Messiah LUTHERAN
Sinners. Saved.

November 20-21, 2021

Christ the King

We see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.
Hebrews 2:9

Messiah Lutheran Church & School

2015 N Hastings Way
Eau Claire, WI 54703 ~ 715-834-2865
Affiliated with the *Church of the Lutheran Confession* ~ CLC
www.eauclairemessiah.com

Large-print copies are by the guest book.
For hearing assistance, ask an usher.

Today's Worship

For a printed liturgy, see the green liturgy folder, page 18.

Pre-Service Devotion: You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. (Hebrews 2:7)

At this time, offering plates are not passed during the service. The plates are located on a stand at each church entrance. You may also give electronically – see the "eGive" button at eauclairemessiah.com
"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7)

Hymns: 606 219 (tune of 581) 341:1-3 788:1 341:4-5

Old Testament Reading ..... Daniel 7:13-14

"I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.

Epistle Reading ..... Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, 6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 7 Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. 8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Sermon ..... John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" [34] Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?" [35] Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?" [36] Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." [37] Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

HAIL TO THE

KING!

I. He wore a crown of thorns

II. He wears a crown of glory

III. He shares the crown of TRUTH

Preaching Today: Pastor Bruce Naumann

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Messiah Children sing, Sunday morning only,
"My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness"

Today

Bible Class this Weekend will be a study of Psalm 2, and how it relates to the Bible's teachings on the coming great Day of Judgment. Jesus said: *"What I say to you, I say to all: Watch!"* (Mark 13:37) Please join us, either live on Saturday evening / Sunday morning or via live stream.

The Messiah Squires will present a band concert this Sunday, November 21 at 4:00 pm in our fellowship hall. All are invited to attend!

This Week at Messiah

Sunday services are live-streamed/archived at eauclairemessiah.com.
Service times for local care facilities are posted on the online calendar.

Sun, 11/21		Messiah School Choir: *"My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness"*
	9:00 am	Worship Service (Ushers #4, Counters E)
	10:15 am	Sunday School/Young Adults/Bible Class
	4:00 pm	Messiah Band Concert
Mon, 11/22	5:30 pm	Board of Education
Tues, 11/23	9:00 am	Men's Koffee Klatsch at Perkins
Wed, 11/24		Messiah School off until Monday Nov 29th
		Immanuel School off at noon until Monday Nov 29th
	4:30 pm	Afternoon Catechism
	6:30 pm	Thanksgiving Eve Service (Ushers #3)
Thur, 11/25	9:00 am	Thanksgiving Service (Ushers #6)
Sat, 11/27		No Christmas Eve practice
	6:30 pm	Worship Service (Ushers #5)
	7:45 pm	Sunday School/Bible Class
Sun, 11/28	9:00 am	Worship Service (Ushers #8, Counters F)
	10:15 am	Sunday School/Young Adults/Bible Class
	1:00 pm	Youth Group Church Decorating

Upcoming...

- December 1,8,15: Wednesday Advent Services 1 pm & 6:30 pm
- December 5: Christmas Music Festival at Messiah
- December 11, Ladies of Messiah Cookie Exchange and Tie Dye
- December 11, Christmas VBS, 1-4 pm.

Announcements

Thanksgiving Worship will take place on Wednesday at 6:30 pm and Thursday at 9:00 am. *"Oh, give thanks to the LORD! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!"* (Psalm 105:1)

Messiah Home Bible Studies: Sun, November 21, 6:30 pm, Jon and Sam Kelly, On-site childcare is available; **Mon, November 22,** 6:30 pm John and Sandra Fox - 2208 Crescent Ave. Eau Claire; **The "Shadows and Substance"** study at the ILC Academic Center is on break until Jan. 5.

Youth Group Church Decorating - Sunday, November 28th at 1 pm. Join us for Christmas music and snacks while we decorate. Parents can pick up their kids at 3 pm. Contact Amanda Roth at 715-577-0190 with any questions.

Outreach Webinar: 15 people gathered last Saturday afternoon to participate in the fall "Missions Webinar," sponsored by the CLC Committee on Domestic Fields. The presentation was informative and inspiring. A video link will be available soon.

