

What Belongs to God



What belongs to God,
what belongs to empire,
and how to separate the two.

Sunday, July 6 • 2025



all are welcome. **always.**



God loves everyone.

Whatever your race, culture, ethnicity, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socioeconomic position, or family status, we invite you to join us in this lifelong journey of faith and discovery.

We are committed to anti-racism, social and economic justice, and caring for our beautiful and fragile world.

Here at Messiah the door is open, the table is set.

Welcome.

What Belongs to God



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what belongs to empire,
and how to separate the two.

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in F | Vincent Lübeck

Welcome

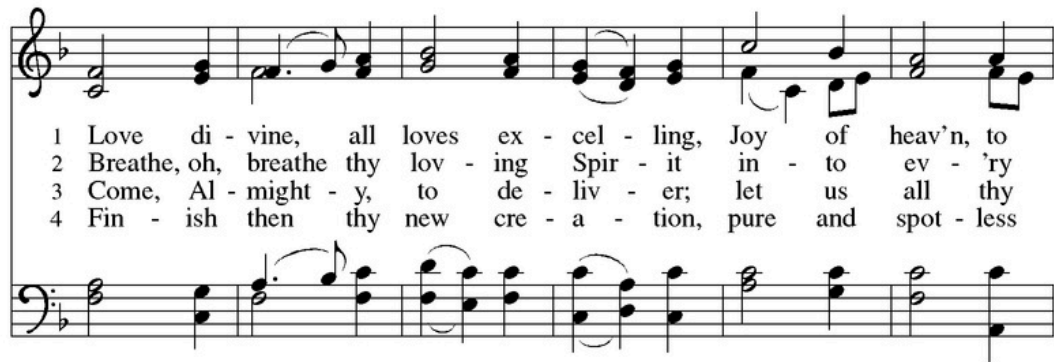
Here at Messiah,
The door is open, the table is set. Welcome.

*Call to Worship

Come, Black and brown, indigenous and Swedish,
You belong to God!
Come, children and grown-ups, babies and the elderly,
You belong to God!
Come, straight and gay, non-binary and fluid,
You belong to God!
Come, healthy and depressed, broken and healing,
You belong to God!
Come, rich and poor, fixed income and just scraping by,
You belong to God!
Come, married and divorced, partnered and child-free by choice,
You belong to God!
Come. Whoever and wherever we are:
We belong to God!

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

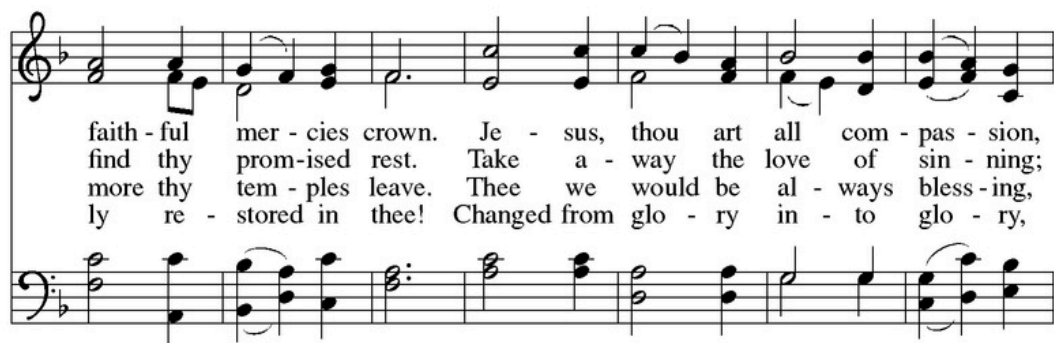
ELW 631



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

*Greeting

The grace of the risen Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

*Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



First Reading

1John 4:7-8

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love.

These words speak the power of life. They may be trusted. **Amen.**

Psalm 66

Sing a joyful song to the Beloved all the earth
and praise Love's name; Sing in glorious exultation!

We say to You, "How magnificent are your ways:

So great is your power that fear and doubt vanish before You;

You are our Teacher for all ages:

We, who choose to listen and learn, sing songs of gratitude and joy.

