

Messiah Lutheran Church

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500 Baytree Road

Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Pr. Richard Pieplow, MDiv.

Ministers: Every Member

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YET NOT ONE of THEM
WILL FALL TO THE GROUND
APART FROM YOUR FATHER

M A T T H E W 1 0 : 2 9

June 22, 2008

Proclaiming GRACE

God's Riches At Christ's Expense

Est. January 3, 1956

Jesus declares that his words may not bring peace, but division. In baptism we are buried with Christ that we may walk in newness of life. As we take stands for the sake of justice and lose our lives for the sake of others, we need not be afraid. The hairs of our head are counted. In baptism we are marked with the cross of Christ forever.

*WELCOME WITH JOY AND A FEW SHORT ANNOUNCEMENTS
RINGING OF THE BELLS AND SILENT MEDITATION*

+ please stand as you are able for these parts of the service

+ **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires Known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the Thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the Truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is Merciful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **And also with you.** (*Greet one another in the pew around with the peace offered through power of God*)

+ KYRIE (*spoken*)

P/A In peace let pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P/A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P/A 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.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P/A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P/A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

+ HYMN OF PRAISE LBW, p 81 LSB, p. 171

P/A This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

Power and riches and wisdom and strength

And honor and blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all
creation:**

Blessing and honor and glory and might

Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God,

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.

Alleluia, alleluia.

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve,
C **to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

A READING: Romans 6:

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death. Our lives in the present are marked and shaped by his crucifixion, just as our lives in the future will be marked and shaped by his resurrection.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

L The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

+ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*spoken*)

P Alleluia. Jesus says, The Spirit of the Lord will testify on my behalf,

C **and you also are to testify. Alleluia.** (John 15:26, 27)

+ THE HOLY GOSPEL is announced
P The Gospel according to **St. Matthew 10:**
C **Glory to you, O Lord**

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition, requiring absolute trust in God and an unswerving commitment to their Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father,
and a daughter against her mother,
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

P The Gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE or VBS PRESENTATION

"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart.

"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

"I, the Lord of wind and flame. I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to the. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain

TODAY'S MESSAGE

"The Handwriting is on the Wall or
Didn't I Know Any Better?" Part 7
A series of messages on the Book of Daniel

Daniel 5: **22** "But you his son, O Belshazzar, have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this. **23** Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines drank wine from them. You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways. **24** Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

25 "This is the inscription that was written:
Mene , Mene , Tekel , Parsin

26 "This is what these words mean:
Mene: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

27 Tekel: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

28 Peres: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

29 Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom.

30 That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain.

WE AFFIRM OUR FAITH

P/ With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**original and preferred text means throughout the world*

+ PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Response:

P Hear us, O God;

C **your mercy is great.**

OFFERING IS GATHERED
+ OFFERING PRAYER

P God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.

C **Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

+ 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 It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

+ SANCTUS

Tune: Old Hundreth LBW # 565

Hosanna to the living Lord! Hosanna to the incarnate Word!
To Christ, Creator, Savior, King, Let earth, let heav'n sing!

“Hosanna, Lord!” your angels cry. “Hosanna, Lord!” your saints reply.
Above, beneath us, and around, The dead and living swell the sound.

To God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Be honor, praise, and glory giv'n By all on earth and all in heav'n.

+ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

+ LORD'S PRAYER

+ THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P All good gifts come from God.
Come with gratitude to this table of bounty.

DISTRIBUTION Our Beliefs about Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as Jesus says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that we may show forth His death until He comes. Please extend hand out to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or from individual cups. Grape juice (center ring, lighter color) is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Pastor follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup in the rack on the communion rail. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing "that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ."

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Join in singing the following selections from various resources:

LBW # 439

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry Ev'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear
All because we do not carry Ev'ry-thing to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness Take it to the Lord prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.

BOB # 239

WHAT IS THIS BREAD?

What is this bread?

Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break, This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
Oh, taste and see-- the Lord is peace.

What is this wine?
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing!
Oh, taste and see-- the Lord is King.

So who am I,
That I should live and He should die
Under the rod. My God, my God,
Why have you not forsaken me?
Oh, taste and see-- the Lord is free.

Yet is God here?
Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear.
In mouth and soul He makes us whole--
Christ, truly present in this meal.
Oh, taste and see-- the Lord is real.

Is this for me?
I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe That I receive
His very body and His blood.
Oh, taste and see-- the Lord is good.

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+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P O God, our provider, you nourish us with holy food and

drink, and you open our hearts to the needs of others.

C Refresh us with your Spirit, that our words and deeds may proclaim your creative and life-giving Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ THE BLESSING AND SENDING HYMN

WOV # 748

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord;
Bind us together in love.

