

Messiah Lutheran Church

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E-mail: messiah@sasktel.net**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 30, 2022****4th Sunday after Epiphany****Temple Talk – Stephen Ministries**

In person services (livestreamed on the Messiah YouTube channel and posted on the Messiah website following the service) begin at 10:30am each Sunday. Holy Communion is 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.

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; given them courage and hope in their time of need.

**Today & This Week**

► **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.

► **Confirmation Class** at 7:00pm on Zoom

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

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK: Stephen Ministries

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

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#822 “Oh Sing 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.

KYRIE: ELW#592 “Just As I Am”, vs. 1 & 4

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW#744 “Lord, Be Glorified”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray, **Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1:4-10

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

A reading from Jeremiah.

⁴Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." ⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷But the LORD said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. ⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD." ⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant."

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

PSALM 71:1-6

¹In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

²**In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free; incline your ear to me and save me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe; you are my crag and my stronghold.

⁴**Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.**

⁵For you are my hope, O Lord GOD, my confidence since I was young.

⁶**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my mother's womb you have been my strength; my praise shall be always of you.**

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ²And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. ⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹²For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know

only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p. 205

GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30

The Holy Gospel according to Luke in the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

People in Jesus' hometown are initially pleased when he says that God will free the oppressed. Their pleasure turns to rage when he reminds them that God's prophetic mission typically pushes beyond human boundaries so that mercy and healing are extended to those regarded as outsiders.

²¹Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CHILDREN'S SONG: ELW#595 "Jesus Loves Me" vs. 1

SERMON

Silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#644 "Although I Speak with Angel's Tongue"

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.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER

God blesses us through prayer.

OFFERING HYMN: ELW#878 “Soli Deo Gloria” vs. 1 & 4**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together, **blessed are you, O God, maker of all that is, seen and unseen. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your Word made flesh, and empower us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. 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: ELW#574 “Here I Am, Lord”**DISMISSAL**

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.