

Messiah Lutheran Church

1796-15 Avenue East, Prince Albert, S6V 8A1

Website: www.messiahluthpa.ca

Facebook page and YouTube channel: [Messiah Lutheran Church Prince Albert](#)

Pastor Fran Schmidt

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While the office is closed, it is staffed Tuesday – Friday; 9am – 4pm

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – MAY 17, 2020

Pastor Fran will provide an Online Worship Service starting at 10:30 am, available on the Messiah Facebook page, and YouTube channel. For those without internet access, a telephone conference call is provided beginning at 10:15 am each Sunday. Call the office for the phone access information. All are welcome!

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 time of need.

Messiah Ministry: Worship services (in-person) and gatherings are cancelled, and the church office remains closed until further notice. Pastor Fran and Council discussed provision of Holy Communion during a pandemic, and more information will be provided prior to the end of May.

To keep in touch and other items of interest:

- ❖ Monday to Friday devotions are posted on the Messiah Facebook page (and on the Messiah website), and Wednesday coffee chat at 10am (cancelled for May 20) through the internet and telephone conference call.
- ❖ The Community Service & Caring Ministry Team reaches out through telephone. Contact the office to request weekly printed or emailed news/worship bulletins and ELW (red book) hymnals for home use.
- ❖ Heartfelt thanks to all for your financial donations through pre-authorized payments, e-transfer, mail, drop off at the office or pick up from your home – call the office for more information. March and April 2020 Revenue is under budget by \$13,379, and lower by \$9,322 when compared to 2019. Messiah's financial needs have not stopped because of the pandemic, and we ask for your prayerful consideration of those needs for the ministry of our congregation.
- ❖ Other Worship Services and resources (including Sunday School):
 - Listing provided on ELCIC national website, with a link on the SK Synod website - <https://elcic.ca/publichealth/livestreaming.cfm>
 - Time of meditation with June and Bruce Anonson each Sunday afternoon at 3:30 pm via Zoom; email june.anonson@usask.ca or phone 306.981.2770.
 - Lutheran, Moose Jaw, radio worship service (CHAB 800 AM) each Sunday morning at 7:45 am.

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 ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, 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 17:22-31

In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.

A reading from Acts.

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we too are his offspring.’ ²⁹Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66:8-20

⁸Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

⁹**Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us just as silver is tried.

¹¹**You brought us into the net; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water, but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

¹³**I will enter your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows—**

¹⁴those that I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

¹⁵**I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams; I will give you oxen and goats.**

¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷**I called out to God with my mouth, and praised the Lord with my tongue.**

¹⁸If I had cherished evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me;

¹⁹**but in truth God has heard me and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**

²⁰Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

GOSPEL: John 14: 14-21

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MEDITATION

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW#595 "Jesus Loves Me"

APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

We pray in thanksgiving for gifts that have been given to continue the ministry of the church.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, our ordinary gifts seem so small an offering in thanksgiving for all you have done. Make an abundance of all that is given, so that those who are in need or want in any way may have the physical, emotional and spiritual support that is needed. Bless these gifts and those who give them, that we may be a blessing to the world in this time of uncertainty. We pray this in the name of our Risen Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. 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, praying Lord, in your mercy and responding, **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, allowed 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 #726 - "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

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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