There is only one God. There is only on King.
There is only one Body; that .. is why we can sing:
Bind us together....

You are the fam'ly of God.
You are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire,
You are the glorious new wine.
Bind us together....

+ DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live the Gospel!

C Thanks be to God.

Sent
for Service
Sunday



MESSIAH MESSENGER

Messiah Lutheran Church, 500 Baytree Road, Valdosta, GA.

Announcements and news for the week of June 22 – June 29, 2008

EVENTS THIS WEEK

TODAY	Sunday Classes on Summer Break 6 th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30	AM
THURSDAY	Thursday Crafts & Lifelifter Baytree AA Group	9:00 7:30	AM PM
SATURDAY	Baytree AA Group	7:30	PM
NEXT SUNDAY	Sunday Classes on Summer Break 7 th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30	AM

WE ARE DEVOTED TO OFFERING ... "God's Love, Our Response"

2008 Budget Goal	\$ 134,716.00
Goal per week	\$ 2,591.00
Goal to Date	\$ 62,184.00
Offerings for 2008 Budget – as of 06/15	\$ 69,044.00
Offering last Sunday for 2008 Budget 06/15	\$ 2,845.00
Weekly average for 24 weeks	\$ 2,877.00

Designated Offerings:

Building Fund	\$ 150.00
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"God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that ... having all that you need, you will abound in every good work" (2 Cor. 9: 8)

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are a gift and a warm reminder of God's love to bloom where you are planted from Mary Kinchen in memory of Bill Perryclear, an old family friend who died of cancer a year ago.

Thanks for the gift of flowers to enhance our worship, and to glorify the Lord our God and Savior. To order flowers, please use the registry located on the stand in the hallway toward the fellowship hall.

Grace & Peace from Pr. Richard

I want to encourage every member to pick up a Luther Seal decal that can be placed in the rear window of your car. The decals will display that there is a Lutheran presence in this community. Take one for each of your cars. + + + Many thanks to all who made the VBS Friendship Trek a great experience this week. May the Lord richly bless our growth in His Word and the friendships we made.

LAMP (Lowndes Area Ministry to People)

Today is last day to donate items for the New Horizon shelter: paper towels, Kleenex, toilet tissue, soap, body wash, band aids, Clorox/Lysol wipes, diapers, baby wipes. \$200 was received from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Care in Community Funds to supplement this activity. Thanks for your support, Karin Boles



WE ARE DEVOTED TO PRAYER

Acts 2: 42

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS: Charles Kluball (6/22); Cory Hubbard (6/26). Missed *on this list?*
Please leave a note in the church office with name and birth date.

ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES deployed: Jeff Brown. At US bases: Andrew Vickers (Army Texas), Francis Wasikowski (Army Texas).

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING PATIENTS/SHUT-INS

Rusty Hatcher at Heritage House Nursing Home (admitted to SGMC in critical condition)

Otto Peterson, Advent Village, FL. Nursing Home
Mike Lagioia, Heritage House Nursing Home

NEW JOYS & CONCERNS:

Stephen Sparks requests prayer for LtCol Lee Ericksen, former Commander of 1 CONS Langley AFB, on loss of his father, and for MSgt Imelda Reantaso, a co-worker, on loss of her father-in-law. Bill & Karin Boles on loss of Bill's sister in Arkansas, Virginia Walters

LIST OF MEMBERS

Steve Keller, chronic kidney stones
Bill Boles, undergoing test for Parkinson's
Camden Jansen, tonsils, adenoids and tubes in ear on July 11
Dan Jansen, recovering from surgery to remove brain tumor

LIST OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Name	Concern/joy	Requested by	Relationship
Larry Ballowe	Lou Gehrig's disease	Rae Hubbard	friend's brother
Steve Robkin	brain tumor	Teri Williams	Rob's step-dad
June Orrison	cancer	Gloria Cook	cousin
Nancy Pieper	cancer	Lee & Sunny Schilly	friend
Belinda Judy	brain tumor	Dorothy Hauge	friend
Bill Horne	cancer	Don Sullins	friend
Pr. Duane Hoyer	brain tumor	Warren Gee	friend
Lil Lawrence	hospice care	Vincent family	sister
Steve Delk	paralysis due to accident	Bo Miller	nephew
Dirk Alexander	cancer	Jan Bristow	friend in Ill.
Jim Ramsey	surgery to remove esophagus	Don Sullins	niece's father-in-law
Kaylie Ellis (age4)	leukemia	Ellen Mitchell	friend
Gary Pasquinzo	chemo treatments	Bob Burns	uncle uncle Mina Ark
Lorna	declining health	Linda Klement	mother in MN
Virginia Anderson	Alzheimer's	Betty Zipperer	sister
Marilyn McGuyrt	chemo resumed	Karin Boles	friend
Millie Kram	pancreatic cancer	Nancy Stewart	friend
Mary Bennett	kidney removed	Susan Keller	friend
Roy McDanielle	lung disease	Duane Hauge	friend
Ricky Harrell	needs kidney transplant	Erin Jansen	uncle
Elizabeth Rabon	cancer	Erin Jansen	grandmother
Amber O'Quinn	radiation for brain tumor	Pr Richard	VSU student
Jori Hall	heart transplant list	Friends	LHS sturdent
Linda Brightwell	cancer	Tina Wright	friend/co-worker
Betty Wildes	unknown illness, coma	Jan Bristow	friend
Marjorie Priest	car accident serious condition	Jan Bristow	friend
Landon Adkins (age 5)	serious allergic reactions	Janie Jansen	friend
Ruth Eikelberg	tests	Nancy Stewart	mother

