

God's 4th Commandment of Love

Honoring Those in Authority Over Us

+ Midweek Lenten Service 1 +
Wednesday, February 25, 2026



**Messiah Lutheran
Church**

1531 Townline Ave. Beloit, WI
(608) 365-3794

Welcome! We are glad you are worshipping the Lord with us today!

Midweek Lenten Wednesday Worship

Service #1

February 25, 2026

God's 4th Commandment of Love – *Honoring Those in Authority Over Us!*

NOTICE: As a courtesy to other worshipers, and out of respect for The Lord, please silence all cell phones, pagers, and other electronic devices, including children's toys. Thank you.

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE: Live audio of the worship service is available in our Comfort Room located just off the Narthex in the back of the sanctuary. The room has a bathroom.

Prayer before worship: (Please pray silently): *O Heavenly Father, Your Son tells us that the worship of You is done in Truth and in Spirit. Bless our time together so that the truth of Your Love will be revealed through the Holy Spirit. Thank You that we can worship together in one sanctuary. Let us leave here today filled with strengthened faith, and zeal to love others. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen*

WORSHIP THEME: During this season of Lent, we reflect upon our sins, not to wallow in guilt or shame, but to acknowledge the ugliness of our iniquities, confess them before God, receive forgiveness, and then focus on living more repentant lives for Christ.

We continue our God's 10 Commandments of Love Sermon Series looking at the 4th Commandment, honoring those in authority over us. Really? But if we don't have order then we have chaos in our homes, schools, churches, communities, nation, and world. And this command comes with a promise! How can we honor this commandment as we live in the world today?

PRELUDE

WELCOME – WORSHIP THEME – GREET ONE ANOTHER IN THE NAME OF THE LORD

OFFERING: *Please put your offering in the plates at the entrance. Thank you for your support.*

Bible Verse for the month: *1 Corinthians 1:18 ESV*

P: For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,

C: but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

P: God bless you with the Power of Christ's Cross as you worship Him.

(Lighting of the candles...to symbolize the special presence of Christ when we invoke the Name of God in which we were baptized.)

Adapted from Evening Prayer from the Lutheran Service Book

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.

C: The Light no darkness can overcome.

P: Stay with us Lord, for it is evening.

C: And the day is almost over

P: Let Your light scatter the darkness.

C: And illuminate Your Church.

P: Praise to You, O Christ.

C: The King who comes to save us.

P: Let us pray: Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on Earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF THE NIGHT: "These Are the Holy Ten Commands" LSB 581

Verses 1, 5, 11 and 12

1. These are the ho-ly Ten Commands
God gave to us by Mo-ses' hands
When high on Si-nai's mount he stood,
Re-ceiv-ing them for our good.
Have mer-cy, Lord!

5. "You are to honor and obey
Your father, mother, ev'ry day,
Serve them each way that comes to hand;
You'll then live long in the land."
Have mer-cy, Lord!

11. You have this Law to see therein
That you have not been free from sin
But also that you clearly see
How pure toward God life should be
Have mer-cy, Lord!

12. Our works cannot salvation gain;
They merit only endless pain.
Forgive us, Lord! To Christ we flee,
Who pleads for us endlessly.
Have mer-cy, Lord.

(Congregation may be seated)

SCRIPTURE READING #1.....Romans 13:1-7 ESV

¹ Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴ for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

SCRIPTURE READING #2.....Ephesians 6:1-9 ESV

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), ³ "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." ⁴ Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

⁵ Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, ⁶ not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, ⁷ rendering service with a good will as to the Lord and not to man, ⁸ knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free. ⁹ Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him.

SCRIPTURE READING #3.....Matthew 22:15-22 ESV

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹ They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets

C: But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

SERMON: "God's 4th Commandment of Love – Honoring Those in Authority Over Us"

The Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean? **We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.**

(If you are able, please stand)

MAGNIFICAT (Song of thanksgiving from Mary)

P: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior

C: For He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.

P: For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His Name;

C: And His mercy is on those who fear him from generation to generation.

P: He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

C: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.

P: He has filled the hungry with good things and the rich He has sent empty away.

C: He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his seed forever.

(Please be seated)

PRAYERS FROM THE PEW *(At the end of each prayer petition)*

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord, have mercy.

(At the conclusion of the prayers, if you are able, please stand)

P: For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord.

C: Alleluia.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord, rejoicing in the fellowship of the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

C: To You, O Lord.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

P: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

P: Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.

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.

