

Messiah Lutheran Church  
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The Messiah office will be open Tuesday – Friday 10am to 2pm.  
Emails and phone messages to the Messiah office will be checked regularly.

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Pastor Fran will be on Study Leave from September 9<sup>th</sup> –15<sup>th</sup>

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Worship for Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
15<sup>th</sup> 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.

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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.



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Mark the Date:



Sept 19<sup>th</sup> – Blessings of the Backpacks & Briefcases during  
Worship Service.

Sept 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm - Confirmation Begins on Zoom. [Ask  
Pastor Fran if you have not already received an email]

## UPCOMING EVENTS – THINGS TO NOTE

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ARE YOU INTERESTED in learning about ministry and leadership to help Messiah better include people with disabilities? DID YOU KNOW that you are now able to upgrade your skills by taking a course or enrolling in the 4 course certificate program offered by Martin Luther University College. You can take one, two or three courses without committing to all four courses. The first course in the Certificate in Disability, Inclusive Ministry and Christian Faith program is called Questioning Ability. It begins in September. Registration is now open through Wilfrid Laurier University's continuing education department. For details and to register, visit <https://luther.wlu.ca/news/2021/spring/disability-certificate.html>



Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) invites you to pray for the people of Haiti, and to consider making a gift as CLWR and ELCIC join leading Canadian aid agencies – through the Humanitarian Coalition – in launching an appeal to raise funds and rush emergency assistance to those affected by the devastating earthquake in Haiti. Please pray for those affected and for the partners and community members who are rushing to bring help and comfort. Donate by designated offering for 'Haiti Crisis' through Messiah, online at [clwr.org/Haiti](http://clwr.org/Haiti), phoning the CLWR office at 1-800-661-2597 (Monday to Thursday, 9:00 – 16:00 CDT) or by mailing a cheque to 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5.

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Lectionary Bible Study: Will start again on Wednesday, September 8 at 7pm on Zoom and in person (In the peace chapel). Call, text, or email Pastor Fran to receive the link. All are welcome to join in the conversation and study!

The Scripture readings for:

September 12<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost 16 - Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

September 19<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost 17- Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54; James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

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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.

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3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WALK-A-THON– Saturday, September 18  
 Gather at Zion Lutheran, Saskatoon, at 10am or do a virtual walk;  
 additional details to follow.

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## GATHERING

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

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW#519 "Open Your Ears"

## 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. 184

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW, p. 187

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray,

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

    "Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

    He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

    He will come and save you."

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
    and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup>then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
    and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
    and streams in the desert;

<sup>7</sup>the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

#### PSALM 146

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!  
<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
 I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.  
<sup>3</sup>Put not your trust in rulers,  
 in mortals in whom there is no help.  
<sup>4</sup>When they breathe their last, they return to earth,  
 and in that day their thoughts perish.  
<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,  
 whose hope is in the LORD their God;  
<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;  
 who keeps promises forever;  
<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.  
 The LORD sets the captive free.  
<sup>8</sup>The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;  
 the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;  
 the LORD loves the righteous.  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares for the stranger;  
 the LORD sustains the orphan and widow,  
 but frustrates the way of the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>The LORD shall reign forever,  
 your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

#### SECOND READING: James 2:1--17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

A reading from James.

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. <sup>11</sup>For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 188

GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to Mark in the seventh chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophoenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "THE BOX OF CRAYONS"

SERMON: "BE OPENED"

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#617 "We Come to You for Healing, Lord" vs. 1, 3, & 5

### 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.

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Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 HYMN: ELW#583 "Take My Life, That I May Be" vs. 1 & 2

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together,  
God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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. 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
 God of power and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
 Hosanna, hosanna,  
 Hosanna in the highest.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Hosanna, hosanna,  
 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

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**

All who hunger and thirst, come. Eat, drink and be satisfied.  
Thanks be to God!

**COMMUNION****HYMNS DURING COMMUNION:**

ELW#471 "Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW#483 "Here Is 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, Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 ✠, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG:ELW#860 "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

**DISMISSAL**

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