One-Day Christmas VBS - Saturday, December 11, from 1-4 pm. **Register** at tinyurl.com/21-chrvbs or with the paper form on our narthex kiosk.

Annual Christmas Music Festival - Adults and high school students, we're planning another Christmas Music Festival December 5 at 6:30 in the Messiah sanctuary. If you wish to perform a Christmas musical vocal song or instrument number, contact Lynette.roehl@ilc.edu. We have been blessed with great musicians at Messiah and enjoy hearing you perform your God-given talents.

Service Preview for the Upcoming Weekend

Sermon Text *– to be decided*
Bible Class – Psalm 18 part 2

Christians Serving Us:

Wednesday 11/24 6:30 pm: Usher Team 3
Gary Meyer, Blane Knutson
Luke Knutson, Tom Beekman
Jon Oster, Jack Mielke

Thursday 11/25 9:00 am: Usher Team 6
Darin Oster, Ben Oster
Tim Oster, Jeremy Plath
Isaiah Plath, Gabe Plath
Andrew Plath

Saturday 11/27 6:30 pm: Usher Team 5
Mike Markus, Mark Franson
Jim Sydow, Ben Thurow
Jim Lau, Andy Buck
Mark Kranz

Sunday 11/28 9:00 am: Usher Team 8
Paul Heinze, Seth Schaller
Christian Schaller, Tim Schaller
Jim Sandeen, Peter Reim
Dave Cavanaugh

Counters for the week following 11/28– F
Andy Buck, Mark Franson, Josh Gurgel

Thank you!

Christmas –
"Go tell it on the Mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!"

Next weekend is the first in Advent, the season which helps us prepare for and focus on the first Christmas and the birth of Jesus, who is the Savior of the world. It may happen that we who are so familiar with the story forget that most people do not know the full story of the One born to die for sinners. The Outreach Committee has prepared a number of items for our members to use with their family, friends, and co-workers.

1. A personal letter that is ready to send or can be adapted.
2. An invitation to the Christmas Eve Service
3. A poster to hand out or pin up announcing the one-day VBS and the ILC Christmas Concert.

Time is of the essence:
VBS - December 11, from 1-4 pm
ILC Christmas Concert - December 17, at 7:30 pm
Christmas Eve - December 24 at 6:30 pm

Pick up any of the items in whatever amount you can use. See the special display in the narthex.

Midweek Advent Series: As an aid to our worship of the Savior's birth at Christmas, we will be having extra midweek services on December 1, 8 and 15 at 1:00 and 6:30 p.m. The theme for this year is:

He is Coming! What Have We Done with His Word?
1. What have we done with His Word in our hearts?
2. What have we done with His Word in our congregation?
3. What have we done with His Word in our world?

We hope you will plan to join us for this additional hour of Bible study and worship.

Note for those attending the 1:00 pm service:

Messiah School will be in session and the church will need to be accessed from the doors to the narthex, kitchen, and fellowship hall. This last one is in the new door from the east parking lot and is the easiest to use for handicap access and/or poor weather.

Highlights from the November 15th, 2021 Church Council Meeting

<> **The meeting began** at 5:35 pm with a devotion based on Col 2:6-7. There were 12 members present, including church officers, board chairmen, newly-elected officers, principal, and pastors. <> **Elders:** We are considering changes to the constitution regarding Bylaw 2.08a. Suggested either (a) breaking up the 4 existing parts into 6 separate ones, or (b) a more simplified version. They will review and report back to Council. They are reviewing the document the Pastors prepared regarding the role of women in the church as it pertains to Messiah. The Council directed the elders to study this on 5/19/21. We are reviewing the non-soul-care items that the pastors are doing to consider if they are interfering with their soul-care duties. <> **Deacons:** For the Christmas Eve Service we will use the fellowship hall for socially-distanced seating and have regular seating throughout the sanctuary. For all other services, socially-distanced seating will still be offered on north section of pews. We will continue to offer individual communion kits for service and at-home use. We have completed a draft of the 2022 service schedule and will present it to the voters. Space Usage Update – We plan to put the church library into the church office meeting room. A motion carried to use donated shelves from ILC for the church library. The front-right room in the sanctuary is designated for outreach committee storage. We have purchased shelves for this. The "Blue Room" (current temporary school office) will be painted blue and designated for nursery during non-school hours. All other usage will be subject to the Board of Education. The "cry room" will be used as such during non-school hours. <> **Pastors:** We are nearing the first Christmas Eve Service practice. We plan to review the duties of various pastors. Pastors Naumann and Schaller will alternate Sundays in Advent, with Pastor Tiefel conducting the Wednesday services. There are increasing opportunities for classes, meetings, counseling, etc. Pastor Tiefel is lining up visits for members at a distance. <> **Outreach:** We are working up promotions of the December VBS and the ILC Christmas concert. We are designing a new billboard for next year. <> **Board of Education and Principal:** We next meet on Nov. 22. Agenda items include space usage and updates to our non-member enrollment policy. <> **Board of Property:** We will be meeting later this week. <> **Treasurer:** A motion carried to approve the current list of bills as presented, with more info coming on TSI bill for running cable. Financial report through October: Gen Fund YTD receipts are $626K, with $623K spent. We have received $60K more than last year,

