

Messiah Lutheran Church
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The Messiah Messenger



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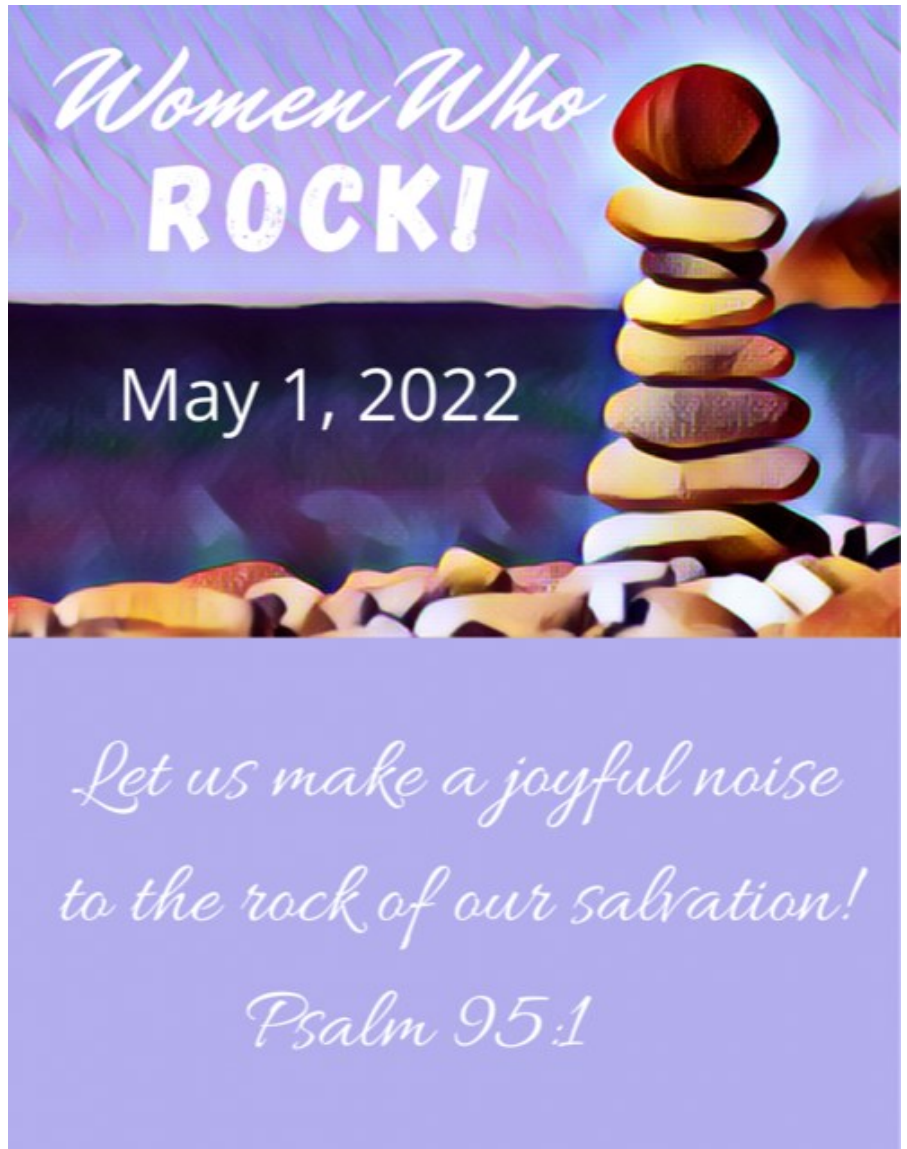
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Sunday service @ 9am
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Women Who
ROCK!

May 1, 2022

*Let us make a joyful noise
to the rock of our salvation!*

Psalms 95:1

Daily — Doggedly — Daringly
Embracing Our Neighbors with Jesus' Unconditional Love



Gabriel's Glad Tidings



Hey friends,

I hear people say the word “bittersweet” sometimes.

I like sweet things, like orange slices. They are high on my Yum List.

But I don't like bitter things, like the orange peel. That's high on my Yuck List.

So I guess “bittersweet” means something that you kind of like, but kind of don't like at the same time.

That must make the month of May bittersweet.

You see, this month a lot of my friends graduate.

They will graduate from Pre-K or elementary school or high school.

I'm happy for them but I'm going to miss them, too.

That sounds bittersweet.

This month we also remember Ascension Day, when my Jesus went back to heaven.

That's bittersweet, too.

I'm happy that my Jesus finished all His work here on earth, but wouldn't it be great if He were still here with us?!?

I'd love for Him to pet me and rub my belly!

What helps with the bitter part is the promise that the angels gave. **“This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven”** (Acts 1:11).

Even though we miss Jesus, He will come back again!

I call that PAWSOME!

Your friend Gabriel



From the Pastor



Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying

Hark! the voice of Jesus crying,

"Who will go and work today?

Fields are white and harvests

waiting,

Who will bear the sheave

away?"

Loud and long the Master

calleth,

Rich reward He offers thee;

Who will answer, gladly saying,

"Here am I, send me, send me"?

If you cannot speak like angels,

If you cannot preach like Paul,

You can tell the love of Jesus,

You can say He died for all.

If you cannot rouse the wicked

With the Judgement's dread

alarms,

You can lead the little children

To the Savior's waiting arms.

Daniel March

Dear Friends in Christ,

Last month I had a jury duty summons.

On Tuesday, April 26, I went downtown to find out if I would be selected to serve on a jury.

I was in a pool of forty-two other Harris County residents for the *voir dire* process.

That's when the attorneys question the jurors to determine who they do and don't want on the jury.

When the defense attorney conducted her examination, she said, "We have a pastor here."

I raised my hand and she asked me to introduce myself.

She then said, "I have a question that is perfect for a pastor."

I was eager to hear her question, which was, "Do you know any living person who is perfect?"

As she expected the answer "No," I think I took her by surprise when I declared without hesitation, "Yes."

She quickly asked, "Who is that?"

Of course, I gave the same answer that you would give: Jesus!

Peter urges us, "**In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect**" (1 Peter 3:15).

Peter himself knew how it felt to fail in that, when he denied that he even knew Jesus.

He wants us to learn from his example and be spared the shame and guilt that he experienced.

Although we never know when and where we will be given the opportunity to be a witness to our Lord Jesus, we should always be prepared to do so.

I certainly didn't expect to do so during jury selection.

So, be a ready witness at all times.

Your testimony about Jesus could make a difference in someone's eternity.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Engel

