly need	\$66,980.79
Month to date	\$64,900.78
Monthly need	\$131,881.57

Calendar for the Week

Sunday	9:00am 10:00am	Adult Bible Study/Sunday School/Facebook Live Divine Service/Communion/Facebook Live
Monday	----- -----	NO SCHOOL OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
Tuesday	----- 9:00am ----- 6:00pm	NO SCHOOL Quilt Ladies/Fellowship Hall NO YOUTH GROUP Board of Evangelism
Wednesday	----- 8:00am 11:00am 6:00pm	NO SCHOOL WEEKLY BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT DEADLINE Wednesday Bible Class/Isaiah/Zoom Wednesday night service
Thursday	----- 6:30pm	NO SCHOOL Pastor Redeker's Online Bible Class-Galatians Bible Study
Friday	----- -----	NO SCHOOL Pastor Redeker's Day Off
Saturday	-----	
Sunday	9:00am 10:00am	Adult Bible Study/Sunday School/Facebook Live Unity Sunday/Divine Service/Communion/Facebook Live/