

Messiah Lutheran Church  
816 Roy St.  
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# The Messiah Messenger



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### Visit Us

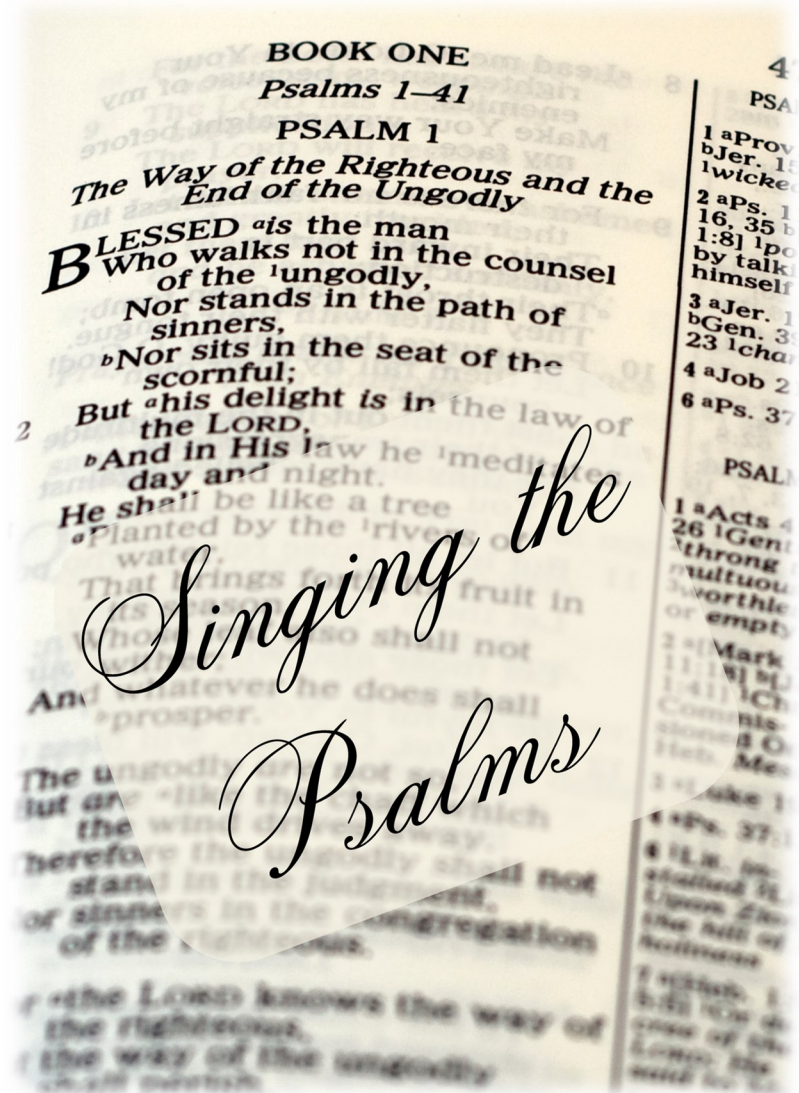
www.mlhouston.org

### Worship with Us

Sunday service @ 9am  
In-Person and Facebook Live

**FB: Messiah Houston**  
**IG: messiah\_houston**

Off-street parking available



*Praying to God  
the prayers He has given us*

*Daily – Doggedly – Daringly*  
Embracing Our Neighbors with Jesus' Unconditional Love



# Gabriel's Glad Tidings



Hey friends,

I have a special message for you about some of my four-footed friends

Every year, thousands of cats and dogs in Texas shelters are euthanized due to lack of space. In 2022, Texas led the country in the number of animals killed in shelters, with 68,945 animals losing their lives.

Every day BARC animal shelter dogs and cats are placed on a "Code Red" list. When placed on the "Code Red" list, they have just 24 hours to be adopted or saved by a rescue or local foster or they will be euthanized at 1 pm.

Even when tagged by a Rescue, they will often still need help from a local foster.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

You can save lives by adopting or fostering a dog or cat on the "Code Red" list at the BARC animal shelter.

Just go to the shelter located at 3300 Carr St in Houston, or email [BARCadoptions@houstontx.gov](mailto:BARCadoptions@houstontx.gov) or [BARCfoster@houstontx.gov](mailto:BARCfoster@houstontx.gov) before 1 p.m. each day. You can visit [www.houstontx.gov/barc/urgent-pets.html](http://www.houstontx.gov/barc/urgent-pets.html) to learn more and you can also follow Volunteer for BARC's Urgent Pets Facebook page.

When you foster a shelter animal - you save two lives: the life of the animal you foster and the life of an animal the shelter now has space for.

That would be PAWSOME!

Your friend Gabriel



# BARC

## ANIMAL SHELTER

## & ADOPTIONS

# From the Pastor



## Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

*Open now Thy gates of beauty,  
Zion, let me enter there,  
Where my soul in joyful duty  
Waits for Him who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessed is this place,  
Filled with solace, light, and grace!*

*Lord, my God, I come before Thee,  
Come Thou also unto me;  
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,  
There a heaven on earth must be.  
To my heart, oh, enter Thou,  
Let it be Thy temple now!*

*Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee,  
Let Thy will be done indeed;  
May I undisturbed draw near Thee  
While Thou dost Thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows,  
Here is balm for all our woes.*

Joachim Neander

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

Last month I attended a class called “O Lord, Open My Lips: Praying the Psalms with Christ and His Church.”

During this three-day class I received a deeper understanding of what we call the Book of Psalms. I also learned the importance of making this book the foundation of our spiritual lives and our devotion to our Lord.

This book is unique among the other books of the Bible in that it is a collection of prayers, which served as the prayerbook of the people of Israel and of our Lord Jesus.

This book is also the prayerbook of the Christian Church, a book that teaches us how to pray.

The words of the psalms are our Father’s words to us. Just as children learn to speak by hearing their parents speak to them, so the heavenly Father wants us to learn to speak to Him, to pray to Him, by first listening to Him speak to us.

In order to help us become more familiar with the language of prayer found in the psalms, we will be using them more and more in our worship.

In fact, because these prayers were intended to be sung, we will observe the ancient practice of chanting these psalms in our worship, offering our beautiful song to the Lord in the prayers that He has already given to us.

I believe that renewing our use of the psalms will enrich our worship and nourish our souls.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Engel

