

**Our Mission:** To help people grow a faith in Jesus Christ that works in real life.

**Our Vision:** To forever change lives through the Gospel of Jesus by becoming an equipping, empowering, and mobilizing church in our community that displays the love of Christ and connects with people of all walks of life through worship, communion, service, fellowship, and compassion, led by the Holy Spirit and focused on the Great Commission (Mt 28.18-20).



Welcome to Messiah's Praise Service! This service is intended to be laid back, less formal, and down to earth. So, come as you are. Praise takes shape in many forms...lifting your hands, singing along, dancing, saying amen out loud, smiling, and cheering others. We hope you are comfortable to praise God as the Spirit moves you. We are also hopeful that the Spirit will move you to respond outside your comfort zone! Thank you for joining us!

December 3, 2023 – 10:30 AM  
The First Sunday of Advent  
Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

## SONG

*Praise You Anywhere*

Sometimes you've gotta dance through the darkness  
Sing through the fire  
Praise when it don't make sense  
Sometimes you've gotta stare down the giant  
Worship from the lion's den  
Sometimes you've gotta shout it from the mountain  
Louder in the valley  
Trusting that He's gonna get you there  
Sometimes you've gotta welcome the wonder  
Wait for the answer  
Worship with your hands in the air  
I'll praise You anywhere

Praise  
Give Him praise  
Give Him praise  
In the highest  
Praise  
Give Him praise  
Give Him praise  
In the highest  
He is worthy  
Yes He is worthy of all of the praise

Sometimes you've gotta praise in the prison  
Cry out to heaven  
Shout it 'til the doors swing wide  
Sometimes you've gotta stand on your shackles  
Brave in the battle  
Worship with your hands held high  
I'll praise You anywhere

Faithful all my life  
Blessings day and night  
Countless reasons why  
I'll praise You anywhere  
Every promise kept  
Goodness every step  
Each and every breath  
I'll praise You anywhere

I'll praise You anywhere

CCLI Song # 7219772

Ben Fielding | Brandon Lake | Hank Bentley | Jacob Sooter

CCLI License # 2253543

SONG

*Tear Off the Roof*

Tear off the roof

The King's in the house

Just get me to Jesus

I don't care how

I don't have to wait to get the healing

I gotta faith without a ceiling

So tear off the roof

'Cause the King's in the house

There's power in the presence

Power in the blood

Power in the name of Jesus

There's power in the presence

Power in the blood

Power in the name of Jesus

He has more in the hem of His garment

Than the camp of the enemy

There's power in the presence

Power in the blood

Power in the name of Jesus

I didn't come here to hide in the crowd

I'm pressing through to you

I don't care how

Reaching out my hand to get the healing

I've got a faith beyond the bleeding

'Cause I didn't come here to hide in the crowd

There's power in the name of Jesus

(There is a) life changing

Grave shaking

Dead raising power in the room

Heart healing

Hell stealing

No ceiling power  
So tear off the roof

Tear off the roof  
Tear off the roof

Oh in the name of Jesus  
So much power in the name of Jesus

CCLI Song # 7226473

Brandon Lake | Chris Davenport | Hank Bentley | Jacob Sooter | Jordan Colle

CCLI License # 2253543

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

## PRAYER

**P** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You call all nations to walk in your light and to seek your ways of justice and peace, for the night is past, and the dawn of your coming is near. Bless us as we light the first candle of this wreath. Rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes and welcome him into our hearts and homes, for he is our light and our salvation. Blessed be God forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## SONG

### *Touch the Sky*

What fortune lies beyond the stars  
Those dazzling heights too vast to climb  
I got so high to fall so far  
But I found heaven as love swept low

My heart beating my soul breathing  
I found my life when I laid it down  
Upward falling spirit soaring  
I touch the sky when my knees hit the ground

What treasure waits within Your scars  
This gift of freedom gold can't buy  
I bought the world and sold my heart  
You traded heaven to have me again

Find me here at Your feet again  
 Ev'rything I am reaching out I surrender  
 Come sweep me up in Your love again  
 And my soul will dance on the wings of forever

Upward falling spirit soaring  
 I touch the sky when my knees hit the ground

CCLI Song # 7033417

Dylan Thomas | Joel Houston | Michael Guy Chislett

CCLI License # 2253543

## BAPTISM

Violet Leigh Ousley

*Justin and Courtney Ousley, Parents  
 Logan and Lauren Godfrey, Sponsors*

P In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Who presents Violet for baptism?

