

Messiah Lutheran Church
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Messiah office hours: Tuesday to Friday 10am-2pm,

Worship for Sunday, September 26th, 2021
18th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B

Sunday Worship Service, in person and live broadcast on-line, begins at 10:30am. 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:
For all those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts.



We welcome two children into the body of Christ as they were baptized yesterday. Welcome, newest members of the family of God!

This week:



- Today: Confirmation @ 7 pm by Zoom
- Coming Up: A Youth & Family Fun Day at the Corn Maze near Rosthern. Sunday, October 3, 2-4pm, we will meet at 2pm for a short devotion before entering the maze.
- Wednesday: Lectionary Bible Study by Zoom & in-person @ 7pm

We are looking for Worship Assistants. There is a sign up sheet for the various assisting roles during Sunday morning worship...please have a look and sign up to read, usher, or operate power point. Thank you, in advance, for serving in this way!

Messiah's Education Team is looking for additional members to be a part of the planning and dreaming for Sunday School, Youth, Confirmation and Adult Christian Education ministries. If you are interested or would like further information please speak with Pastor Fran, Merv Bender, or Shannon Pettem.

UPCOMING EVENTS – THINGS TO NOTE

Book Discussion: There's still time to read the book "WHITE FRAGILITY". In October there will be a discussion on Zoom. The book can be borrowed from the local library or from Cheryl Bauer Hyde. It is also available to order from Amazon.ca, or to purchase in bookstores in Saskatoon.

The 2021 Luther Lecturer is Dr. Azza Karam, Secretary General of Religions for Peace. The title of her lecture is "Religions and the Pandemic: Sobering or Hopeful?" Religions for Peace works to transform violent conflict, advance human development, promote just and harmonious societies, and protect the earth. This virtual lecture is on September 27 at 7:00 p.m. If you would like to register for this virtual event, please go to www.luthercollege.edu/luther-lecture.

Orange Shirt Day, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation is on Thursday, September 30, 2021. The National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), Susan Johnson encourages members to "make this a day of quiet reflection, learning and/or participating in a community event." For more information <https://www.elcic.ca/news.cfm?article=606>.



* Due to SK/AB restrictions recently put in place, we are adapting our Homecoming to a One-Day virtual event. Watch for revised schedule: Saturday Oct 16, 2021

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW#732 "Borning Cry"

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.

KYRIE: ELW, p. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW, p. 148 "Glory to God"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray, Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

A reading from Numbers.

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery." ¹⁶So the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you." ²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. ²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his

chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" ²⁹But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!

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

PSALM 19:7-14

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart; the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever; the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened, and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses? Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me; then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

A reading from James.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 151

GOSPEL: Mark 9:38-50

The Holy Gospel according to Mark in the ninth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

³⁸John said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." ³⁹But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my

name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. ⁴²"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched. ⁴⁹"For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Saltiness"

SERMON: "Stumbling Blocks"

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW #708 "Jesu, Jesu"

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.

WELCOME OF NEWLY BAPTIZED

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Yesterday, we welcomed Abigail, daughter of Tiffany and Robert, and William, son of Meghan and Andrew, into the body of Christ through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. In the special circumstances of Covid, we welcomed these little ones into the family of God and we rejoice with their families at the gift of grace received in their baptism into Christ.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share; join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

We share a sign of that peace.

PRAYER

God blesses us through prayer.

OFFERING HYMN: ELW#692 "We Are an Offering"

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

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need, praying Lord in your mercy, and responding hear our prayer.

...

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only 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

The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you,
The Lord look upon you with favour, and give you peace.
In the name of the Father +I, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW#726 "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. Thanks be to God.