

Messiah Lutheran Church
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Office hours for essential Messiah business only: Tuesday - Friday 10am – 2pm
Masks must be worn at all times within the Messiah building

Worship for Sunday, January 23, 2022
3rd Sunday after Epiphany
Temple Talk – Pastor Richard Engel, LuMinHoS

COVID UPDATE

Council met this week to discuss the Synod recommendations. At this time, in person services (livestreamed on the Messiah YouTube channel and posted on the Messiah website) will continue beginning at 10:30am each Sunday, however Holy Communion will be suspended until at least the end of February. The wearing of masks at all times is mandatory. Covid vaccinations, social distancing, and hand sanitizing are encouraged. Please do not attend if you aren't feeling well, and make use of Covid testing if necessary. Council will continue to monitor the pandemic situation and make adjustments as necessary. All other Messiah activities will be held virtually at this time. Thank you for your understanding.

Bishop Sid concludes the January 13 Covid update ...

But we hold this treasure in pots of earthenware, so that the immensity of the power is God's and not our own. We are subjected to every kind of hardship but never distressed; we see no way out but we never despair, we are pursued but never cut off, knocked down but still have some life in us. (2 Cor. 4.7-9)

This pandemic time has been a long road with no clear ending as yet. Like Paul, know that God is still at work, and we will walk through this together.

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.



Condolences to the family and friends of Doreen Woodley who passed away on January 14. A Service of Remembrance will be announced at a future date. May God comfort all who are mourning at this time.

Today & This Week

January 23 - Sunday School at 11:45 am, right after Worship Service on Zoom (call the Messiah office for the link). Resource packets can be picked up from the Messiah office during office hours or call to arrange alternate pickup.

January 23 – Confirmation Class at 7:00pm on Zoom [New Testament #1 “Overview”]

January 26 - Wednesday: Bible study at 7pm – Lectionary Bible Study continues on Zoom only. For more information, contact the Messiah office or Pastor Fran.

Next Sunday

January 30 - Stephen Ministries Sunday

- Sunday School and Confirmation continue as regularly scheduled.

Other Announcements

Messiah Newsletter: The next newsletter will be published by January 30, so please have any announcements and articles submitted to the Messiah office by Tuesday, January 25. Thank you!

KINASAO SUMMER STAFF POSTINGS: 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 range from May 2 / May 9 – August 21. 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.

SASKATCHEWAN SYNOD ELCIC: SK Synod Delegates for National Convention 2022. The ELCIC National Convention (2022 Assembly – Let There Be Greening) will be held in Calgary on July 12 – 15. Saskatchewan Synod can send a total of 31 delegates; 12 rostered and 19 lay. Of that number, National Church requests that at least 1/5th or 6 delegates be between the ages of 16 – 30 as of the first day of convention. If you are interested in attending as a Synod delegate, please contact Cheryl Bauer Hyde (cbauerhyde@gmail.com or 306.961.2967) by January 31.



Prayer Requests for . . .

- Pray for student preparation for upcoming exams (end of January).
- Pray for student spiritual health and faith growth
- Pray for integration of new students.
 - We have three new students this month.
- Prayer of thanks for faith filled, dedicated staff.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK - Pastor Richard Engel, Chaplain, LuMinHoS Ministry

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.

Rejoice in this good news:

In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: ELW#731 "Earth and All Stars" vs. 2 & 3

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#646 "The Peace of the Lord"

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW#844 "Praise to the Lord"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray, Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the LORD is your strength."

A reading from Nehemiah.

¹All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. ²Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. ³He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁸So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.
²One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.
³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,
⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.
⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
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: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. ¹⁴Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a

part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²²On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ^{31a}But strive for the greater gifts.
Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 205

GOSPEL: Luke 4:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to Luke in the fourth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

SERMON:

Silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#314 "Arise Your Light 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

PEACE

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

OFFERING HYMN: ELW#686 "We Give Thee But Thine Own" 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made, praying God of grace, and responding, hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Three-Fold Sung Amen.

SENDING SONG: WOV#753 "You are the Seed"

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.