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P: The Almighty and Merciful Lord, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless and preserve you.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "Almighty God, Your Word is Cast" LSB 577

(Please follow the processional light)



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -



seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

P: Go in peace, with honoring those in authority over you living God's gift of peace.fs

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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ESV: English Standard Version

LSB: Lutheran Service Book

Brown: The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration

Attendance:

- Sunday School, Feb 15: **9** (7 children and 2 adults)
- Adult Bible Study, Tues. Feb 17: **27** (14 in-person and 13 on-line/phone)
- Worship Sunday, Feb 15 – 9am: **67**; 11am: **20**;
 - Ash Wed, Feb 18 – 6:30am: **9**; 7pm: **67 (73 net between two services)**
 - Net Attendance: **133 (All services for the week)**

On-Line Streaming:

- Sunday, Feb 15: **19** devices watching LIVE on our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel
 - Facebook Total Views: **270**
 - YouTube Total Views: **75**

Upcoming Events at Messiah

- **Food Pantry now open again twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 3:30-5:30pm**
- **Midweek Lenten Suppers** continue every Wednesday at 5:45pm till March 25
- **Fish Fry Dinners** continue every week Friday from 5-7pm till March 27.
- **Midweek Lenten Services** continue every Wednesday at 7pm, till March 25. **God's 10 Commandments of Love sermon series continues**
- Saturday, March 7 from 10am to 2pm **Women's Day Event - Fellowship Hall**
- Tuesday, March 10 at 7pm: **Parish Planning Council** – Upstairs Conference Room
- Saturday, March 14 at 9am: **Men's Group** in Downstairs Conference Room
- Sunday, March 15 at 12:15pm: **Lay Elder-Deacon Meeting** – Upstairs Conference Room
- Thursday, March 19 at 5:30pm: **Ladies Bible Study Class** – Fellowship Hall
- Saturday, March 21: **Food Pantry at Winter Farmer's Market** – Downtown Beloit
- Sunday, March 22 after 9am service: **Congregational Meeting in Fellowship Hall**
- **Palm Sunday, March 29 and April 1**
- **Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7pm**
- **Good Friday Tre Ore at St. John's from Noon to 3pm. Pastor Dan preaching on Jesus Words from the cross: "I thirst"**
- **Good Friday, April 3 at 7pm**
- **Easter Sunday, April 5 at 9am and 11am and April 8 at 7pm**
- Sunday, April 12 at 11am: **Sunday School ringing bells**
- Sunday, May 10 and Wed May 13: **Mother's Day services with brunch between services on Sunday**
- Sunday, May 17 at 9am: **Confirmation Sunday**
- Sunday through Tuesday, July 25 - 29. 5:30-7:30pm **VBS**; 5-5:30pm free dinner

Attention Thrivent Members: Choice dollars are charitable grants to support congregations like Messiah without costing you any money. If you have certain life insurance or financial products with Thrivent you may be able to designate your Choice Dollars to support the ministry work here at Messiah. Please see Pastor Dan for details. You have until March 31 to designate your 2025 Choice Dollars.

Mid-Week Wednesday Supper -
Wednesday, March 4

Hosted by Food Pantry

- Soup
- Subs
- Chips
- Dessert Choices
- Coffee, Milk, and Soda

Supper is at 5:45pm in the Fellowship Hall.

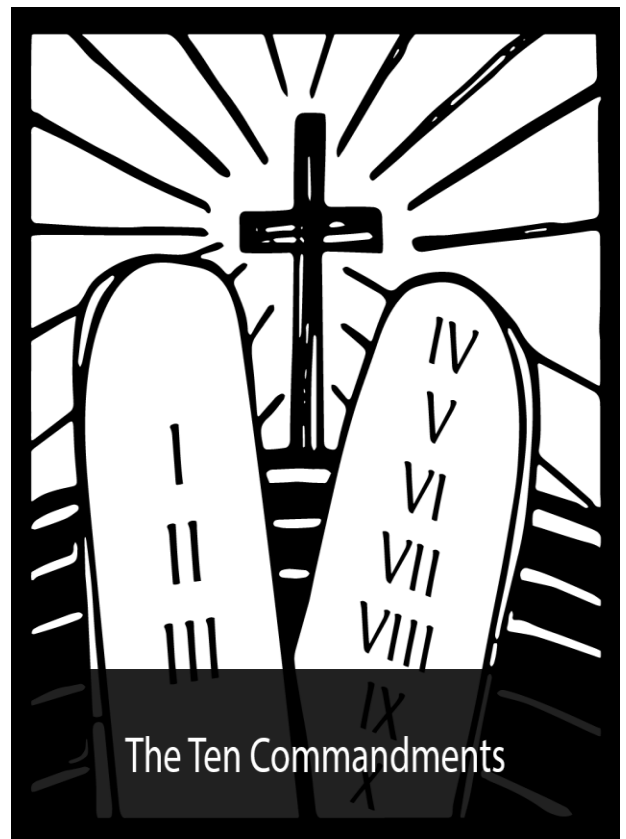


Midweek Lenten Services:
God's Top 10 Expressions of Love

Wednesday, March 4 at 7pm, **we look at God's 3rd Commandment of Love: Honoring the Gift of God's Word.**

Do you see worshipping the Lord a chore or a blessing? How do you perceive the Word of God? Are you excited to hear it? Does it have relevance to your every day life?

CDs are in the Narthex of previous services covering the 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th/10th Commandments on Authority, Murder, Adultery, Stealing, Gossip, and Coveting,



Els.org

Women's Day Celebration at Messiah, Beloit

As many in our culture observe International Women's Month in March, the women at Messiah Lutheran Church would like to take the opportunity to emphasize the Christ centered spiritual development of women. So, we are inviting ladies to a special Women's Day Celebration at our congregation on Saturday, March 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We are located at 1531 Townline Ave in Beloit.

