

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

Worship for Sunday, October 3rd, 2021
19th 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. Hand sanitizing is 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.

Condolences:
Our condolences to all those who have lost a loved one recently, God's grace and peace be with you and your family.



We welcome a daughter of God
into the body of Christ
as she is baptized today.
Welcome, newest member of God's family!

This week

- Today: A Youth & Family Fun Day at the Corn Maze near Rosthern. Sunday, from 2-4pm, we will meet at 2pm for a short devotion before entering the maze.
- Today: Confirmation @ 7 pm by Zoom
- Monday: The John M. Cuelenaere Public Library will be hosting an event about the Sixties Scoop on Monday, October 4th at 10-4pm, "Bi-Giwen: Coming Home: Truth-Telling from the Sixties Scoop." The Sixties Scoop refers to government practices across Canada from the 1950's to the 1980's that led to an unknown number of First Nations, Metis and Inuit children taken from their parents, families and communities by child intervention services and placed in non-Indigenous families. Many of these children experienced abuse, mistreatment and neglect and lost touch with their families, communities, culture and traditional language.
<https://www.lawsociety.sk.ca/truth-and-reconciliation/national-sixties-scoop-exhibit-in-prince-albert-public-library/>
- 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.

NEXT SUNDAY:

Thanksgiving service is Oct 10, and as always the front of the Church will be decorated. If you have any produce like pumpkins, squash, zucchini or big bowls of potatoes, beets etc., that would be appreciated. Also flowers, either potted or in vases, and colourful branches, vines or interesting grasses can all be used! These can be dropped off at the church during office hours next week. Decorating will be done Oct 9! Thanks very much!!

We are looking for your harvest pictures to add into the power point for Thanksgiving Sunday, next week! Please have your photos to us by Thursday, October 7th. Email them to pastor.mlc@sasktel.net Thank you!!

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

We gather in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of the Earth and all its creatures: Praise be to the Holy Trinity! God is sound and life, Creator of the Universe, Source of all life, whom the angels sing; wondrous Light of all mysteries known or unknown to humankind, and life that lives in all.

(Hildegard of Bingen, 13th Century)

THANKSGIVING FOR THE EARTH

Creator, the strength of all creatures, we honor you. Listen to the thoughts of your people. We honour your Spirit who renews the world and calls us to care for your creation to the East, to the South, to the West and to the North. We live by the ways you have entrusted to us within the circle of life. Come Great Spirit as we gather in your name. (We turn our bodies to the Four Directions as we pray the following prayers. Begin by turning toward the East and continue to turn, with each prayer, in a clockwise direction.)

We face East: The place of dawning, there is beauty in the morning, there the seeker finds new visions as each sacred day is born. All who honour life around them, all who honour life within, shall shine with light and glory when the morning comes again. And we pray, Come Holy Spirit, Come.

We turn to the South: In the South, the place of growing, there is wisdom in the earth, both the painful song of dying and joyful song of birth. As the Earth gives up her lifeblood so that her children's hearts may beat, so we give back to her our reverence for the holy ground beneath our feet. And we pray, Come Holy Spirit, Come.

We turn to the West: The place of seeing, there is born a vision of the servant of the servants, who proclaimed the Gospel to us. Guide us at the end of each day and fill us with your peace. And we pray, Come Holy Spirit, Come.

We turn to the North: We look to God our Creator who cleanses our earth with snow, wind, and rain. To Jesus who fills us with the wideness of mercy and grace and lovingly embraces all the people. And the Holy Spirit who comes to inspire us. And we pray, Come Holy Spirit, Come.

(adapted from Celebrating Creation: Honoring Indigenous People, Kelly Sherman-Conroy, ELCA)

GATHERING HYMN: ELW#739 "Touch the Earth Lightly"

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he

made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." ²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

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

PSALM 8

¹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.
³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?
⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.
⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:
⁷all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
⁹O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

A reading from Hebrews.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? ⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, ⁸subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Getting to Church"

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW p. 188

GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

The Holy Gospel according to Mark in the tenth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate. ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." ¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

SERMON: Pastor Jane Gingrich, Hills of Peace Lutheran Church, Kamloops, BC

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#456 "Baptized in Water"

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

We present _____ for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?
Response: I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in her hands the holy scriptures, and nurture her in faith and prayer,
so that your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture _____ in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support _____ and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Renunciation Questions

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

Blessed be God now and forever.

By the waters of the flood, you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.

Blessed be God now and forever.

In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God now and forever.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom. To you be given praise

and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

BAPTISM

_____, I baptize you in the name of the Father,*
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth,
cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain _____ with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. Amen.

_____, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. Amen.

WELCOME

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

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

OFFERING HYMN: ELW#679 "For the Fruit of All Creation"

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, 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.

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 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 ✠, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
 Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW#876 "Let the Whole Creation Cry"

DISMISSAL

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