

Messiah Lutheran Church

GATHER, EMPOWER, SERVE



The grace of the
Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of **God,**
and the communion
of the **Holy Spirit**
be with all of you.

2 Corinthians 13:13

✠ Holy Communion ✠

The Holy Trinity

June 15, 2025



THE HOLY TRINITY

"O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Today we celebrate the holy Trinity. Paul writes that through Jesus we have peace with God, whose love pours into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, giving us lasting hope. We celebrate the gracious One-in-Three, eternal Three-in-One, as we worship in community; as we share water and word, bread and wine; and as we bring God's love and hope to our neighbors.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

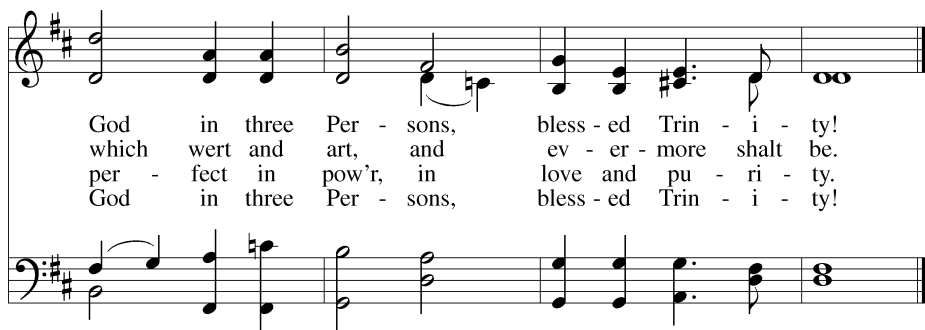
GATHERING HYMN

***Holy, Holy, Holy*.....LBW 165**

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark-ness hide thee,
4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
cher-u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!



God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!


Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.

Music: NICAIA. John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE *All Gory Be to God on High*


1 All glo - ry be to God on high and thanks to him for -
 2 O Fa - ther, for your lord - ship true we give you praise and
 3 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
 4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, per - fect gift, who brings us con - so -
 ev - er! What - ev - er Sa - tan's host may try, God
 hon - or; we wor - ship you; we trust in you; we
 au - thor, re - deem - er of your wan - d'ring ones, and
 la - tion: to men and wom - en saved by Christ as -
 foils their dark en - deav - or. He bends his ear to
 give you thanks for - ev - er. Your will is per - fect,
 source of all true plea - sure: O Lamb of God, O
 sure your in - spi - ra - tion. Through sick - ness, need, and
 ev - 'ry call, and of - fers peace, good - will to all, and
 and your might re - lent - less - ly con - firms the right; your
 Lord di - vine, con - form our lives to your de - sign, and
 bit - ter death, grant us your warm, life - giv - ing breath; our



calms the trou - bled spir - it.
 lord - ship is our bless - ing.
 on us all have mer - cy.
 lives are in your keep - ing. A - men

Text: Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–c. 1550; tr. Gilbert E. Doan, b. 1930

Music: ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH, arr. Nikolaus Decius, c. 1485–c.1550

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

In the Bible, wisdom is portrayed in terms sometimes human and sometimes divine. Often, wisdom is personified as feminine. In this passage, Woman Wisdom is depicted not only as the first creation of God, but also as God's helper, rejoicing in God's creation, especially in human beings.

A: A Reading from Proverbs:

- ¹ Does not wisdom call,
and does not understanding raise her voice?
- ² On the heights, beside the way,
at the crossroads she takes her stand;
- ³ beside the gates in front of the town,
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:
- ⁴ "To you, O people, I call,
and my cry is to all that live.
- ²² The LORD created me at the beginning of his work,
the first of his acts of long ago.
- ²³ Ages ago I was set up,
at the first, before the beginning of the earth.
- ²⁴ When there were no depths I was brought forth,

when there were no springs abounding with water.

²⁵ Before the mountains had been shaped,
before the hills, I was brought forth—

²⁶ when he had not yet made earth and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.

