

# Messiah Lutheran Church

[www.wefoundmessiah.org](http://www.wefoundmessiah.org)

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500 Baytree Road

Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Pr. Richard Pieplow, MDiv.

Ministers: Every Member

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January 25, 2009  
Proclaiming GRACE  
God's Riches At Christ's Expense  
Est. January 3, 1956

*Welcome in the Name of the Joyous Light, Jesus, the Christ! Stories of the call to discipleship continue as the Time after Epiphany plays out the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of fisherman brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.*

**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 Gathered by the Holy Spirit, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Holy One who makes all things new,

**C we confess that we have sinned against you and one another.**

**We have wounded the whole creation by the things we have done and the things we have failed to do. In your infinite compassion, set us free from sin and death and lead us to the new life that you have prepared for us. Amen.**

P Through the death and resurrection of Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit washed over us in baptism, we have been freed from sin and death.

Hear again this good news: God forgives all your sins.

You are free to live the abundant life that is ours in Christ.

**C Amen.**

+ **GREETING**

P The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. 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 unity and peace offered through our Lord Jesus Christ.)*

+ **JOYOUS LIGHT OF PRAISE**

**WOV # 789**

*Refrain*

Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy  
To the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory forevermore!

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
Whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God.

*Refrain*

Power and riches, wisdom and might,  
All honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain*

For God has come to dwell with us,  
To make us people of God; to make all things new. *Refrain*

+ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give.

**C May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly,  
and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with  
the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Amen.**

**A READING FROM PSALM: Psalm 62:5–12**

*God alone is my rock and my salvation. (Ps. 62:6)*

For God alone I wait in silence;

truly, my hope is in God.

<sup>6</sup>God alone is my rock and my salvation,

my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

<sup>7</sup>In God is my deliverance and my honor;

God is my strong rock and my refuge.

<sup>8</sup>Put your trust in God always, O people,

pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

<sup>9</sup>Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath;

those of low estate cannot be trusted.

Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

<sup>10</sup>Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;

though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

<sup>11</sup>God has spoken once, twice have I heard it,

that power be long to God.

<sup>12</sup>Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord,

for you repay all according to their deeds.

**L** The Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR and CONGREGATION**

*“Alleluias for Epiphany”*

Alleluia, alleluia. The spirit of the lord is upon me.

I have been a-noint-ed to preach good news.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Jesus is the light of the world.

All who follow him have the light of life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

+ **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK 1**

*Response*

**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.*

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

<sup>16</sup>As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. <sup>17</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." <sup>18</sup>And immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>19</sup>As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. <sup>20</sup>Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**CHOIR** *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore* **WOV 784**  
*(with a Spanish chorus)*

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**HYMN OF JOYOUS CALLING**

**WOV 756**

Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the Word."  
Lest the Church neglect its mission, and the Gospel go unheard,  
Help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity.  
WITH THE SPIRIT'S GIFTS EMPOW'R US FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY.

Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."  
That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each,  
Give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community.  
WITH THE SPIRIT'S GIFTS EMPOW'R US FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY.

Lord you bless with words assuring: "I am with you to the end."  
Faith and hope and love restoring, may we serve as you intend  
And, amid the cares that claim us, hold in mind eternity.  
WITH THE SPIRIT'S GIFTS EMPOW'R US FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY.

**MESSAGE by Reverend Charles Pieplow**

**+ APOSTLES CREED**

**P Renouncing all the forces of evil, we profess 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 text

+ **PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

*Response:*

P Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

+ **OFFERING IS GATHERED  
OFFERING PRAYER**

P God of abundance, all that we have is yours.

**C Receive these gifts and all who gather at your table, for the sake of the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our 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 indeed right and good that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn: LBW 205

Now the silence, Now the peace, Now the empty hands uplifted;  
Now the kneeling, Now the plea, Now the Father's arms in welcome;  
Now the hearing, Now the pow'r Now the vessel brimmed for pouring;  
Now the body, Now the blood, Now the joyful celebration;  
Now the wedding, Now the songs, Now the heart forgiven leaping;  
Now the Spirit's visitation, Now the Son's epiphany,  
Now the Father's blessing. Now. Now. Now.

- + **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**
- + **LORD'S PRAYER**
- + **THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.  
**C Thanks be to God.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

*What is this Bread? What is this Wine?* At Messiah Lutheran Church, the Holy Supper of our Lord is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that we receive "the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and to drink." Our Lord welcomes to His table those who have faith in these words, "given for you" and "shed for you...for the forgiveness of sin." 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:**

HERE IS BREAD, Best of the Best, No. 88, Graham Kendrick, text & music

Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, He is with us.  
 Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, He is with us.  
 Know His grace, find His peace, Feast on Jesus here.

In this bread there is healing, In this cup is life forever.  
 In this moment by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, He is with us.  
 We'll proclaim till He comes Jesus crucified.

In this bread there is healing, In this cup is life forever.  
 In this moment by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

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LBW 390

I love to tell the story Of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus and his glory, Of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story, Because I know it's true;  
It satisfies my longings As nothing else would do.