Come and see what the Beloved has done;

wondrous are the deeds of Love.

Bless the Beloved, Heart of our hearts,

let the sound of our praises be heard.

You keep us attuned to life and guide our feet on solid ground.

Children's Message

*Gospel Acclamation



*Gospel Reading

Luke 10:1-11

A reading from the Gospel of Luke: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

The Gospel of our Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Mandy Todd

*Beloved This is Love

Music: Russ Ware
Text: Mandy Todd & Russ Ware

Be - lov - ed this is love, not that we loved God, but that God loves us,
gen - tle and kind as a fa - ther.
car - ing and strong as a mo - ther. This is love. Be - lov - ed this is
so we must love one a - no - ther.
love. Sing, cry a - loud, all the earth a new song.
Old and young, ev - ry one, sing a song, cry a - loud all the earth.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with the piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some lines split across two staves. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, as well as dynamic markings like 'f' (forte) and 'p' (piano).

*Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God above us,
Creator of all things, sustainer of all life.**

**We believe in Christ beside us,
Companion and friend, redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe.**

**We believe in Spirit deep within us,
Advocate and guide, who lives with us eternally.**

**We believe in God's resurrection created world,
Where all things are fixed, and all creation fits together in vibrant harmonies.**

**We believe in God above, beside, within,
God yesterday, today and forever, the three in one, the one in three,
We believe in God.**

*Passing the Peace of Christ

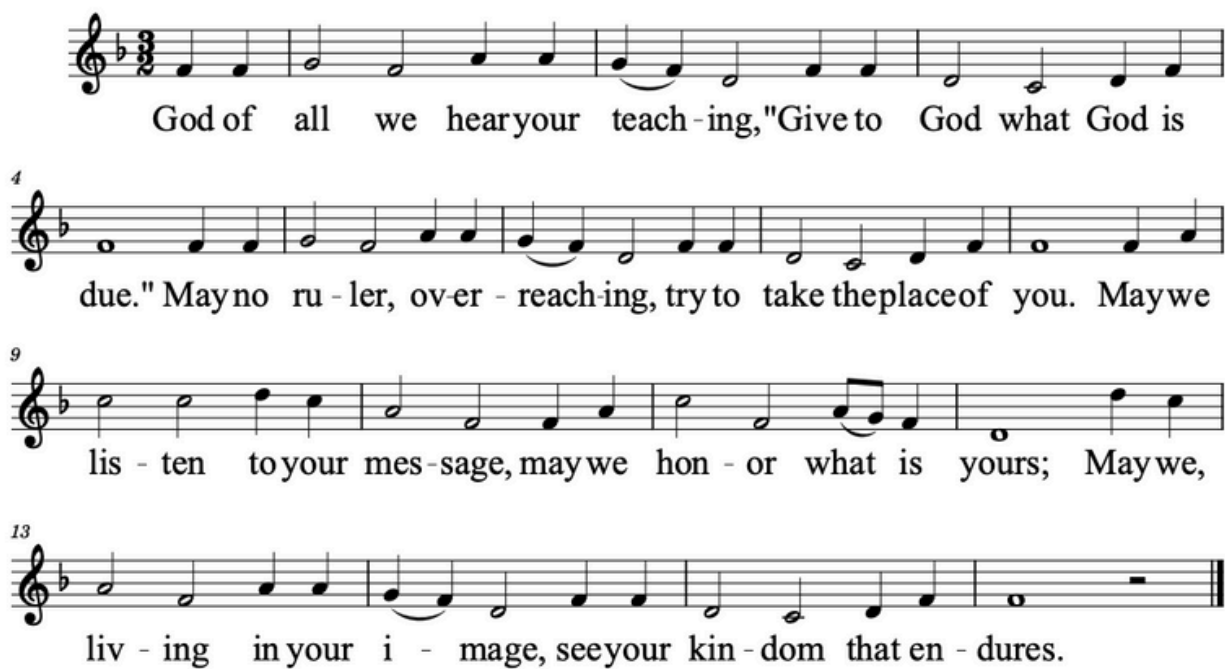
The Peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

If You But Trust in God to Guide You | Walter L. Pelz

*Response to the Offering



God of all we hear your teach-ing, "Give to God what God is
due." May no ru-ler, over-reach-ing, try to take the place of you. May we
lis-ten to your mes-sage, may we hon-or what is yours; May we,
liv-ing in your i-mage, see your kin-dom that en-dures.