**Sponsors' Response: We do.**

P Parents, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Violet baptized into Christ?

**Parents' Response: We do.**

P As you bring Violet to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

Parents, do you promise to help Violet grow in the Christian faith and life?

**Parents' Response: We do.**

P Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Violet in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

**Sponsors' Response: We do.**

P People of God, do you promise to support Violet, and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

**All Respond: We do.**

### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

P I ask you — parents, sponsors, and congregation — to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God,  
the powers of this world that rebel against God,  
and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**C I renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C 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.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT**

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. And by the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection, you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, on Violet, and all those who are washed in the waters of baptism so that they may grow a faith in Jesus Christ that works in real life.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

**BAPTISM**

P Violet Leigh Ousley,  
I baptize you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

**The Gift of Prayer**

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,  
that through water and the Holy Spirit  
you give your daughters and sons new birth,  
cleansing them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Violet with the gift of your Holy Spirit:  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,  
the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

**The Gift of Anointing**

P Violet, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C **Amen.**

## The Gift of Light

L Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**C Amen.**

## WELCOME

L Let us welcome the newly baptized, Violet.

**C You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized.  
Alleluia.**

## KIDS' TALK

### GOSPEL

MARK 13:24-37

P The holy gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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

Jesus said: <sup>24</sup>"In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

P The gospel of the Lord.

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



GREETING

MESSAGE

Pastor Tim Graham

COMMUNION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P We give thanks to you, O God, for your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who, in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray. . .

**C 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.**

INVITATION

P In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.  
Come, take your place at the table.

COMMUNE ONLINE ATTENDEES

COMMUNION SONG

*Gratitude*

All my words fall short  
I got nothing new  
How could I express  
All my gratitude

I could sing these songs  
As I often do

But every song must end  
And You never do  
So I throw up my hands  
And praise You again and again  
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah  
And I know it's not much  
But I've nothing else fit for a king  
Except for a heart singing hallelujah  
Hallelujah

I've got one response  
I've got just one move  
With my arms stretched wide  
I will worship You

Come on my soul  
Oh don't you get shy on me  
Lift up your song  
'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs  
Get up and praise the Lord

CCLI Song # 7158417  
Benjamin Hastings | Brandon Lake | Dante Bowe  
CCLI License # 2253543

## BLESSING

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his  
grace.  
**C** **Amen.**

## SONG

### *Battle Belongs*

When all I see is the battle  
You see my victory  
When all I see is a mountain  
You see a mountain moved  
And as I walk through the shadow  
Your love surrounds me  
There's nothing to fear now  
For I am safe with You

So when I fight I'll fight on my knees  
With my hands lifted high  
O God the battle belongs to You  
And every fear I lay at Your feet  
I'll sing through the night  
O God the battle belongs to You

And if You are for me  
Who can be against me  
For Jesus there's nothing  
Impossible for You  
When all I see are the ashes  
You see the beauty  
When all I see is a cross  
God You see the empty tomb

(An) Almighty Fortress You go before us  
Nothing can stand against  
The power of our God  
You shine in the shadows  
You win every battle  
Nothing can stand against  
The power of our God

O God the battle belongs to You

CCLI Song # 7148126  
Brian Johnson | Phil Wickham  
CCLI License # 2253543

## BENEDICTION

## DISMISSAL

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Assisting in the service today:

**Pastor** Tim Graham

**Pastor** Brian Spahr

**Musicians** Messiah Worship Team featuring Chad Sparkman

**Communion Assistants** Mark & Kathryn Haut

**Ushers** George Ebert, Mark Haut

**Technical Director** Josh Gumbert

**AV Technicians** Emily Blackman, Richard Hambrock, Eva Lugo, Cash Robinson-Stewart