

**Messiah Lutheran Church**

1796-15 Avenue East  
Prince Albert, S6V 8A1

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Office hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am – 2pm

Messiah is a mask-friendly building

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**Worship for Sunday, April 3, 2022**

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Lenten theme: *"We're Goin' on a Journey"*

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Worship Services begin at 10:30am each Sunday (in-person and livestreamed on the Messiah YouTube channel, and posted on the Messiah website following the service). **The wearing of masks is not required but please respect each individual's choice.** 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 Notes from March 22 meeting:** In considering the Saskatchewan Synod guidelines, Messiah Council continues to take an approach of care. That said, it is Council's prayer that the congregation will be able to return to pre-Covid worship practices and activities by this September. Currently, plans are being made for coffee time prior to and after worship service, Holy Communion in April, serving hot cross buns and coffee between services on Easter Sunday, and a Family Fun Day in conjunction with worship service at Kinasao on June 12. We will continue to share the peace with a hand wave / smile and collect weekly offering at the entrance to the Sanctuary. The Messiah Annual General Meeting will follow the worship service on Sunday, April 24. If you would like to talk about this update or anything else, please contact any member of Council. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

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**Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns:**

We pray for comfort and healing for all those who are suffering in body, mind and spirit; give them courage and hope in their time of need.



**Today:**

- **Coffee's On** before and after the Worship Service!
- **Welcome All Singers!** Well-known Choral Director, May Janzen, is directing an Easter Choir/ Ensemble! Interested singers are invited to practice for the next two **Sunday mornings at 9:15am (sharp!). April 3 and 10.** Wearing of masks is preferred as we join together and sing to the Lord!
- **Sunday School begins at 10:00 AM** prior to worship, both in person and on Zoom.
- **Youth & Family Bowling @ 3pm** - \$5/participant. Let Pastor Fran or Shannon Pettem know if you plan to attend, to ensure that enough lanes are booked.
- **Confirmation @ 7:00pm**

**This Week:**

**Mid-Week Lenten Service on Wednesdays through to April 6** at 7pm, both in-person and on Zoom, using the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89247766302?pwd=VHRwT1czZGITYUNYUDJhd1ptdVFfsQT09>. Meeting ID: 892 4776 6302, Passcode: 665871. The theme is "Turning Toward God's Abundance".

**Worship Service** at Points West, Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> @ 2:30pm

**Next Sunday: Palm/Passion Sunday** with Holy Communion @ 10:30am

**Kinasao: Annual General Meeting (AGM) - Sunday, April 10, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Saskatoon @ 3pm.** The meeting will take place both in person, and over Zoom. Our congregation is a member congregation of Kinasao Lutheran Bible Camp. Therefore, all Messiah members are included in the membership of Kinasao, and eligible to vote at the AGM. Please plan to attend and join the discussion on important upcoming issues – details are provided in the Annual Report, which will be available on Kinasao's website by March 27.

## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

- **MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**– APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup> @ 7pm
- **GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE** – April 15<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am
- **GOOD FRIDAY Outdoor Way Of The Cross** – April 15<sup>th</sup> @ 12:30 – 2:00pm [Downtown Prince Albert - beginning at City Hall and ending at the Cenotaph]
- **EASTER SUNRISE WORSHIP SERVICE** – April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00am (not live streamed)
  - Coffee And Hot Cross Buns Will Be Served Between Services
- **EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE with Holy Communion** – April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am

✚ Easter Sunday flowers – April 17. If you would like to donate flowers in memory or honour of someone, please plan to have them to Messiah by Wednesday, April 13. Contact the Messiah office if you would like your loved one's name added to the Easter Sunday Worship Bulletin.

**Women's Retreat:** April 29-May 1 with Pastor Fran on the topic: "Sacred Journeys". Registration Deadline - April 15. Register for either retreat on Kinasao website: <http://www.kinasao.ca/camp-kinasao/weekend-retreats>

## GATHERING

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LENTEN THEME INTRODUCTION

### GATHERING HYMN: ELW#744 "Be Glorified"

### OPENING DIALOGUE

When our lives are joyous and laughter abounds,

**Christ is dwelling there.**

When the news is grim and we have nowhere to turn,

**Christ is dwelling there.**

In the water and word, the bread and wine,

**Christ is dwelling there.**

In our life and our death, in the new life to come,

**Christ is dwelling there.**

### SCRIPTURE SONG: OSB#240 "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus" 2X

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray, **open our lives, Lord, to reflect your glory. Lead us to the cross, to the grave, to the empty tomb, and into the world as imitators of Christ. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

A reading from Deuteronomy.

<sup>15</sup>See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

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

### PSALM 16

<sup>1</sup>Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

<sup>2</sup>**I say to the LORD, "You are my LORD; I have no good apart from you."**

<sup>3</sup>As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

<sup>4</sup>**Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.**

<sup>5</sup>The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

<sup>6</sup>**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.**

<sup>7</sup>I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

**<sup>8</sup>I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

<sup>9</sup>Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

**<sup>10</sup>For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

<sup>11</sup>You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

## **SECOND READING: Galatians 2:15-21**

*A reading from Galatians.*

<sup>15</sup>We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; <sup>16</sup>yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. <sup>17</sup>But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! <sup>18</sup>But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. <sup>19</sup>For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; <sup>20</sup>and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. <sup>21</sup>I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

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

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW#446 "I'm Goin' On a Journey"**

### **GOSPEL: John 12:1-8**

The Holy Gospel according to John in the twelfth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.*

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.

<sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

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

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Open Our Lives Prayer"**

Open my eyes, Lord. *(Point toward your eyes)*

Open my hands, Lord. *(Stretch out your hands)*

Open my ears, Lord. *(Point toward your ears)*

Open my heart, Lord. *(Place your hands over your heart)*

Open my life, Lord. *(Raise your arms up to God)*

**Amen.**

### **CHILDREN'S SONG: OSB#245 "We Are The Church" Vs. 1 & 6**

### **SERMON: "A Whataboutism"**

*Silence for reflection*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#612 “Healer of Our Every Ill”****PRAYER DIALOGUE**

Lord of all life, when we cannot see the beauty of your creation,

**open our eyes, that all living things thrive and grow.**

When we neglect the poor, the sick, and the grieving,

**open our hands to do your work in the world.**

When we ignore the cries of injustice in our midst,

**open our ears, that all will know your love.**

When we are hardened against our neighbor,

**open our hearts and heal our resentment.**

When we are closed to the grace you long to give us,

**open our lives and turn us to follow in the way of the cross.**

**APOSTLE’S CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**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**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

*(2 corinthians 13:11)*

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 HYMN: ELW#692 “We Are An Offering”****OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together. God of mercy and grace, **the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need, praying Merciful God, and responding, **hear our prayer.** *A brief silence*

...

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **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**

Go into the world with eyes open to the transforming light of Christ,  
hands open to serve those you meet,  
ears open to the call of the Spirit,  
hearts open to the bountiful love of God,  
and lives open to follow Christ to the cross.

The God who opened for us the way of everlasting life

✠ bless you now and forever. **Three-Fold Sung Amen.**

**SENDING SONG: ELW#538 “The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”****DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember Jesus journeys with you.

**Thanks be to God.**