

Church Council update:

In-person worship services on April 19 and 26 are cancelled but a worship service begins at 10:30am each Sunday via Facebook and YouTube (see access information above), and through a telephone conference call beginning at 10:15 am as outlined on the next page.

In addition, all gatherings are cancelled, and the church office will remain closed. Church Council will continue to meet every two weeks with the next meeting on April 28. Council is investigating provincial / federal government support programs and will look to direction from the health authorities regarding safe practices and restrictions during this time of Covid-19.

Thank you to all who continue to provide financial donations through pre-authorized payments, e-transfer, and the mail. In addition, a Messiah volunteer is available to pick up donations at your home. The letter sent to our Messiah family on April 2 is posted on the website home page, or you can phone the office for information. The financial needs of the congregation have not stopped because of the pandemic, and we ask for your prayerful consideration of those needs.

Pastor Fran is providing written devotions on Facebook and the Messiah website. To keep in touch, a weekly coffee chat has started through the Internet (see Facebook / website for connection information), confirmation students will connect through electronic means, and the Caring Ministry & Community Services Team continues to reach out through telephone.

Do you want an ELW church hymnal at home during this time while we cannot gather in person? Let Donna know and we can make arrangements to have one delivered to you. This hymnal includes liturgies, psalms, prayers, and hymns.

Messiah Lutheran Church

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Facebook: <https://facebook.com/MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert>

YouTube Channel: [Messiah Lutheran Church Prince Albert](#)

Pastor Fran Schmidt: Cell: 1-306-716-3954

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While the office remains closed, it will be staffed from
Tuesday – Friday from 9am – 4pm

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER - APRIL 19, 2020

Pastor Fran will provide an Online Worship Service, available on the Messiah's Facebook page, Messiah's website page, and YouTube starting at 10:30 a.m. For those without internet access, a telephone conference call will be provided beginning at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings for worship service that begins at 10:30 a.m. This is an exciting way for those without internet to access worship services on Sunday. Please phone the office or Pastor Fran for details.

**Our condolences to Lois & Wayne Manchur
on the passing of Lois' cousin Robin Gresko, on April 10, 2020.**

**We extend our heartfelt condolences to Vimy Penner on the sudden passing of
her beloved husband, Jim Penner on Monday, April 13, 2020.**

Please keep Lois & Wayne, and Vimy, and their families in your prayers.

Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns:

**We pray for comfort and healing for all those who are suffering in
body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their trouble.**



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

A reading from Acts.

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd], ²²"You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know—²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of

God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'
²⁹"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'
³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 16

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."

²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

A reading from First Peter.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 20: 19-31

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."

²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY #646 "The Peace of the Lord"

OFFERING PRAYER

We pray for gifts that have been given and will be given in the coming week to continue the ministry of the church.

Let us pray. Gracious God, in the abundance of your steadfast love, you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, from idleness to action. With these gifts we offer ourselves to you, and with the Church through all the ages we give thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer..**

...

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord who taught us to pray,

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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG #622 "Neither Death nor Life" vs. 1, 3, & 5

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.
Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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SAFETY TALK

COVID-19 - AVOIDING OVERWHELM

Did you know?

The COVID-19 Pandemic has caused people all across the world to modify the way they think, live and work. Many are dealing with feelings of uncertainty and fear. It is more important than ever to incorporate strategies into our lives to avoid becoming overwhelmed.

You need to know:

GET YOUR FACTS FROM TRUSTED SOURCES —

visit www.saskatchewan.ca/covid19 for the most current and factual information.

GO OFFLINE — give your mind and body regular breaks from listening to social media sources regarding COVID-19.

ACCEPT WHAT'S OUT OF YOUR CONTROL — Letting go of circumstances and decisions that are not in your power to control will help you move on to more positive outlets for your energy.

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF — reducing anxiety, stress management, and staying healthy begin with the basics:

- get enough sleep
- eat a healthy, balanced diet
- stay hydrated
- exercise

CONNECT WITH OTHERS and SEEK HELP — talking about your feelings with others is essential to coping well during difficult circumstances.