WE ARE DEVOTED TO WORSHIP Acts 2: 42

Organ/Piano
 Reader & Communion Assistants
 Acolyte
 Presenter, Children's message
 Greeters
 Nursery
 Ushers

Altar preparation/Chancel care
 Sound tech
 Custodians
 Altar linen
 Flower service
 Flower beds
 Grass cutting
 Floor Maintenance Smith's Janitorials

Kay Vincent
 Norene Olsen & Kim Wright
 Alina Sweeney
 Nancy Sult, Linda Welch
 Dick & Dena Rockey
 Pat Simpson
 Warren & Barbara Gee
 Warren Tinney, Lisa Tinney
 Pat Simpson
 Volunteer
 Bob & Valerie Behnke
 Fran Sparks, Jan Sparks
 Helen Whitten
 Whitten family
 Fred Daniels 245-0483
 Laverne Smith 229 387-6060

Church Council.....
 Kay Vincent, president
 Jan Sparks, financial secretary
 Jeff Moxley, stewardship
 Bo Miller, worship
 John Mitchell, property

Sandy Adams, v- pres/secretary
 Kathy Lane, treasurer
 Cindy Mitchell, youth
 Bob Burns, evangelism
 Dana Black, Christian Ed.

WE ARE DEVOTED TO SERVICE

	<i>Jun 29</i>	<i>July 6</i>	<i>July 13</i>
Reader:	<i>Rgo Hubbard</i>	<i>L Moxley</i>	<i>E Shooley</i>
Com Assist:	<i>G Vincent</i>	<i>M Moxley</i>	<i>K Shooley</i>
Acolyte:	<i>T France</i>	<i>L Moxley</i>	<i>B Nelson</i>
Chancel:	<i>C Shooley</i>	<i>L Finney</i>	<i>K Shooley</i>
Nursery:	<i>K Belos</i>	<i>C Pieplow</i>	<i>T Wright</i>
Greeters:	<i>J Willis</i>	<i>B Zipperer</i>	<i>B Miller</i>
	<i>D Willis</i>	<i>F Sparks</i>	<i>C Miller</i>
Ushers:	<i>G Vincent</i>	<i>D Beckey</i>	<i>L Sweeney</i>
	<i>L Vincent</i>	<i>D K Juball</i>	<i>T France</i>
	<i>L Keller</i>	<i>B Belos</i>	<i>M Dauphinas</i>
	<i>J Willis</i>	<i>K Belos</i>	<i>B France</i>

Whom to Fear

Ghosts. Ghouls. Goblins. Gremlins. Witches. Werewolves. Devils. Demons. Throughout literature and all of history we hear of the mysterious and the unexplainable: houses haunted, people possessed, and spells being cast. Find the most sensible people who are able to reason out most things that happen and you will still find most have a ghost story or two to tell about something fearful they couldn't explain. It seems we all have a memory from some dark and scary night.

Or perhaps you suffer from more everyday fears: you check and double-check the locks on your doors at night or that the fire alarm battery is still working. Maybe you have fears that come from something in your history—a fear of speaking in front of people because you tried it and it didn't go well, a fear of dogs because you were bitten once, a fear of love because you were hurt by someone to whom you had given your heart.

What are your fears? Stop for a moment and think about them. What makes your heart beat faster and your head start to feel thick and heavy? What fills you with dread and anxiety?

Martin Luther acknowledged the fear and evil we so often feel around us. In his famous hymn, "A Mighty Fortress is our God," he writes, "Though hordes of devils fill the land, all threatening to devour us." But he continues that same verse with a confidence that explains why that fear doesn't leave us shaking. He writes, "We tremble not, unmoved we stand, they cannot overpower us!"

Why should we spend time being afraid of anything in this world when scripture tells us there is nothing to fear? God created us and loves us immeasurably! There is no dark and scary night that cannot be illumined by our God's light.

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