*Prayer after the Offering

Did Caesar create the stars,
hurling them to the reaches of the universe?
Did he issue rules that keep the planets in place?
Can he make blood course through our veins,
or craft an otter – or a moonflower?

No. Render unto Caesar what belongs to Caesar.

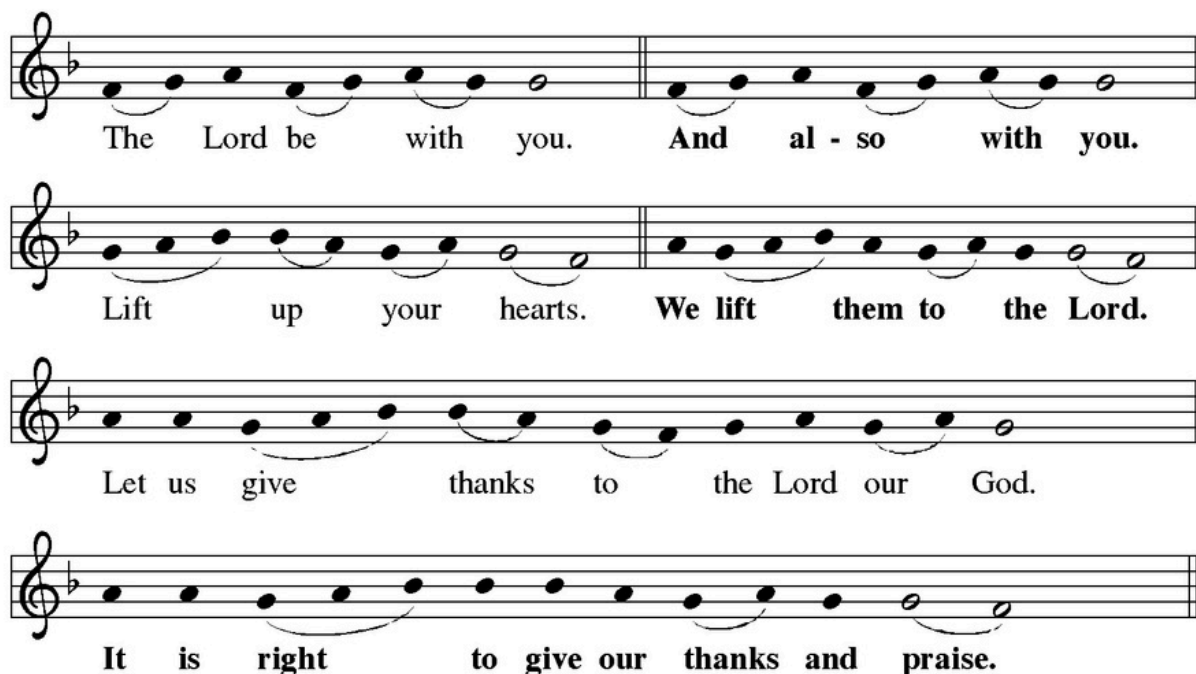
But what belongs to God?

**God, it is your face we see in our world,
our very selves, our breath and love.**

Everything belongs to you, O God.

