

**Messiah Lutheran Church**

1796-15 Avenue East

Prince Albert, S6V 8A1

Website: [www.messiahluthpa.ca](http://www.messiahluthpa.ca)

Facebook page and YouTube channel: **MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert**

**Pastor Fran Schmidt**

Cell: 1-306-716-3954

Email: [pastor.mlc@sasktel.net](mailto:pastor.mlc@sasktel.net)

**Administrative Assistant, Donna Deobald**

Office: 306-763-7374

E-mail: [messiah@sasktel.net](mailto:messiah@sasktel.net)

**Musician:**

**Elaine Serfas**

**Reader & Lighting of**

**The Advent Candle: Lois Manchur**

**PowerPoint: Hufnagel Family**

**Camera:**

**Merv Bender**

The Messiah office hours will continue to be Tuesday – Friday from 10am to 4pm church-related activity – primarily dropping off or picking up items. Please note that the use of hand sanitizer and wearing of masks is required for anyone entering the office.

---

**Worship for Sunday, December 6, 2020**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent w/ Holy Communion**

As of this Sunday, worship will continue on a virtual basis; in-person worship will not take place over the next period of time. Council will review the situation prior to the end of January to determine if/when in-person worship may resume. Please see the Council update in the December newsletter for more information.

Online Worship Service begins Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.; live on the Messiah Lutheran Church Prince Albert YouTube page - look for "live" feed. If there are technical issues, the recorded service will be available on Messiah Facebook page and Website by 1:00 p.m.

---

**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.

***Our condolences to Marcie Klassen on the passing of her cousins; Orville Schinkel, age 76 on November 8, Harry Harder age 72 on November 23, and her uncle Leo Penner, age 73 on November 30. They were all from Steinbach, MB, and died from Covid19. Please keep Marcie in your prayers.***

---



**Canadian Lutheran  
World Relief**

(CLWR)

*Gifts  
from the  
Heart*

Thank you for your dedication to creating a world where people live in peace, justice and dignity. CLWR is grateful that so many of you choose to make Gifts from the Heart part of your Christmas each year. To order a 2020 catalogue (also available at the Messiah office) or for more information, phone **1-800-661-2597** or go to the website <https://clwr.donorshops.com/>



**If you would like to donate a Poinsettia over the Advent Season; please drop your plant off to the office no later than Monday, December 21, by 12 noon.** Pastor Fran will be in the office that morning.

**If you are donating a Poinsettia in memory of someone, please contact the Messiah office by Wednesday, December 16.**



**Meatballs** (sweet & sour sauce or plain) are for sale at a cost of \$15 per tray. The making of meatballs has been postponed until a date to be determined in December. Orders can be placed by contacting the Messiah office: phone 306.763.7374; email [messiah@sasktel.net](mailto:messiah@sasktel.net). You will be contacted to confirm your order and to make pick up or delivery arrangements. For more information or questions, phone Wayne (306.960.1074) or Cheryl (306.961.2967).

Not only will you be supporting Messiah's ministry with your purchase, but you'll have delicious meatballs for a quick and easy meal.

---

#### Announcements:

1. The **Lectionary Bible Study** is only available as an online option (Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.). Please call the church office or text / email Pastor Fran for the link.
2. **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.
3. **Confirmation** by Zoom on Sunday, December 6 & 13 @ 7:00 p.m.



**Worship for Sunday, December 6, 2020**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent w/ Holy Communion**

**GATHERING**

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH**

Last Sunday, we lit the candle of hope.

Today, we light the candles of hope and peace.

This year we have prayed for peace.

This year we have prayed in peace:

That people will find common ground.

That nations will stop harming their citizens.

That the doomsday clock will go backward, not forward

Today we pray with peace!

**We know God is with us in moments of peace and unrest.**

**We know God is with us.**

(Light 2 candles)

Written by Rev. Dr. Elaine Boone, used with permission

**HYMN: ELW# 262 - "Wait for the Lord" 2X**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray,

**Eternal God, make us receptive during these days of Advent to your still, small voice that calls us from childishness to childlikeness, from fear to faith, from greed to generosity, and from a life that is self-centered to one that is centered in you so that our lives reflect the spirit of the one whose birth will soon be celebrated, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Adapted from prayer written by Rev. Douglas Reble, used with permission.

**WORD**

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

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:1-11**

*In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. God will deliver Israel and will care for her as a shepherd cares for the sheep. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of God.*

*A reading from Isaiah.*

<sup>1</sup>Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup>Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup>A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup>Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

<sup>6</sup>A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup>The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup>Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" <sup>10</sup>See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup>He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 85: 1-2, 8-13**

<sup>1</sup>You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.

<sup>2</sup>You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins.

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW p. 151 Setting Four**

**GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8**

The holy gospel according to Mark in the first chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup>As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; <sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" <sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON: Crooked Paths**

**HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #255 - "There's a Voice in the Wilderness" vs. 1**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of power and might, comfort your people and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need praying hear us O God and responding, **Your mercy is great.**

. . .

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**Also with you.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray,

**Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer today, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

As we walk through the Great Thanksgiving and as we share communion here and at home, we do so believing that it is God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit who unites us in all times and in all places. This is God's gift of grace for us even as we gather online in our worship today.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest,**

**hosanna in the highest.**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy mighty, and merciful Lord . . . To whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

As we share these gifts of grace, we taste and see that the Lord is good.

**Thanks be to God!**

**COMMUNION****TABLE BLESSING**

Now may the body and blood of our precious Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace, now and unto everlasting life. **Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray,

Gracious and abundant God, you have done great things for us, and we rejoice. In this bread and cup you give us life forever. In your boundless mercy, strengthen us and open our hearts to the world's needs, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

**BLESSING**

The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**(Sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Sending Song: ELW#264 – “Prepare the Royal Highway” vs. 1 & 4**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

---