

Messiah Lutheran Church

1796-15 Avenue East

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The Messiah office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; 9am – noon.
Emails and phone messages to the Messiah office will be checked regularly.

Worship for Sunday, August 15, 2021
12th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B

Sunday Worship Service, in person and live broadcast on-line, begins at 10:30am. The lifting of Covid restrictions means pre-registration is not required and the wearing of masks is optional. Hand sanitizing is encouraged, and offering is collected as you enter the Sanctuary. The service is taped for later viewing on the Messiah Facebook page and website.

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.



WORSHIP SERVICE AT GOOD SHEPHERD VILLAS (1499 – 15 Avenue East); Thursday, August 19, at 2:30pm, and every third Thursday thereafter. All are welcome to attend. Visitors coming into Good Shepherd need to sign in, use hand sanitizer upon entry, and wear a face mask.

RECONCILIATION (Stoney Knoll) GATHERING INVITATION FROM ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, LAIRD; starting at 10am, Tuesday, August 24. The gathering will take place on the traditional lands of the Stoney Knoll Nation beginning with a Pipe Ceremony and concluding with a Friendship Dance at 3pm. Please see the poster on the Messiah Facebook page for more details/directions or 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 #715 'Christ, Be Our Light'

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

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray,

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

A reading from Proverbs.

¹Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. ²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine, she has also set her table. ³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls from the highest places in the town, ⁴"You that are simple, turn in here! To those without sense she says, ⁵"Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. ⁶Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight." Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:9-14

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD, for those who fear the LORD lack nothing. ¹⁰The lions are in want and suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good. ¹¹Come, children, and listen to me; I will teach you reverence for the LORD. ¹²Who among you takes pleasure in life and desires long life to enjoy prosperity? ¹³Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from lying words. ¹⁴Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW #172 'Halle, Halle, Hallelujah'

GOSPEL: John 6:51-58

The Holy Gospel according to John in the sixth chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of Holy Communion.

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

SERMON: Rev. Jerry Borkowsky, Assistant to the Bishop, Saskatchewan Synod

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #542 'O Living Bread from Heaven'

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 HYMN: ELW #674 'Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ'

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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 God, in your mercy and responding, hear our prayer.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord who taught 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.

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 #543 'Go, My Children, with My Blessing'

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.