

Messiah Lutheran Church
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Donna will be on vacation until September 1. Please phone or email the office to leave a message or contact Pastor Fran if you require assistance.

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – AUGUST 23, 2020

Online Worship Service starts at 10:30am, and is 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 conference call 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.

Condolences to Merv and Vicki Bender and their family on the passing of Merv's mother, Elsie Bender, on August 15. A graveside service took place in Neudorf on August 21.

Messiah Ministry: The working group has met and will be forwarding their recommendations to Council regarding in-person services starting on August 30. Provincial and SK Synod guidelines will be followed including restrictions on number of people attending, pre-registration, and use of masks. Online services will continue to be provided. In addition, the office will open on a restricted access basis beginning September 1, for church-related activity. Further details will be provided as they are developed. Your patience, understanding, support and prayers for the working group, and Messiah staff and Council are greatly appreciated.

You are encouraged to reach out to others if you are able; contact information is in the Messiah directory. You can share some news or just say hello. If you would like to contribute anything in the weekly news / worship bulletin, phone or email the office.



Best wishes to Fred and Olga Routley on the occasion of their 64th wedding anniversary on August 14.

We rejoice with Pastor Brooklynn Lane on her ordination celebrated August 22! Prayers for safe travels and a wonderful experience in her first call in Nova Scotia.

In addition to Messiah's Worship Services, our faith can be supported and strengthened through:

- ❖ Wednesday coffee chat at 10am through the internet and telephone conference call. Call the office for details.
- ❖ The September – December Eternity for Today daily devotion booklet is available. Please contact the church office if you would like a copy.
- ❖ The Community Service & Caring Ministry Team: if you would like a call or have a need of spiritual support, please contact the church office.
- ❖ Online Worship and other resources such as Bible Studies:
 - Listing provided on ELCIC national website, with a link on the SK Synod website - <https://elcic.ca/publichealth/livestreaming.cfm>
 - Lutheran, Moose Jaw, radio worship service (CHAB 800 AM) each Sunday morning at 7:45am.

Thank you for all the ways you continue to support Messiah!
Your prayers and concern for our Messiah family are greatly appreciated.
Financial donations can be made through pre-authorized payments, e-transfer,
Canada Helps, mail, drop off at the office mailbox, or pick up from your home
– call the office for details.



Camp Kinasao Adult & Family Canoe Trip: McLennan Lake (September 11 – 14)

Sunday Worship services will conclude on August 23. Due to the limited capacity to comply with COVID-19 guidelines, attendees are asked to register in advance by going to the Kinasao website.



Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 30, at Faith Lutheran Church, 2801 Preston Avenue, Saskatoon, starting at 7:00 p.m. and ending at approximately at 8:00 p.m. COVID-19 protocols will apply. Please bring your mask.

The 2020 Bulletin of Reports is available - www.luminhos.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/2020-BULLETIN-OF-REPORTS-.pdf

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.

You are the treasured people of the LORD,
a people holy to the LORD our God.

Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.
Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

SCRIPTURE SONG: ELW #838 "Beautiful Savior" (vs. 1 & 2)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MEDITATION – Shared by Bishop Jason Zinko, Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod, ELCIC

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #652 "Built On A Rock"

RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED AND CONFESSION

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;
pray in the Holy Spirit.

Keep yourselves in the love of God;
look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.
Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

God, our Creator,

you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

...

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus 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 God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing. Amen.

May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW #583 "Take My Life"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.