

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
**The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**



**Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**Rorate Coeli**

**December 22, 2024**

**Divine Service III**

# Messiah Lutheran Church

Rev. James A. Roemke, Pastor

2026 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Kenosha, WI 53140

Church Office: 262-551-8182 Pastor's Cell: 262-455-0255

Website: [www.messiahkenosha.org](http://www.messiahkenosha.org) Calendar: <https://tinyurl.com/calendarmlc>

Church Email: [secretary@messiahkenosha.org](mailto:secretary@messiahkenosha.org)

Pastor's Email: [pastorroemke@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorroemke@yahoo.com)

**VISITORS WELCOME!** A special welcome to any visitors and guests who are with us today. Please sign the guestbook near the front door and introduce yourself to the pastor after the service. We pray that the hearing and receiving of the Word of God in our midst will be filled with joy and thanksgiving!

**HOLY COMMUNION** is celebrated every Sunday and on Feast Days. Visiting communicant members of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are invited to commune today. All other visitors are asked to speak with the pastor before coming to the altar. If there is time before the service, introduce yourself to the pastor or an elder. Other visitors are invited to use this time for prayer. If you desire information about attending communion, you are encouraged to visit with the pastor after the service today.

**PRAYERS OF PREPARATION** are found in the cover of the hymnals. Take some time before the service begins in quiet preparation and prayer. **Please turn off and put away all electronic devices during the service.**

**+SERVING TODAY+**

**Elder:** Jim Vescova

**Ushers:** Brent Jiter & Kelvin Nelson

**Greeters:** Vernon & Lynda Koch

**Organist:** Monica Scholz

**Altar Guild:** Tamara Weathersby & Diana Dissen

**Fellowship:** Mike & Sandy Martin

# Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341

*Stand*

## Confession and Absolution

*p184*

### +SERVICE OF THE WORD+

#### Introit

*Ps. 19:1, 4-6; antiphon: Is. 45:8a*



Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*  
and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;  
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*  
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

**The heavens declare the glo- | ry of God,\*  
and the sky above proclaims his | handiwork.**

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words  
to the end | of the world.\*

In them he has set a tent | for the sun,  
**which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his | chamber,\*  
and, like a strong man, runs its | course with joy.**

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the | end of  
them,\*  
and there is nothing hidden | from its heat.

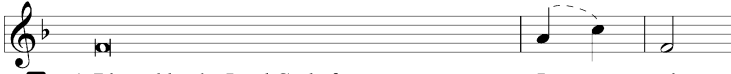
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Shower, O heavens, | from above,\*  
and let the clouds rain down | righteousness;  
let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may | bear fruit;\*  
let the earth cause them | both to sprout.

## Kyrie

*p186*

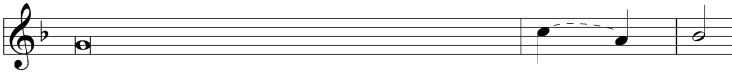
# Benedictus



1 Blessed be the Lord God of . . . . . Is - ra - el;  
 2 as He spoke by the mouth of His holy . . . . . proph - ets,  
 3 to perform the mercy promised to our . . . . . fa - thers  
 4 being delivered from the hand of our . . . . . en - e - mies,  
 5 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;  
 6 through the tender mercy . . . . . of our God;  
 7 Glory be to the Father and . . . . . to the Son



1 for He has visited and re - deemed His peo - ple  
 2 who have . . . . . been since the world be - gan:  
 3 and to remember . . . . . His ho - ly cov - e - nant,  
 4 might . . . . . serve Him with - out fear,  
 5 for you will go before the Lord to pre - pare His ways;  
 6 when the day shall dawn up - on us from on high  
 7 and to . . . . . the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 and has raised up a horn of salvation . . . . . for us  
 2 that we should be saved from our . . . . . en - e - mies  
 3 the oath that He swore to our father . . . . . A - bra - ham,  
 4 in holiness and righteousness be - fore Him  
 5 to give knowledge of salvation to His . . . . . peo - ple  
 6 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,  
 7 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 in the house of His . . . . . ser - vant Da - vid,  
 2 and from the hand of . . . . . all who hate us;  
 3 to . . . . . grant us that we,  
 4 all the . . . . . days of our life.  
 5 in the for - give - ness of their sins,  
 6 to guide our feet in - to the way of peace.  
 7 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—<sup>16</sup>just as

you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.’”