*Refrain* I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory  
And tell the old, old story Of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story: How pleasant to repeat  
What seems, each time I tell it, More wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story, For some have never heard  
The message of salvation From God's own holy Word. *Refrain*

I love to tell the story, For those who know it best  
Seem hun-gering and thirsting To hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song.  
I'll sing the old, old story That I have loved so long. *Refrain*

+ **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P God, from whom are all things and in whom we exist,  
we give you thanks that in this meal you have fed us with  
the presence of Christ.

**C Use us as beacons of light and bearers of Christ's love for  
the sake of the whole world. In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.**

+ **THE BLESSING**

P May the love of Jesus Christ, the light of the world,  
fill your hearts and illumine your path.  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

+ **SENDING**

1. Let us walk in the light of the Lord,  
Let us sing of God's love to all the earth.

*Refrain:* WE ARE STILL ON OUR WAY,  
WE ARE GOING HOME TOGETHER,  
LET US WALK IN THE LIGHT OF THE LORD.

2. Let us live ev'ry day as our last  
Fill each one with our laughter and our tears. *(Refrain)*
3. Let us grow ever closer in love,  
Give us hearts overflowing with your peace. *(Refrain)*
4. Let us bring forth your realm on the earth,  
Show the spirit of love to all we meet. *(Refrain)*
5. May we learn to be children again,  
May each day bring us new dreams we can share. *(Refrain)*

+ **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**



# MESSIAH MESSENGER

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

*Announcements and news for the week of January 25 – February 1, 2009*

## EVENTS THIS WEEK

TODAY	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Ends		
	Sunday Classes	9:15	AM
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany	10:30	AM
WEDNESDAY	Choir	7:30	PM
THURSDAY	Craft Group	9:00	AM
	Baytree AA Group	7:30	PM
SATURDAY	Baytree AA Group	7:30	PM
NEXT SUNDAY	Sunday Classes	9:15	AM
	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany	10:30	AM
	SOUPER BOWL OF CARING ON SUPER BOWL SUNDAY		

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

2009 Budget Goal	\$	134,486.00
Goal per week	\$	2,586.00
2009 Goal to Date	\$	5,172.00
Offerings for 2009 Budget – as of 01/11	\$	6,254.00
Offering Last Sunday 01/11	\$	2,017.00
Weekly average for 2 week	\$	3,127.00
Designated Offerings:		
Building Fund	\$	20.00
Organ Fund	\$	0.00

*"Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" Matthew 5: 16*

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS are a gift and a warm reminder of God's love to bloom where you are planted from David and Montine Foutz in honor of Montine's birthday on Jan 21 and David's on Jan 28. Also from Helen Whitten in honor of Adams birthday on Jan 27<sup>th</sup> and Sandy Adams birthday on Jan. 27.**

*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.*

# WE ARE DEVOTED TO PRAYER

# Acts 2: 42

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: Sandy Adams, Adam Whitten (1/27); David Foutz Larry Lorden (1/28). ( Missed *on this list?* *Please leave a note in the church office with name and birth date.*

ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES deployed: Dan Shannon, Kevin Sparks (Robins AFB, GA) Brian Sparks (Navy, VA) deployed to the middle east area.

### NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING PATIENTS/SHUT-INS

Rusty Hatcher at Heritage House Nursing Home  
Otto Peterson, Advent Village, FL. Nursing Home  
Mike Lagioia, Friendship Home  
Steve Keller, chronic kidney stones  
Vi & Clarence Heidemann, heart condition

### NEW JOYS & ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Charles Kluball, radiation treatments for tumors in bladder  
Mildred Evans, surgery on foot pending  
Jolleen Chistians on a mission trip to Cameroon, Africa  
Lou Grall, additional surgery on knee replacement  
Pastor Pieplow, recuperating from surgery

### LIST OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Name	Concern/joy	Requested by	Relationship
Larry Ballowe	Lou Gehrig's disease	Rae Hubbard	friend's brother
June Orrison	cancer	Gloria Cook	cousin
Nancy Pieper	cancer	Lee & Sunny Schilly	friend
Belinda Judy	brain tumor	Dorothy Hauge	friend
Kaylie Ellis (age4)	leukemia	Ellen Mitchell	friend
Gary Pasquinzo	chemo treatments	Bob Burns	uncle Mina Ark
Virginia Anderson	Alzheimer's	Betty Zipperer	sister
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
Linda Brightwell	cancer	Tina Wright	friend/co-worker
Diane McNamara	breast cancer	Pat Simpson	niece
Dr. Bradley Woodward	cancer	Pernell Jones	friend
Maebeth Gerisch	nursing home care	Ed Gerisch	wife
Melanie McDonald	brain seizures	Mary Kichen	cousin
Peter Dotlich	colon cancer	Bo Miller	friend
Suzanne Padgett	chemo pending	Kay Vincent	coworker
Will Parker	stroke, surgery pending	Dorothy Hauge	brother-in-law
Teri Williams,	complications with pregnancy		
Vickie Johnson	health issues	Dana Black	mother
Bobby Joe Johnson	health issues	Dana Black	step-father
Jamie Barnhart (25)	kidney failure	Amber O'Quinn	friend
Bery Shaffii	bone marrow transplant	Linda Welch	co-worker
Donna Bramlett	undergoing tests	Dick Rockey	sister
Alyssia Ventura	problems with MS	Silke/PatrickDeeley	daughter
Donnie Mathis	lung cancer	Kathy Lane	hairdresser's Dad
Karen Turner	broke 10 ribs	Pernell Jones	friend
Carol Hunches' father	under hospice care	Janie Jansen	friend