²⁷ When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,

²⁸ when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains of the deep,

²⁹ when he assigned to the sea its limit,
so that the waters might not transgress his command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

³⁰ then I was beside him, like a master worker;

and I was daily his delight,

rejoicing before him always,

³¹ rejoicing in his inhabited world

and delighting in the human race.”

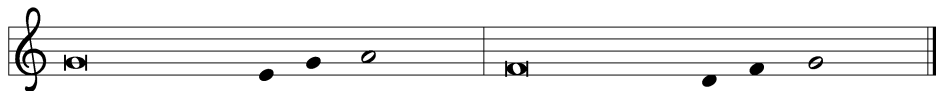
A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



PSALM: Psalm 8*The cantor sings the refrain; the congregation repeats it.*

Your glo - ry is chant - ed a - bove the heav - ens.

Sung responsively between the cantor and congregation.

- ¹ O | LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—
- ² **you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of
in- | fants and children;**
**you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the
foe | and avenger. R**
- ³ When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,
- ⁴ **what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,
human beings that you should | care for them? R**
- ⁵ Yet you have made them little less | than divine;
with glory and hon- | or you crown them.
- ⁶ **You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;
you have put all things un- | der their feet:**
- ⁷ all | flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts | of the field,
- ⁸ **the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.**
- ⁹ O | LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in | all the earth! **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-5

Paul describes the life of faith with reference to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Even now, we have peace with God through Jesus, and our hope for the future is grounded in the love of God that we experience through Christ's Holy Spirit.

A: A Reading from Romans:

¹ Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; God's glory fills the whole earth.

C: Repeat the Alleluias

GOSPEL: John 16:12-15

Jesus' ongoing presence with the disciples will be made known through the coming Spirit who will guide them and communicate to them Jesus' will and glory.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, ¹² "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the

Father has is mine. For this reason, I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

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

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

God, Whose Almighty Word **LBW 400**



1 God, whose al - might - y word cha - os and dark - ness heard

2 Lord, who once came to bring, on your re - deem - ing wing,

3 Spir - it of truth and love, life - giv - ing, ho - ly dove,

4 Ho - ly and bless - ed three, glo - ri - ous Trin - i - ty,



and took their flight: hear us, we hum - bly pray, and where the

heal - ing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the

speed forth your flight; move on the wa - ter's face bear - ing the

wis - dom, love, might! Bound - less as o - cean's tide, roll - ing in



gos - pel day sheds not its glo - ri - ous ray,

in - ly blind: oh, now to hu - man - kind let there be light!

lamp of grace, and in earth's dark - est place

full - est pride, through the earth, far and wide,

Text: John Marriott, 1780–1825, alt.
Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

NICENE CREED

C: We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped
and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A brief silence is held after the introduction.

[P]: Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation.

After each petition:

[P]: God Grace,

[C]: hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

[P]: Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

[C]: Amen

PEACE

[P]: The peace of Christ be with you always.

[C]: And also with you.

The pastor and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you. R: Peace be with you

Sit

MEAL

OFFERING

The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.