This event will support women as they grow with their faith in Christ.

In addition to singing, Holy Scripture reading, and prayer, Mrs. Vickie Dansbury, who leads our Ladies Bible Study Class will encourage women in the study of God's Word. The topic will be on the power God gives to a praying woman through His Word.

What a great way to mature in our relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

If you have questions or want to attend, please call 608-365-3794, with the count of attendees. Messiah wants to adequately prepare for a luncheon and refreshments for those attending.

Thursday	3:30-5:30pm	Food Pantry Open
Friday	6pm	Forward Planning Committee – Upstairs Conference Room
	5-7pm	Fish Fry Dinners – Fellowship Hall
Saturday	8am	New Member Class – Upstairs Conference Room
	9am	Messiah's Choir Practice - Sanctuary
Sunday	9am	Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10am	Sunday School and Fellowship
	11am	Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion

Looking for Volunteers:

- **Council Secretary.** Contact Jared McCannon at 815-973-8798
- **PR Committee Chair.** Contact Pastor Dan Eddy at 314-775-7371
- **LWML President and Vice-President.** Contact Pastor Dan at 314-775-7371

Devotion Resources: (To help you with your daily meditations with the Lord)

- **Portals of Prayer** devotion books. If we are out, please talk to Pastor Dan
- **LHM.org** for Daily Devotion and other resources to help you with your study of God's Word. The site has audio podcasts, videos, and Bible Studies to download.
- **KFUO.org** the LCMS owned radio station...has audio podcasts.
- **Mustard Seed Devotion** from www.lwml.org/mustard-seed-devotions
- **Project Connect** carousel has topical pamphlets to help you with specific challenges you or a loved one may be facing. Located in the Fellowship Hall.
- **CD Table:** has previous worship services and Bible Studies edited for you to listen in your car, on your computer or CD player. Located in Narthex.
- **Messiah's Library:** Over in the Parsonage/Sunday School area. Books and videos that are harder to find on the Internet. See Cheryl Sennett or Pastor Dan.
- **Messiah's own audio and video podcasts** of past worship services and Bible Studies available at mlcbeloit.com and on our **YouTube Channel at Messiah Lutheran Beloit**



If you don't carry much cash or write many checks then Givelify is the perfect and easy way to give your offerings to Messiah. Simply download the app at the *Google Play Store* or *Apple App Store*. It is safe and secure. If you need help setting up the app, please contact Jim Shellenberger at (815) 275-2081.

St. John's Paper Pantry is held every 1st Monday of the Month. Donations of Toilet Paper, Shampoo 2-N-1, toothpaste, soap, or deodorant are appreciated and can be dropped off at the Church Office. Call 608-718-7922 to schedule a donation time.

Food Pantry Announcement: Currently the food pantry has an overabundance of paper and plastic bags. At this time, we are asking you to hold off from dropping donating them. We don't have the storage for any more bags. We will let you know when we need more. The Messiah Food Pantry deeply appreciates all your support.

Messiah Lutheran Church

1531 Townline Avenue, Beloit, Wisconsin 53511 Phone: 608-365-3794
Website: mlcbeloit.com - Facebook: "Messiah Lutheran Church-Beloit, WI"
YouTube Channel: **Messiah Lutheran Beloit**
Prayer Line: 608-365-4724

Office Administrator: Kristi Sears
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-Noon
Office Email: messiahlutheransecretary@gmail.com
Pastor's Email: dan.eddy@verizon.net

Welcome

To our friends who know us, we renew our welcome. To our first-time guests and visitors, we extend our sincere greeting. To those who seek a church home, we invite you to our fellowship. Messiah has existed since 1959 to receive God's forgiveness, life and salvation in Christ Jesus through Word and Sacrament and to share the good news that God's Son, Jesus Christ, lives, died, and rose for all.

Divine Worship Schedule

Sundays with Holy Communion - 9:00 AM and 11AM

Wednesdays with Holy Communion – 7:00 PM

Leadership

Rev. Daniel Eddy	Pastor	<u>314.775.7371</u>
Jared McCannon	President	815-973-8798
Bill Swanson	Vice-President	608-295-1829
Merri Boos	Treasurer	815-703-0990
Zach Anderson	Lay Elder-Deacons	608-207-0509
Ruth Komprood	Co-Chair Evangelism	608.751.8061
Susan Bukove	Co-Chair Evangelism	608.481.4290
Cheryl Sennett	Christian Education	608.289.2686
Samantha Anderson	Young People	608.312.6683
Rebecca Baumann	Stewardship	608.921.7677
Eldon Kolander	Properties	815-298-9739
Sandi McDearmon	Co-Chair Fellowship	608-774-7759
Vickie Dansbury	Co-Chair Fellowship	608-750-0550
	Public Relations	
	Council Secretary	
	LWML President	
Terry Zimmerman	Altar Guild	608-751-8334

Messiah is a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