including a $30K special gift. The Treasurer projects that through end of the year we'll come close to meeting our budget of $778K. We will likely go over budget on spending, largely due to new increased mortgage payment and additional church secretaries' hours. The voters were made aware of this possibility during the course of the building project. A motion passed to recommend to the Voters that after the CEF note is finalized, the Building and Debt Retirement Funds be combined into Debt Retirement alone. A motion passed to recommend to voters further proceeds from the Scrip program will benefit the debt retirement fund. A motion passed to recommend to voters that the president appoint a committee to oversee the Scrip program, now that the Publicity and Finance Committee will be dismissed. Our contributions to the CLC are ahead of last year – at about $187K of our $200K pledge. <> **Other Business:** • 2022 Budget – A motion passed to bring the compensation committee recommendation to the voters: increases in hourly workers' wage from $12 to $13/hr, and called workers' based salaries by 4%. The Treasurer will review church secretary hours from this year for next years' budget. A motion passed to recommend a CBP estimate of $210K for 2022. • Items to be considered for Building project add-on list (~$60K) – A motion carried to pass along recommendations for a prioritized list of items to the voters: (1) New garage for additional storage, (2) Interior/ Exterior signage, (3) Cabinets for older classrooms, (4) Flooring for hallway & other classrooms. We will have more accurate estimates at our next meeting. • Current Project List – A motion passed to present this prioritized list to the voters as the Current Projects List for approval: (1) New Hymnals, (2) A canopy over new entry door on east side of fellowship hall, (3) Playground equipment, (4) Stained glass windows. <> **Upcoming Dates:** Council on Dec 8th. Special Voter's Meeting on Dec 12th, which will be a special budget meeting; Installation of new board members & officers on Dec 18-19. Council/Boards Retreat on Jan 15, Annual Voter's Meeting on Jan 23. <> **The meeting adjourned** at 8:46 pm with the Lord's Prayer and the Benediction.

God's Kids Bible Camp: Messiah sponsors a free camp for local children ages 7-11 who have little opportunity to learn about God's word and may struggle to afford a summer camp experience. The Gospel of Christ brings meaning and power to God's Kids Bible Camp, while organizationally, a pair of Director's recruit counselors and manage day-to-day activities at camp. We are currently in search of one male and one female Director. If you are interested or know someone between the ages of 17-early 20's, please contact Pastor Schaller (715-577-6199) or Anne Vaver (715-456-3418). Our immediate need is to fill these two roles so planning may begin for camp in 2022.

In the Hospital: Jarad Friedrichs was hospitalized with a serious case of COVID and has returned home. Katie Jo Satherflynn is now recovering at home.

Messiah Shut-ins: Marge Eckel (1431 Peterson Ave), Tom Heian (Rutledge Home, Chippewa Falls) Shirley Johnson (2512 New Pine Dr. Altoona), Ellen Knuth (Care Partners, 887 Brian Lane, Altoona), Connie Larson (1500 S. Edgewater Dr.), Tom and Linda Larson (3134 Eldorado Blvd.), Betty Nolting (HeatherWood Assisted Living #213), Mavis Thelen (418 N. Barstow), Paul Tiefel, Sr. (2455 Sawgrass Rd #419, Altoona), Johanna Williams (2118 Augusta St.) and Shelly Williamson (Bellevue, IA).

