

Messiah Lutheran Church
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Pastor Fran Schmidt

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Messiah office hours
Tuesday - Friday: 10am - 2 pm

Worship for Sunday, January 2, 2022
Second Sunday of Christmas

Sunday Worship Service: In person and live broadcast on-line, begins at 10:30am. The wearing of masks is mandatory, and 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 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.



Our condolences to the family and friends of Alice Greening, who passed away on December 28. A service is being planned for the spring. The altar flowers today are in memory of Alice.

Congratulations to Alex and Ina on the birth of their daughter, Melia, on December 15. The family are newcomers to Messiah; Pastor Fran baptized their first child, Samuel, in 2020. Welcome, baby Melia!

UPCOMING DATES AND NEWS FROM MESSIAH & BEYOND

January 5 - Wednesday: Bible study at 7pm – Lectionary Bible Study continues in a Hybrid format (both in-person and on Zoom). For more information, contact Pastor Fran.

January 9 - Sunday School at 11:45am, right after Worship Service on Zoom (call the Messiah office or Pastor Fran for the link). Resource packets can be picked up from the Messiah office after January 5.

January 9 – Sunday: Confirmation at 7pm on Zoom.

Christmas Poinsettias Honouring the Memory of Loved Ones: The emailed Christmas service bulletins had a couple of errors and missing names so with our apologies, the following is the corrected listing:

Ed & Trudy Bowen (Colleen Bowen's parents)
 Sulo Koivu (Pastor Fran's Grandpa)
 Jolene Mayer (Donna Deobald)
 Janet Wahn, John & Barb Meyers (Craig & Sue Meyers' parents)
 Judy Haight (Lisa Haight's Mother)
 Ervin Bauer (Myrtle Bauer's husband & Cheryl Bauer Hyde)
 Jack & Fran Hyde (Wayne Hyde's parents)



KINASAO LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP - SUMMER STAFF POSTING

Be challenged and supported; Help kids grow in their faith and share the love of Jesus with others; Make lifelong friendships; Develop leadership skills; Be part of a Christ-centered community; Have the occasional whipping cream pie thrown in their face ;HAVE FUN; and help kids have the best week of their summer!

Available positions include: Program Coordinators; Counsellors; Program Activity Assistants; First Aid Attendant; Lifeguards & Waterfront Supervisor; Maintenance

Assistants; Housekeeper; Kitchen Assistants; Head Cook; Media Assistant; Outdoor Education Camp Staff.
 Employment Dates:

Program Coordinators: May 2 - August 21, 2022

Maintenance Staff: May 2 - August 21, 2022

Program & Kitchen Staff: May 9 - August 21, 2022

Kinasao summer staff are paid minimum wage for 40 hours each week with the exception of supervisor positions. Any additional hours are considered volunteer work. Application forms must be received by Kinasao by January 31 2022. Questions about the application process or employment at Kinasao, email Kristi Stolee, Assistant Director at kristi@kinasao.ca or go to www.kinasao.ca – Staff & Volunteers.

ELCIC Task Force on Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia: The task force invites people in the 2SLGBTQQIA community to share stories and experiences to help form the task force's report and recommendations. A set of questions has been developed to guide people through telling their stories; sharing as much or as little as liked. Space is held for both positive and negative experiences, for new stories and those from the past. For more information, please email tfhbt@elcic.ca.

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who sends the word with angels, who is made flesh among all peoples, and who breathes peace on all the earth.

Amen.

In Christ, we are bold to name our sin and cry out for peace.

Holy God,
 we confess our sin before you.
 We replace compassion with competition.
 We seek what is mighty while ignoring the meek.
 We are quick to anger but slow to forgive.
 We have not put on love in harmony with you.
 Wrap us in the grace of your powerful Word.
 Swaddle our hearts with your peace,
 that all we do, in word or deed,
 may reflect your love born among us. Amen.

I bring you good news of great joy for all people: God has come among us in the child born of Mary, Christ the Lord. In Christ your sins are forgiven and you are clothed in peace. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW#267 "Joy to the World"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.
 Let us pray, Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

God promises to bring Israel back to its land from the most remote parts of exile. In Zion Israel will rejoice over God's gifts of food and livestock. Young women will express their joy in dancing; God will give gladness instead of sorrow.

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁷Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the

blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

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

PSALM 147:12-20

¹²Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,
¹³who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.
¹⁴God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.
¹⁵God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.
¹⁶God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.
¹⁷God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?
¹⁸The LORD sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.
¹⁹God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.
²⁰The LORD has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made know as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

A reading from Ephesians.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW#288 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" vs. 3

GOSPEL: John 1: 1-10

The holy gospel according to John in the first chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought grace and truth to the world.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

SERMON: National Bishop, Susan Johnson's Christmas Message (video)

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#292 "Love Has Come"

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Joining our voices with the heavenly host and Christians throughout time and space, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need, praying merciful God, and responding receive our prayer.

. . .

Rejoicing in your Word made flesh among us, we commend these prayers to you, confident of your grace and love made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you.
We share a sign of that peace.

OFFERING HYMN: ACS#908 "In a Far-off Place, Jesus Comes"

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, Generous God, you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as Jesus taught us,
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

Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day through the Word made flesh.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG: ELW#253 "He Came Down"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Rejoice in Christ our Saviour.
Thanks be to God.

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