

Messiah Lutheran Church

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For the week of June 8 -- 11, the Messiah office will be open Tuesday – Friday from 10am - 4pm
for **church-related matters only**.

Note the use of hand sanitizer and wearing of masks is required for anyone entering the building.

Worship for Sunday, June 6, 2021
2nd Sunday after Pentecost, Year B
Re-Gathering & Holy Communion

Update from Messiah Council: In person services have resumed! 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*

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.



This Week

- **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.

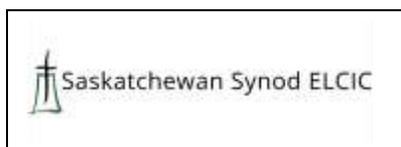


Messiah Annual General Meeting Sunday, June 6, at 11:30am following Worship Service

Pre-registration is required, and all Saskatchewan Covid-19 Public Health Orders will be followed - wearing of masks, hand sanitizing, and physical distancing.

Please note that Council Elections will be held - contact the Nominating Committee (Wayne Manchur or Paula Sundbo) for more information.

The Annual Report and Constitutional documents are 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.



2021 Convention - "*Walking together: on the road to Emmaus* (Lk 24.13-35)."

All are invited to watch the 2021 Convention on June 4 - 5. Go to the Synod website – sasksynod.ca – Events tab to locate the 2021 Convention page which has both the Bulletin of Reports and the link to YouTube – Saskatchewan Synod ELCIC.

Convention begins on Friday at 1pm with Worship including Remembrance & Anniversary Recognitions. Keynote speaker, Dr. Lewis is from 2 – 3pm; followed by Plenary #1: 3:30 – 5pm; Plenary #2: 7 - 8:30pm. Convention resumes on Saturday at 9am with Dr. Lewis; followed by Plenary #3: 10:30am – 12:00pm; Plenary #4: 1 – 2:30 pm with Convention closing with Prayer.

Keynote speaker: Dr. Karoline Lewis is a theologian, speaker, teacher, author, and preacher. She is Professor of Biblical Preaching and The Marbury E. Anderson Chair of Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RITE FOR RE-GATHERING

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who upholds us through adversity, who consoles us in our sorrows, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

A reading from Isaiah 54:10

From the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed, says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Prayer

You, O Lord, have been faithful and gracious. As we gather in person again, we acknowledge the changes, losses, transitions, and immense disruption that Covid-19 has brought upon us in our world, and in our life together as the body of Christ.

We lament before you, O God, the losses that our congregation and community have experienced:

we have missed our in-person weekly worship,
our sharing of bread and cup together,
our communal song,
our greetings of peace;
two seasons of Holy Week and Easter; baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and funerals;
gatherings for education;
coffee hours;
and the mutual sharing each Sunday.

We mourn members, friends, family, and all who have died during this time of pandemic. We grieve those who have moved and left our community of faith. O God, we lament our losses, and those around the entire world. Restore us, gracious God, for we ask it in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Psalm 91

¹ You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

² **will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."**

³ For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence;

⁴ **he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.**

⁵ You will not fear the terror of the night, or the arrow that flies by day,

⁶ **or the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or the destruction that wastes at noonday.**

⁷ A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you.

⁸ **You will only look with your eyes and see the punishment of the wicked.**

⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place,

¹⁰ **no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.**

¹¹ For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

¹² **On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**

¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

14 Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.

15 When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.

16 With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

Prayer in Praise of Re-Gathering

Today, O God of everlasting love, we rejoice at this re-gathering of our congregation:

we praise you for Sunday worship in word and sacrament;
for the personal presence of one another;
for infants, children, youth, adults, and the aged together;
for communal song and live music;
for a gradual return to normalcy;
for service with one another for the wider community;
for the mutual consolation of the faithful on Sundays and weekdays...

O God, we rejoice at this re-gathering for baptismal life together.

Empower our church, faithful God, for we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Adapted from "Re-Gathering Rite", used by permission, copyright © 2021 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW #641 "All Are Welcome" (Vs. 1, 3 & 5)

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.

Let us pray, **All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life. Increase our faith and trust in you, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 3:8-15

Immediately after Adam and Eve eat the forbidden fruit, they hide from God. Neither takes responsibility for their sin, instead blaming each other, the snake, and even God. The curse on the snake was understood as a messianic prophecy by the early church, who associated Eve's "offspring" with Christ.

A reading from Genesis.

⁸[Adam and Eve] heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.⁹But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." ¹¹He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" ¹²The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." ¹³Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." ¹⁴The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 4:13--5:1

Life in the present is transitory and cannot compare with the eternal home God has prepared for us. So we do not despair no matter what life might bring because we know that as God raised Jesus from the dead, God promises to bring us into eternal life.

A reading from Second Corinthians.

¹³Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, ¹⁴because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. ¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, ¹⁸because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. ^{5:1}For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 205**GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-35**

The Holy Gospel according to Mark in the third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed by the Holy Spirit, siblings of Christ.

[Jesus went home;] ²⁰and the crowd came together again, so that [Jesus and the disciples] could not even eat. ²¹When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, "He has gone out of his mind." ²²And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons." ²³And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, "How can Satan cast out Satan? ²⁴If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. ²⁵And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. ²⁶And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. ²⁷But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. ²⁸"Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; ²⁹but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin"—³⁰for they had said, "He has an unclean spirit." ³¹Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. ³²A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." ³³And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" ³⁴And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! ³⁵Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: "Freed for..."

Silence for Reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #710 "*Let Streams of Living Justice*"

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation, praying Lord in your mercy, and responding **hear our prayer.**

...

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

We share a sign of that peace.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING PRAYER

We pray, giving thanks for all God has given us, ourselves, our time and our resources. We now entrust all we have and all we are for God's use in our congregation and community. Let us pray,

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 - ELW, p. 207 (Sung)

**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, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor 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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. **Thanks be to God!**

COMMUNION

Hymn during communion – ELW #471 “*Let Us Break Bread*”

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, Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW #674 “*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Be the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.