

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLOOD DRIVE AT MESSIAH 12/31:

Start the new year off right by supporting our youth group and giving the gift of life by donating blood! Hosted by our High School Youth Group, the Blood Drive at Messiah (through Red Cross) will be held on Monday, December 31st from 10:00am—4:00pm. Call Pastor Miles or sign up online on the FB event page.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & YEAR OF THE BIBLE:

Sunday School and Year of the Bible will begin again today! All are welcome to join us!

WINTERFEST 1/26:

Join us for our Annual WinterFest Celebration at The Leadership Center on Sunday, January 26th from 3pm-6pm. We'll play board games and card games (please bring your favorites), have snacks and the pool, basketball, ping pong tables will be available. A donation of \$5 per is suggested. All are welcome, and bring your friends!



At Messiah, we are powered by God's Grace!

God's grace comes to us as we are.

...through **grains of wheat** that comprise the bread of Christ we share and that gathers us into the one Body of Christ.

...through **grapes** that are poured out together in the Blood of Christ, as we pour ourselves out into the world.

...through **water** that fills the baptismal font, washes us clean, and embraces us as Children of God.

...through the **Holy Spirit** that lives within us as the breath of life and that inspires us to live as grace-powered throughout the world.

Messiah Lutheran Church, ELCA

415 S. 18th St., Aurora, NE 68818

402-694-2017

www.messiahaurora.org

Senior Pastor - Rev. Sarah Ruch 402-833-8218

Pastor of Children, Youth & Family - Rev. Miles Ruch, Jr. 402-833-8219

1st Sunday of Christmas

December 30, 2018

A warm welcome to all today!

May this time of worship strengthen your faith and desire to serve the Creator who loves us with everlasting love in Christ Jesus.

Children are welcome in this worship service, and encouraged to participate in any way they are able to. Teach the children sitting around you how to use their hymnals, bulletins, follow the screens, and sing & speak loudly! We value the noise made by our children!

Visitors, we are especially glad to see you.
Please come again!!

CONNECT

As disciples of Christ, we encourage you to CONNECT with ministry opportunities here at Messiah!

Please fill out a CONNECT sheet today. After you've recorded your name(s) and pertinent information, please turn these sheets over and think about the ways in which you can use the gifts and talents given to you in the ministry here at Messiah.

CONNECT sheets can be placed in the offering plate as we give our gifts of time, talent, and treasure to God.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Sunday, December 30th

9:00 am -- Worship

Monday, December 31st

10:00am-4:00pm —

Youth Group Blood Drive

Sunday, January 6th

9:00 am -- Worship

10:15 am -- Sunday School

10:15 am -- Year of the Bible

6:00 pm -- Year of the Bible

You are the shepherds telling the story.
We tell it in the streets and across the land.

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.
We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

You are the angels announcing peace.
We live with joy and go now in peace.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Good Christian Friends Rejoice ELW 288

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CAROL

Love Has Come ELW 292

***RESPONSIVE PRAYER**

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.
Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

In his light, draw all to the manger
to sing for joy with the angels.

In the brightness of his life
cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.
In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.
Amen.

***LORD’S PRAYER**

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.

***BLESSING**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God, all creatures here below!

<u>Serving Us in Worship Today</u>			
Ushers:	Tim & Pam Tyma	Greeters:	Charly & Kiley James
Youth Ushers:	Kylie Mersch Kelsey Mersch	Sound Booth:	David Olson
Reader:	Mike Stewart	Video Recorder:	Diana Shaffer
Acolytes:	Dylan Danielson Devin Danielson	PowerPoint:	Kellen Farris
Musician:	Beth Johnson	Worship Asst:	Eric Sweeney
		Coffee Bar Hosts:	Kim Schaffert

A Few Notes....

* Indicates congregation please stand if able.

Congregational responses are printed in **BOLD** type

ELW stands for 'Evangelical Lutheran Worship'. This is the Cranberry colored hymnal found in each pew. You are welcome to look up our songs and liturgy in these hymnals, or follow along on the screens.

If a 'p.' is listed before the number, these are the small numbers found on the lower corners of each page in the front of the hymnal. If a number is simply listed, these are the large numbers found on the top corners in the back half of the hymnal.

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

GATHERING SONG

Angels We Have Heard on High ELW 289

DIALOGUE

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.
By day and night he shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty
that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,
so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.
Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song!
A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness—a beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18
New Testament pg. 1

CAROL

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime ELW 284

SECOND READING

Micah 5:2-5a
Old Testament pg. 671

CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem ELW 279
verses 1, 2, & 3

THIRD READING

Luke 1:26-35, 38
New Testament pg. 43

CAROL

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming ELW 272
verses 1 & 4

FOURTH READING

Matthew 1:18-25
New Testament pg. 1

CAROL

That Boy-Child of Mary ELW 293
verses 1 & 2

FIFTH READING

Luke 2:8-20
New Testament pg. 44

CAROL

Angels, From the Realms of Glory ELW 275

SIXTH READING

Matthew 2:1-11
New Testament pg. 1

CAROL

What Child is This ELW 296
verses 1 & 3

SEVENTH READING

John 1:1-14
New Testament pg. 70