So claim it all. Claim us as your own. Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Preface

*Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and

might; heav - en and earth are filled with your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

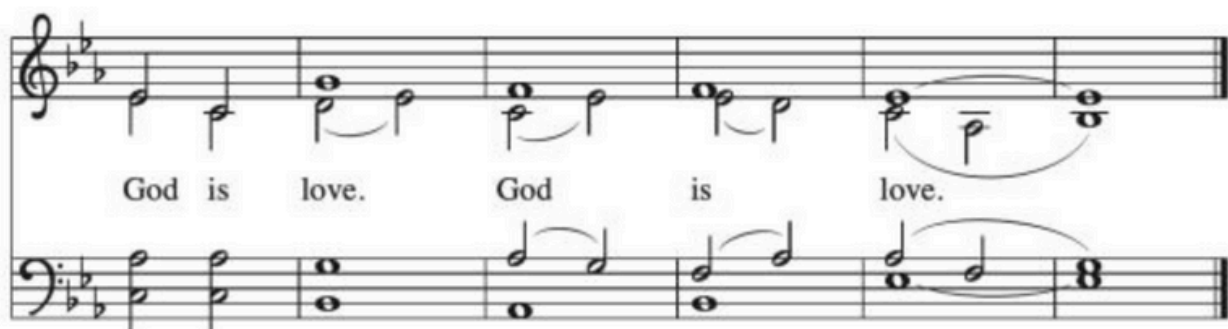
*Words of Institution

*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.

Communion Music

God is Love



God is With Us

Crockett/Ware



God is with us, what can stand a-against us? God is with us, we are not a-lone.
Peace is with us, what can stand a-against us? Peace is with us, we are no a-lone
Love is with us, what can stand a-against us? Love is with us, we are no a-lone.



God is with us, we are for each o - ther. Hal - le - lu - jah! God is with us.
Peace is with us, we are for each o - ther. Hal - le - lu - jah! Peace is with us.
Love is with us, we are for each o - ther. Hal - le - lu - jah! Love is with us.

*Prayer after Communion

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.

Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

*They'll Know We Are Christians

VERSES

1. We are one in the Spir - it, We are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth - er, We will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth - er, We will work side by side,

1. We are one in the Spir - it, We are one in the Lord,
2. We will walk with each oth - er, We will walk hand in hand,
3. We will work with each oth - er, We will work side by side,

1. And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored.
2. And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
3. And we'll guard each one's dig - ni - ty and save____ each one's pride.

REFRAIN

And they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love, by our
love, Yes they'll know_ we are Chris-tians by our love._____

*Blessing & Dismissal

Let's go. This broken and beautiful world is waiting for us.
Thanks be to God.

*Response | Breathe on Us, Holy Spirit



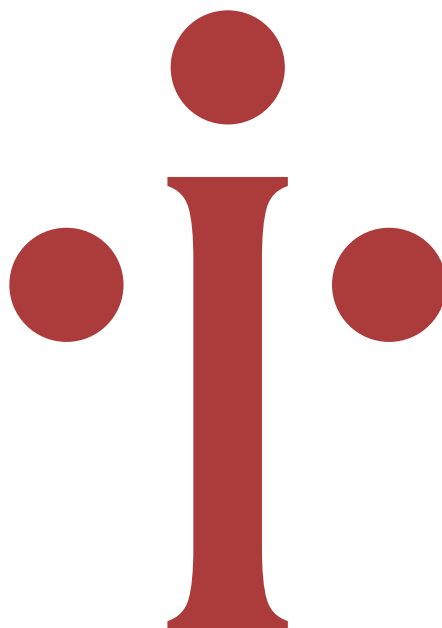
Breathe on us, Hol - ly Spi-rit. Breathe in us, Breath of God.

To do justice, and love mer-cy,— and walk hum-bly with our God. To do justice,

and love mer - cy,— and walk hum - bly with our God.

Offertory

If You But Trust in God to Guide You | J.S. Bach



Praying Together as a Community



These prayers can now be found on the Messiah website as well, where you may also submit prayers to be added to the list.



We pray for our church community, that we may be challenged and stretched to become even more inclusive and inviting as we live into our new welcome statement.

We pray for our book study and the members of Messiah and the wider community who will join in discussion of Christian Nationalism. We pray that we have open hearts and open minds as we engage together.

We pray for our Summer Lunch program, which last week began offering meals to seniors who previously received meals at the Senior Center. We pray that resources will be secured so that meals can resume at the Senior Center.

We pray for the on-going work of the Dala Pantry and the amazing volunteers who help to feed the Smoky Valley.