Fruits of Faith Last Week ~ November 13-14, 2021

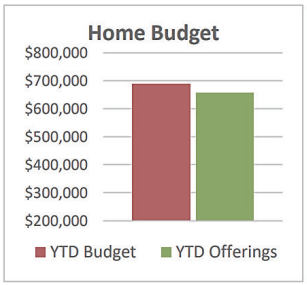
Weekend Worship: (Sat. 119 – Sun. 256) 375 Service Online: 218 (current views)
Communion: (Sat. 21 – Sun. 54) 75
Bible Class: (Sat. 16 - Sun. 43) 59 Bible Class Online: 68 (current views)
Sunday School: (Sat. na - Sun. na) na Young Adults: na Ruth's Retreat: 6
Dove West: 13 Heritage Court: 14 Dove South: 7
Care Partners – Altoona: 6 Heatherwood: 15
Heritage Assisted: 5 Lake Hallie: cancelled Our House: cancelled

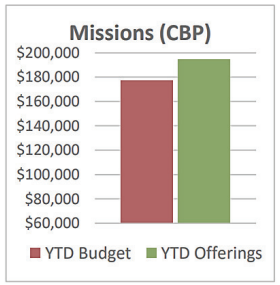
Offering Summary	Home Budget	Missions (CBP)
2021 Budget	$778,000.00	$200,000.00
YTD Budget	$688,231.00	$176,923.00
YTD Offerings	$656,986.30	$194,229.86
Weekly Need	$20,169.00	$962.00
Last Week (11/14)	$15,244.75	$3,493.00
Amount Still Needed	$121,013.70	$5,770.14

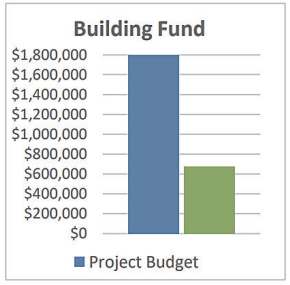
Building Fund	
$1,800,000.00	Project Budget
$674,628.59	Received to Date
$1,375.00	Last Week (11/14)

Given in memory of...

Joel Larsen	20.00	Messiah Building Fund
Joel Larsen	25.00	Project Kinship
Joel Larsen	50.00	ILC Improvement Fund
Joel Larsen	15.00	ILC Student Aid







We Have the King of Heaven on Our Side!

Prof. Em. Paul Koch
Reprinted from the Nov, 2002 *Lutheran Spokesman*

We are always interested in what God has to tell us about Himself and our relation to Him. Here He provides us with one of the most glorious aspects of our relationship with Himself. We are members of His kingdom. We have a King whom we are privileged to serve: *"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe."* (Hebrews 12:28) This is surely not news to any of us, but it seems to stand in contrast with a word of Jesus from John 15: *"Henceforth I call you not servants, for the servant knows not what his lord is doing; but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you."* And that is another wonderful view of our relationship to Jesus. But now what is it: servants OR not servants?

Both are true, of course, for these are two facets of how God feels about us. We could remind ourselves briefly that we are also called the sheep of His fold, God's children, and branches of the Vine. Each picture is true, and each adds to our understanding of how things are between us and our God, who is at once our Father, our Shepherd, and our Lord. Yes, God is our King, and we are His subjects in His kingdom. It is too bad that our modern world contains so few and such anemic examples of kingdoms. Where is there a royal monarch who rules all his subjects equitably, with wisdom and compassionate insight, who handles all the affairs of state personally? Cuba? Kingdoms are simply out of date; and an enlightened monarch has always been hard to find, not only in Jesus' day.