## WE ARE DEVOTED TO WORSHIP Acts 2: 42

Organ/Piano  
Choir Director  
Reader

Kay Vincent  
Marjorie Fix  
Charlotte Black  
Katie Black  
Rhys Spencer  
Tina Wright

Acolyte  
Presenter, Children's message  
Greeters  
Nursery  
Ushers

Courtney & Jesse Sheeley  
Janie Jansen

George Vincent, Lisa Vincent  
Nikki Williamson, Corey Christians  
Lou Grall  
Volunteer  
Bob & Valerie Behnke  
Fran Sparks  
Helen Whitten  
Whitten family  
Fred Daniels 245-0483  
Laverne Smith 229 387-6060

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

Church Council.....

Kay Vincent, president  
Gary Klement, co- financial secretary  
Kathy Lane, treasurer  
Cindy Mitchell, Christian E  
Jolleen Christians, evangelism

Sandy Adams, v- pres/secretary  
Lisa Tinney, co-financial secretary  
Jeff Moxley, stewardship  
Bo Miller, worship  
John Mitchell, property  
Dana Black, youth

## WE ARE DEVOTED TO SERVICE

*Feb 1 Feb 8*

*Feb 15*

**Reader:**

*K Wright M Dauphinais*

*R Hubbard*

**Com Assist:**

*D Wright B France*

*Sweeney/Boyd*

**Acolyte:**

*L Moxley A Sweeney*

*C Christians*

**Chancel:**

*E Mitchell C Sheeley*

*I Tinney*

**Nursery:**

*P Bohmke*

*K Beles*

*P Simpson*

**Greeters:**

*M Kuypp*

*C Piepsew*

*B Zipperer*

*M Evans E Mitchell*

*F Sparks*

**Ushers:**

*D Beckey E Sheeley*

*W Tinney*

*J Willis*

*L Sheeley*

*I Tinney*

*B Miller*

*G Klement*

*L Moxley*

*G Vincent*

## *Mission Statement*

*A place of worship for all to know Christ, be energized by the Gospel*

*and share Christ's love.*

## **GRACE AND PEACE BE YOURS from Pr. Richard**

Don Sullins is proud of his grandson, Justin, who will make a presentation Jan 28 to the Governor and Congress of Georgia on Planets and the Solar System. **A special “thank you” to my brother Chuck and his wife Jill for coming from Birmingham to assist this Sunday while I am recuperating.**

+ + + Shine like the stars you are!

## **SOUPER BOWL OF CARING, Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 1**

The youth group will participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring National Event to raise funds for the hungry. On Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 1, they will gather a “love offering” at the door for the local soup kitchen. They have requested \$200 in matching funds from Thrivent Financial... to raise at least \$400 for the Soup Kitchen and to help fight poverty in Lowndes County.

**TODAY, 1-4 PM, a send-off reception for Danny and Rebecca DeLoach, missionaries returning to Papua New Guinea, at the Lake Park Community Center. The DeLoaches have shared their ministry with Wycliffe Bible Translators with Messiah’s congregation.**

## **LWML project**

At the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the LWML, Valentine candy bags will be assembled to be given to the “Meals on Wheels” organization. These “goodie” bags will be included in the meal deliveries for February 14<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wishing to participate in this project may bring candy to church by February 1<sup>st</sup> or bring it to the 7:00 p.m. meeting. Both regular and sugar free candy is needed. Thanks for sharing!

## Turning and Following

Jesus does not start from scratch in his preaching ministry. He has studied the great preacher, John the Baptist, and his first sermon after his temptation in the wilderness is of the Baptist's school: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news" (Mark 1:15). John the Baptist did not preach a gospel of fulfillment, but he did proclaim the one coming after him who was greater, the Messiah of Israel.

The most crucial word in all this preaching, however, is "repent." John came preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Jesus comes preaching repentance and good news. As a community that follows Jesus and sees John as the Messiah's forerunner, the church rightly focuses on the somewhat new word Jesus uses—gospel, or good news. But it is wrong for the church to let go of the very thing Jesus retains—repentance. The two remain together in Jesus' preaching, and they need remain together in the church today.

Repentance is, first and last, a turning; turning away from addiction, gambling, anger; turning to health, stewardship, love. Repentance is turning to the new life of Christ that we have received in baptism. It is the kind of turning Simon, Andrew, James, and John do when they turn and follow Jesus. Jesus calls; they leave their boats and follow. Good news without repentance would be as if the disciples had seen Jesus, heard his call, but then stayed in their boats. This would not be discipleship. It would be spectatorship. Good news has a definite form and shape. It looks like a whole group of people looking to Jesus and following him.

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