Members of Messiah:

Gene Holdsworth
Anita Johnson
Jeanette Shogren
Betty Holcombe
Larry Elmquist
Nathan Ford
Kay Streufert
Bud Benson
Fred Kuhlman

Serving the U.S.A.

Alex Klapp, *grandson of Betty Russin*
Nathan Klapp, *grandson of Betty Russin*
Jeremy Guy, *son-in-law of the Hensleys*
Luke Hammontree, *grandson of the Daniels*
Ryan Reinhardt, *nephew of Anne Anderson*

Friends of Messiah:

Donna Stejksal, *friend of the Daniels*
Taunya Hammontree,
daughter of the Daniels
Jude Matter, *son-in-law of the Daniels*
George Waggoner, *friend of Heather House*
Lisa Christopher, *community friend*
The family and friends of Dale Oberly, *Friend of Sherry & Ken Peterson*



M E S S I A H

Today is the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost and the second Sunday of our summer series, *What Belongs to God*, as we together study the book, *How to End Christian Nationalism* by Amanda Tyler. We'll take a break from the book study this coming week. Join us on July 16 at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall for a discussion of Chapter 3.

Be sure to join us for coffee and treats after worship!

Pastor Mandy will be in Kansas City this weekend (Friday, July 11–Tuesday, July 15) for the General Synod of the United Church of Christ. This is the triennial convening of the denominational body in which she is ordained, and she is serving as a delegate for the Kansas-Oklahoma Conference. If you have a pastoral emergency during this time and you can't reach Pastor Mandy on the phone (719.360.8646) please reach out to Pastor Chris Deines (417-321-4873) or Pastor Melissa Woeppel (402-613-8068).

The Messiah Chancel Choir will start back up in September with Russ Ware directing, and a renewed emphasis on recruitment both within the congregation and the wider community. We're interested in elevating the role of our choir in worship, so please consider joining in September. We have great plans and **we need you!**

Sunday, July 6

10:00 am, Worship in the Sanctuary
11:15 am, Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall

Monday, July 7

10:00 am–noon, Dala Pantry Open
Noon–1pm, Summer Food Service Program
in the Fellowship Hall
4:00 pm, Craft Nite in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, July 8

6:00 am, Yoga in the Fellowship Hall
Noon–1pm, Summer Food Service Program
in the Fellowship Hall
2:30–4:30 pm, Dala Pantry Open

Wednesday, July 9

Noon–1pm, Summer Food Service Program
in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 pm, AA in the Basement

Thursday, July 10

9:00 am–noon, Church Office Open
9:00 am, Women's Bible Study in the
Fellowship Hall
Noon–1pm, Summer Food Service Program
in the Fellowship Hall
4:00–6:00 pm, Dala Pantry Open

Friday, July 11

Noon–1pm, Summer Food Service Program
in the Fellowship Hall

Saturday, July 12

8:00 am, Men's Book Study in the
Fellowship Hall
12:00–2:00 pm, Dala Pantry Open

Sunday, July 13

10:00 am, Lay-led Worship in the Sanctuary
11:15 am, Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall

How to **End** Christian Nationalism

Summer Book Study

Wednesdays • June 25 - August 20

5:30-6:30pm at Messiah Lutheran Church in Lindsborg, KS

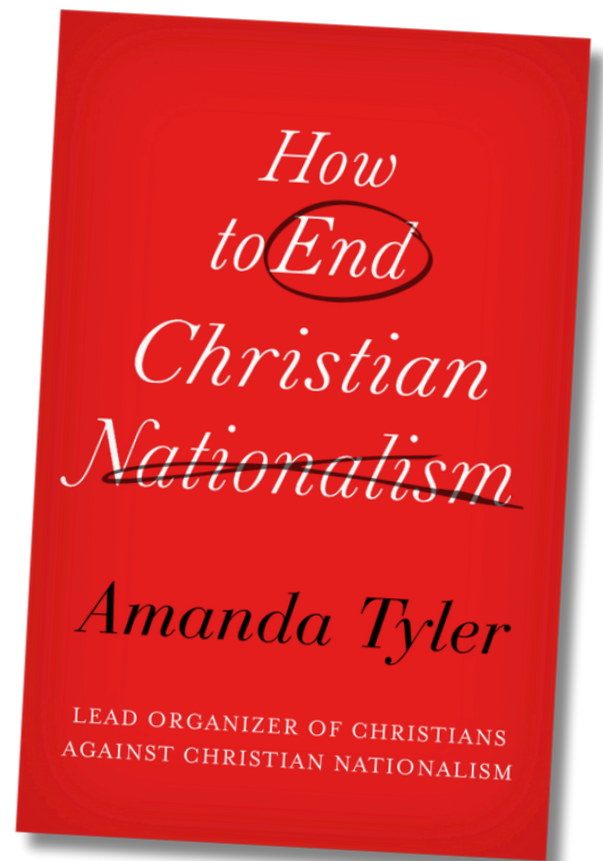
NO book study this week. We will resume on Wednesday, July 16!