**Gradual**

*Ps. 145:18, 21*



**The LORD is near to all who | call on him,\*  
to all who call on | him in truth.  
My mouth will speak the praise | of the LORD,\*  
and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and | ever.**

**Epistle**

*Philippians 4:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse**

*p190*



■ Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Alle- | luia.\**

*You are my help and my deliverer; do not delay, O my God!*

*Alle- | luia.*



■ Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Holy Gospel**

*John 1:19–28*

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” <sup>20</sup>He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” <sup>21</sup>And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” <sup>22</sup>So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give

an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?”<sup>23</sup> He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.”

<sup>24</sup>(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) <sup>25</sup>They asked him, “Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?” <sup>26</sup>John answered them, “I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup>even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.” <sup>28</sup>These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

**Apostles' Creed**

*p192*

*Sit*

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

*LSB 357, choir v. 5*

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**Offertory**

*p192*

**Prayer of the Church**

*Sit*

**+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+**

*Stand*

**Preface**

*p194*

**Sanctus**

*p195*

**Lord's Prayer**

*p196*

**The Words of Our Lord**

*p197*

**Pax Domini**

**Agnus Dei**

*p198*

*Sit*

**Distribution**

**Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord**

*LSB 352*

**The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns**

*LSB 348*

**On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry**

*LSB 344*

**From East to West**

*LSB 385*

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

*p199*

**Thanksgiving**

*p200*

**Salutation and Benedicamus**

*p201*

**Benediction**

*p202*

**Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee**

*LSB 803*

## +VDM A+

**Verbum Domini Manet in Aeternum**  
**The Word of the Lord endures forever**

### +PRAYER LIST+

- ✘ Those who serve in our armed forces: Rianon Padro, Exavier Padro, & veterans.
- ✘ For all those suffering from illnesses or other trials, including: Rylie Snodgrass, Ken Gundlach (uncle of Sarah Billings), John Funk (friend of Steve and Sarah Billings), Rev. Dave & Judy Dissen (relatives of Marilyn Dissen), Michelle Knull, Gail Kulbacki, Roger & Sara Lyngen, Jerry Kochman, Linda Polcin, and Vernon Koch.

### +ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup>+

- ✘ **BELLS:** If you are attending the Lessons & Carols service on Christmas Eve, please remember to bring bells to ring at the end of the service.
- ✘ **STEWARDSHIP:** We have made significant progress to our goal. These extra funds will help us enter into 2025 in a stronger financial position. Thanks to everyone who has made extra donations, and there is still a couple of weeks left if you are considering an extra year end gift.  
*"We give thee but Thine own, What-e'er the gift may be  
All that we have is Thine a-lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee." LSB 781*
- ✘ **OFFERING ENVELOPES:** 2025 offering envelopes are in the fellowship hall. Your number may have changed, so please be sure to use the new envelopes starting in January.
- ✘ **ELECTRONIC GIVING:** If you participate in electronic giving, but have not signed a new authorization form, please see Lesa after the service today.
- ✘ **GREETING CARDS:** There is a wide variety of greeting cards on the counter in the fellowship hall. Cards are \$2 each and the funds are used to provide our consumable kitchen supplies.

**+CONTRIBUTIONS+**

Lord's Work contributions budget YTD as of 12/20:	\$257,133
Lord's Work contributions received YTD as of 12/20:	\$216,179
Difference:	-\$40,954
Restricted contributions YTD as of 12/20:	\$12,984
Mortgage Balance as of 12/18:	\$8,590

**ATTENDANCE 12/15: 124**

**BIRTHDAYS**

12/25 Vicky Nelson  
12/26 Mary Jo Jiter  
Jerry Tobalsky

**BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS**

12/24 John Hernandez  
12/27 Kelvin Nelson

**+CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT MESSIAH+**

Tuesday	Dec. 24	4:30 pm	Lessons & Carols
		11:00 pm	Midnight Divine Service
Wednesday	Dec. 25	9:00 am	Christmas Divine Service