

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

Worship for Sunday, October 10th, 2021
20th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B

Assisting with Worship: Thank you for your assistance with the service.

Sunday Worship Service: In person and live broadcast on-line, begins at 10:30am. Pre-registration is not required, but the wearing of masks is mandatory. Covid vaccinations and hand sanitizing are encouraged. 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.



- NO Confirmation this week.
- Wednesday: Lectionary Bible Study by Zoom & in-person @ 7pm
- Sunday School Begins October 17

We are looking for Worship Assistants. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex 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.

Coming Up:

The book "White Fragility" will be discussed via zoom on Tuesday, October 26 at 7:00 pm. There's still time to read the book and join us. Contact the Messiah office for the zoom link. If you are interested in reading a different book after Christmas contact Angeline Hesje (ahesj2@sasktel.net) or the Messiah office. Suggestions of possible books to consider are welcome.

EXPLORING OUR SACRED TEXTS:

All are invited to join this online series with Jewish, Christian, and Muslims panellists to discuss the scriptural sources for understanding generosity, hospitality, and compassion. Speakers include: Rabbi Jeremy Parnes, Rev. Amanda Currie, and Imam Dr. Mohamed Masloh.

Thursday, October 21 @ 3pm – Generosity

Thursday, October 28 @ 3pm – Hospitality

Thursday, November 4 @ 3pm - Compassion

These are times of increased social polarization and intolerance, where racism, anti-Semitism, and Islamophobia appear to be increasing daily. Dialogue between these faith communities is an antidote to ignorance and hatred. Generosity, hospitality, and compassion are social virtues that can heal the wounds within our society.

For further information, contact Archdeacon Cheryl Toth: sterwardship@sasktel.net and to register in advance for this series: <https://bit.ly/3iwvyPfm>. Even if you are unable to attend all three sessions, you are welcome to register. The sessions will be live streamed on YouTube and the recordings will remain in the YouTube channel for later use.

Are you interested in learning more about the Canadian and international ministries with which the ELCIC is connected? You can find out more through ELCIC e-news: <https://elcic.ca/Communique/default.cfm>

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW#844 "Praise to the Lord"

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, Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Joel 2:21-27

The prophet Joel understood that a locust plague that ravaged the land of Judah was God's judgment on the people, whom he then called to repentance. Today's reading points beyond the judgment to a time when God will bless the land and cause it to produce food in abundance.

A reading from Joel.

²¹Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things! ²²Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the LORD your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. ²⁴The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. ²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

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

PSALM 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said a song of the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

⁵Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Christians are encouraged to offer prayers and thanks for all people, including rulers. We offer such inclusive, far-reaching prayers because God desires to save all people.

A reading from First Timothy.

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 188

GOSPEL: Matthew 6:25-33

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew in the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught his disciples about the providence of God so that they would regard life with thanksgiving and trust rather than anxiety.

[Jesus said,] ²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Giving Thanks"

SERMON: "The Rocking Chair"

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#740 "God of the Sparrow" vs. 1, 3, 5 & 6

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God whose giving knows no ending, you invite the whole world to your table of mercy. Hear us as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need, praying God in your mercy, and responding hear our prayer.

...

God, your welcome is wider than we can imagine. Receive our prayers for the sake of your beloved Son, 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#674 "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together, Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour. 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, heaven and earth are full of your glory, 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future. We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now. We thank you, O God.

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, Jesus 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 his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. 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

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

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS:

ELW#465 "As the Grains of Wheat"

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, O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever.
Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW#535 "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

DISMISSAL

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