Isn't it wonderful for you and me that "we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken"? Isn't it a blessing for you and me that God does not make mistakes in His Supreme Court, and He will never have to reverse even one of His decisions? Isn't it comforting that in His kingdom that cannot be shaken His stock market never loses value, but keeps gaining value forever? Anyone who invests in God's kingdom-work cannot go bankrupt spiritually. And what's even more amazingly wonderful—God issues His treasure notes tax-free as gifts to the whole human race, free to any and all takers, signed with His holy Name. "Come and take salvation," He offers; "Trust me," He assures; "Put yourselves and your souls and your eternal welfare into My hands; join Me in My kingdom and live securely forever. I am King for your blessing." Therefore (since God is true, genuine, reliable, faithful, and runs a kingdom in the heavens that shall survive the cataclysm of Judgment Day) therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, what manner of persons ought we to be?

Let us be grateful, and (in that attitude of heart) so let us serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. We could not have reverence and deep respect for a dictator. We would not entrust ourselves to a politician. Our God has earned His place of superiority in our hearts!

Exactly and precisely because you could not help yourself when you needed to acquire moral worthiness before Him, He lowered Himself to you and me and gave you and me the gracious gift of His free merit and worthiness. And He got into our hearts to bring us to know that and trust in Him for everything we never before had. And thus He got us to cast ourselves before Him and kneel in our hearts before Him as our King, and be happy to serve Him in our new life. In this kingdom, under His lordship, we surely will get through today's little problems and next week's big ones— because we have the King of Heaven on our side, who reaches down to push obstructions aside and pull us along past the pitfalls. We are able to face even the big killer—the enemy against which there is no earthly defense.

Aren't you glad you belong to God the King? Aren't you pleased to be in His kingdom, under His care and protection? *"Therefore, seeing as how we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us be grateful...."* And with that holy and blessed stance of our heart bowing before our God, *"let us serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear."* HOW? Well, there are a lot of things to be said and done about this! And these are the sermons we will live rather than merely speak. Bless us, O Lord, and we shall be blessed.

Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices, Who wondrous things hath done, In whom His world rejoices; Who from our mother's arms Hath blessed us on our way With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.

All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given, The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven: The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore! For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

(TLH 36:1&3)

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Nov. 22-27, '21

Mon Daniel 9-14 The *Ancient of Days* (9) is God the Father, here acting as Judge (11-12). Jesus is ushered into the Judge's chamber (13), and another verdict is issued—that Jesus should be granted *dominion and glory and a Kingdom that shall not be destroyed*. We acknowledge Jesus as King of kings; we are His subjects in the kingdom of God/heaven.

Let every kindred, every tribe On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe, And crown Him Lord of all! [*TLH*, 339:6]

Tues John 18:33-37 In a lower court Jesus was invited to testify - - but Pilate's question was so lop-sided that Jesus needed to clarify that His kingdom is not an adjunct of the Roman Empire nor a replica of oriental potentates, but rather a kingdom authorized by the Supreme Court to preside over the Truth, the whole Truth, and nothing but the Truth. That stymied Pilate, but he was honest enough to declare Jesus not guilty of any civil or social crime.

Wed Revelation 1:4b-8 There is no tribute too great for the Father (4) and for Jesus Messiah, God's *faithful witness* from the grave, King of kings, *who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to God*. Nobody else—past, present, or future comes close to Jesus, the *Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End, who **is*** (presently) *and who **was*** (historically), and ***who is to come*** (any day now), *the Almighty.*

Thurs Deuteronomy 8:10-18 Who has the gumption to read this passage aloud as we push away from the Thanksgiving table? We too are negligent about His commandments, we get preoccupied with acquiring affluence too, and God gets sidelined (12-13) even though He has supported us through our rough times (14-16). God deserves our *remembrance, for it is He who gives us the power/ability to get rich*. Rich? Yes, and Amen!

Fri Luke 17:11-19 So we don't have leprosy, but Covid-19 is rumbling along, so let's be thankful for daily blessings. This episode highlights two truths: On Jesus' side, He has power to heal a contagious disease, and (on our side) we have power to step away from the crowd and return to Jesus, giving Him thanks. [It is certainly possible (even likely) that Jesus gets more attention from foreign converts than from old-line Lutherans—just as in the old days.]

Sat Philippians 4:10-20 The Christians in Philippi were newcomers, too, but they loved Pastor Paul and remembered him with a gift. Though Paul was a toughed veteran in God's service (11-13), he was thrilled they had gone out of their way to make his life more pleasant—for they had their hearts in it.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all. Amen.