How do faith-driven values find a voice in the public square without compromising the ideals of democracy and civic freedom, OR the empire-disrupting way of life taught and modeled by Jesus?

This is not about political partisanship. This is more than just a philosophical critique. Yes, we will take a critical look at Christian nationalism and its dangers, but the end goal is more clarity, challenge and encouragement to live out and express our convictions in ways that are healthy and helpful rather than harmful to our nation and our faith, not to mention those impacted by our voices and votes.

Come roll up your sleeves with us. All are welcome!

You can order the book through your favorite store, and it is available as an audio book. **It's not necessary for you to have the book** – you can join our discussion with or without a copy.



The Wider Church

Jeanne Ahlers

**"My religion is very simple.
My religion is kindness."**

These are the words of Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama, whose 90th birthday is today, July 6. He represents an ancient Buddhist tradition, although he is the first Dalai Lama to become a world-renowned figure and a religious leader on a global stage.

Born in China of Tibetan parentage, he was recognized as the incarnation of the 13th Dalai Lama in 1937, enthroned in 1940, and vested with full powers as head of state in 1950. In 1959, he fled to exile in India -- the year Tibetans mounted an unsuccessful revolt against communist Chinese forces that had occupied the country since 1950. He set up a government-in-exile in India, where he has continued to reside.

During the early part of his exile, he didn't travel much, but he published two books, an introduction to Buddhism and an autobiography. But later he traveled quite extensively, visiting Europe for the first time in 1973 and the United States in 1979. Since then he has traveled to dozens of other countries. His activities have focused on political matters concerning Tibet and wider philosophical matters on Buddhism and religion in the modern world. In recognition of his efforts, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1989.

In an essay "A Human Approach to World Peace," he wrote, "Interfaith understanding will bring about the unity necessary for all religions to work together. However, although this is indeed an important step, we must remember that there are no quick or easy solutions. We cannot hide the doctrinal differences that exist among various faiths, nor can we hope to replace the existing religions by a new universal belief. Each religion has its own distinctive contributions to make, and each in its own way is suitable to a particular group of people as they understand life. The world needs them all."



Worship Leaders

This Sunday, July 6, 2025

Rev. Dr. Mandy Todd, **Celebrant**
Dr. Steve Gustafson, **Organ**
Russ Ware, **Guitar & Piano**
Charles Fox, **Ukulele, Guitar & Djembe**
Drew Moore, **Liturgist**
Gavin Doughty, **Lector**
Luke Moore, **Acolyte**
Flo Peterson, **Altar Guild**
Heather House, **Communion Server**

Next Sunday, July 13, 2025

Dr. Steve Gustafson, **Organ**
Pari Ford, **Liturgist**
Sharon Bruce, **Lector**
Flo Peterson, **Altar Guild**

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Visit our **website** to learn more about our church, contact our pastor, or make a one-time or recurring donation to support our ministry! You can also reach Pastor Mandy at mandy@messiahchurchlbk.org



Staff Team

Rev. Dr. Mandy Todd, Pastor
Dr. Steven Gustafson, Organist
Russ Ware, Choir Director
Christine Reinert, Treasurer
Heather House, Administrative Assistant
Bryan Miles, Custodian

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