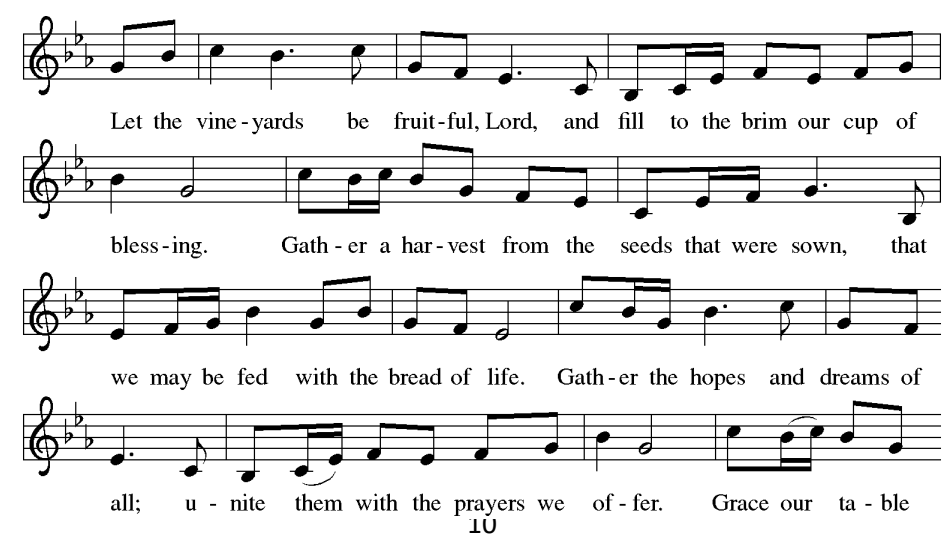
Anthem

Let the Praise Go Round..... Hal Hopson

Stand

OFFERTORY

As the gifts are presented, the Offertory is sung



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble

10



with your pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray:

C: Creator God,

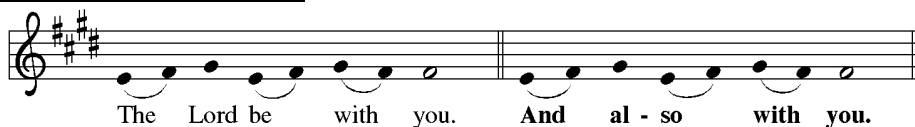
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



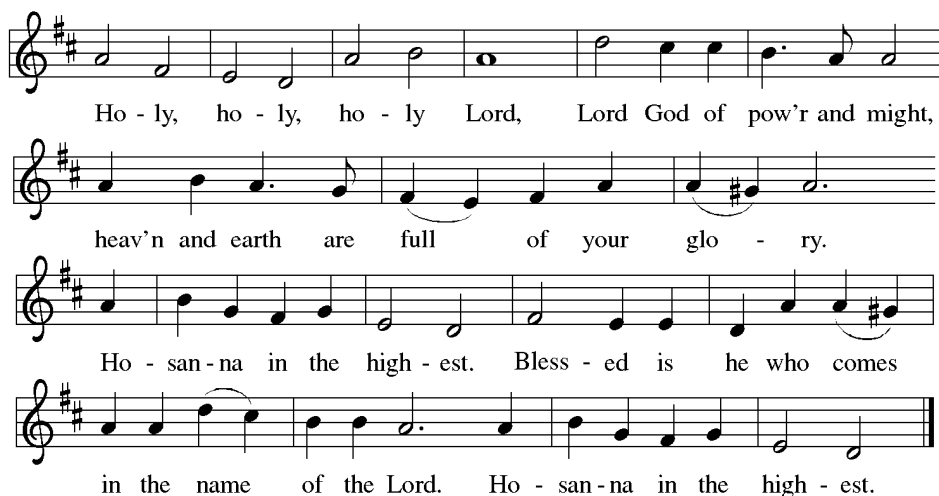
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus 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.

Remembering, therefore,
his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,

the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: 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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

C: Thanks be to God.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

COMMUNION

All baptized believers are invited to this holy meal. Those not communing are invited for a blessing. Please follow the instructions of the ushers to gather at the altar table. As the ministers give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant:

**The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: Amen**

COMMUNION HYMN

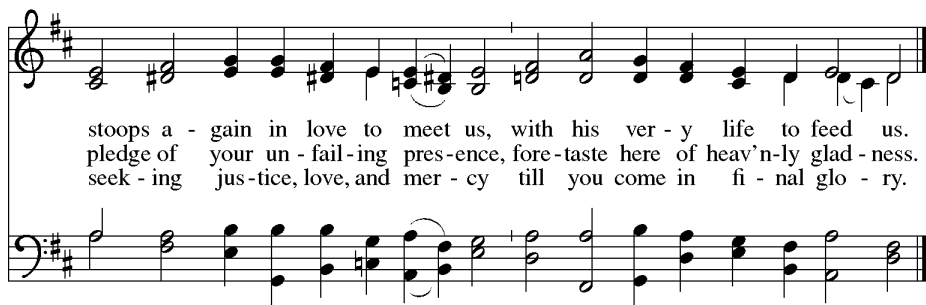
Now We Join in Celebration LBW 203

1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion.
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,

dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.

for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next three lines. The third system contains the final three lines. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in the bass register.



Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990
Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
Text © Joel W. Lundeen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray.

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.

C: Amen

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN***Holy God, We Praise Your Name..... LBW 535***

1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
 2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
 3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,

bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
 bow are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
 name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
 three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;

all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
 in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
 and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
 un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,

vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
 sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
 set of sun through the church the song goes on.
 bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900

Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

G: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Carl Gee, Jody Fullmer, Dave and Rita Strickler, Jimmy Gardner

Lay Assistant: Susan Bryan; Communion Assistant: Sherri Holtzman

Acolyte: Weston Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Rita Strickler, Carol Winter

Greeters/Presenters: Sherry Holtzman, Gary Hutchinson; **Cantor:** Bob Schweppenheiser

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Judge and Mrs. H. W. Whitehead, Mr. and Mrs. William Mansel, Mrs. George L. Stearns and Eleanor Stearns and Henry Perciballi by their family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Messiah Church! It is our joy to have you worship with us. If you are visiting, please make yourself known and leave your name & information to a congregation member. We hope to see you again.

Food Pantry Needs: Our June 30-Day Pack the Pantry Challenge continues! If you haven't yet picked up your list, you can get one in the narthex on Sunday morning or from the church office during the week, or you can download one from our web site: https://messiahsouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Pack-the-Pantry_2025.pdf **Bring your filled bags to worship on June 29** so that we can celebrate together our offerings. **Monetary donations** are welcomed any time of the year. Please remember to write "food pantry" in the memo line if donating by check, or on the envelope if donating cash. **Immediate Needs:** In the meantime, we are out of or very low on 1-lb. bags of rice, egg noodles, cream of mushroom soup, and tomato soup. If you are able to help provide any of these, please bring them to the office during the week or put them in the bin in the elevator alcove on Sunday.

VBS – "Magnified" discovering the bigness of God in the smallest of things. **Monday, June 23rd - Friday June 27th, 9:00 am – Noon.** Walk-ins are welcome, but... you can help us plan if you register early. ***Please start saving your toilet paper rolls and 16 oz. Whipped Topping or margarine containers and lids. Also needed are some artificial flower petals and leaves if you have any you no longer want. There is a bin located outside the main floor elevator designated for your donated VBS items. We're looking forward to another great year at VBS. Thanks in advance. Kathryn Pratt***

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
REV. A. BRUCE AMME, PRESIDING AND PREACHING
JARED GIST, ORGANIST

324 South Howard Street | South Williamsport, PA 17702
(570) 326-9171 | www.messiahsouth.org

Beyond the Known Limit

Telescopes provide a whole new way to see the cosmos, and over the centuries since their invention, we have expanded our understanding of the known universe. For example, we keep increasing our estimate of just how many galaxies are out there. In another hundred years, that number will no doubt be even greater. Will we ever find a fixed boundary?

We might view love as we do the universe. We might experience a limit to love today, but as we embrace the truth that God is love, we continually discover another truth: there is no limit to love. Jesus says all is contained in the two great commandments—love God, and love neighbor as self.

On Pentecost, the church was given the profound gift of love by the Holy Spirit, flowing and very much alive. The church is encouraged to dive deep into that love, to experiment with and experience the reality of love, as shown to us by the God who created us.

One practical way to know God's love is to acknowledge there is so much more to learn about it. We allow for the possibility of infinity in how God expresses love, whether for the person we see in the mirror or for the person who angers us the most.

The Trinity is often shown in ancient art as the Holy Triune gathered around a table in deep and honest conversation. This conversation began way before the beginning, continues in the present, and lives forevermore. The ancient art often offers the viewer a space in the holy circle for one more person. That "one more" is each one of us.

When Jesus says, "I have many things to say to you" (John 16:12), we give thanks that at the holy table, the triune God invites us to sit together and then gifts us with all the time in the universe for each one of us to listen to the loving words God has to say.

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