

Messiah Lutheran Church
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For the week of May 24 - 28, the Messiah office will be open
for church related matters only Tuesday – Friday from 10am - 4pm
Note the use of hand sanitizer and wearing of masks is required for anyone entering the building.

Worship for Sunday, May 23, 2021

Day of Pentecost, Year B

Messiah Worship Service is live on Sunday morning at 10:30am (in-person services resume on May 30) by going to the Messiah Lutheran Church Prince Albert YouTube page and look for "live" feed. To watch the service at a later time or if there are technical issues, the recorded service will be available on Messiah Facebook page and Website by 1:00 pm each Sunday.

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.



Update from Messiah Council: In person services will resume on May 30, which is also Confirmation Sunday. On-line services will continue to be available live each Sunday, and taped for later viewing. Saskatchewan Health Authority Covid-19 restrictions limit worship attendance to 70 people (30% of our maximum seating). Pre-registration is required so please contact the Messiah office by phone or email which will also be checked on Saturday and Sunday prior to the service. In addition, covid requirements – wearing of masks, physical distancing, and hand sanitizing upon entry to Messiah – remain in place. We look forward to coming together in worship either in person or through virtual attendance.

This Week

- Lectionary Bible Study on Wednesday evening @ 7pm on Zoom. Please contact the Messiah office or Pastor Fran for login information.
- Eternity for TODAY (daily scripture reading for reflection and prayer): If you would like a copy on a regular basis, please call the Messiah office and your name will be put on a list! The next issue will be available in June for the July – September edition.



COVID-19 Emergency Appeal for India

India's total number of COVID-19 cases has dramatically risen to over 25 million as of May 16, with more than 250,000 cases reported each of the past 30 days; medical experts believe that the numbers are even higher with many cases not reported from rural areas. The reported national fatality rate is at 1.11%, with an acute shortage of medical supplies including oxygen. Hospitals and crematoriums alike are overwhelmed, and hotels and railway coaches are being converted into critical care facilities to make up for the shortage of hospital beds. Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada's partner Canadian Lutheran World Relief is accepting donations to assist with this crisis. Donations will provide emergency medical support to those faced to be sick at home, and help support critical advocacy and public awareness efforts to keep as many people safe as possible.

To support relief efforts, please donate as follows:

- Designate an offering donation for "India Covid Crisis" through Messiah.
- Send a cheque made payable to CLWR, 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5. Please indicate that you wish to contribute to "India Covid Crisis."
- Call 1-800-661-2597 to donate by credit card or go online: clwr.org/india



Messiah Annual General Meeting
 Sunday, June 6, at 11:30am
 following Worship Service

The Annual Report and Constitutional documents are posted on the Messiah website under the Annual Reports tab. If you would like a printed copy or to have the documents emailed, please call the Messiah office.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #396 - "Spirit of Gentleness" (vs. 1 & 4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray,
Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, 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 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

A reading from Acts.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." ¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: ¹⁷In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. ²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. ²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:24-34, 35b

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

²⁶There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever; O LORD, rejoice in all your works.

³²You look at the earth and it trembles; you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being.

³⁴May these words of mine please God. I will rejoice in the LORD.

^{35b}Bless the LORD, O my soul. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

A reading from Romans.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia" (ELW page 179)

GOSPEL: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
The holy gospel according to John in the 15th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶"When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. ^{16:4b}"I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. ¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

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

SERMON: "Love is God's Language"

Silence for Reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW# 401 ~ "Gracious Spirit, Heed our Pleading" (vs. 1, 2, & 3)

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.

PRAYER

God blesses us through prayer.

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for the gifts given to Messiah to continue its ministry: gifts of time, talent and resources. We give thanks for what has been offered and received.

Let us pray, God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table. Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love, singing "Holy Spirit, come to us", and responding by singing, "Holy Spirit, come to us."

...

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; 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

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG: "Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Let the Spirit inspire you! Thanks be to God.