

Messiah Lutheran Church
1796-15 Avenue East
Prince Albert, S6V 8A1

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Pastor Fran Schmidt
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Office hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am – 2pm

Messiah is a mask-friendly building

Pastor Fran will be away on Study Leave from March 23-29th, returning on March 30th.

In case of a pastoral emergency, please call Cheryl Bauer Hyde at 306-961-2967.

Worship for Sunday, March 20, 2022
Third Sunday in Lent
Lenten theme: "We're Goin' on a Journey"

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

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.



We offer our condolences and prayers to Twylla Wall and her family at the passing of her mother, Olga Moore, on March 7, 2022, at the age of 104. We give thanks for her life and pray for all who mourn her passing.

Today:

- Welcome All Singers! Well-known PA Choral Director, May Janzen, is going to direct an Easter Choir/ Ensemble!!! We are asking all and any singers who are interested to make a short-term commitment to four Choir practices: Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM (sharp!), March 20, 27, April 3 & 10. Wearing of masks is preferred as we join together and sing to the Lord!
- Please Note: There will **NOT be Sunday School or Confirmation** today or March 27. We resume on April 3 with Sunday School @ 10:00am and Confirmation @ 7:00pm.
- Stephen Ministries Information Event at 3pm this afternoon for those considering becoming Stephen Ministers.

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=VHRwT1czZGITYUNYUDJhd1ptdVFsQT09>. Meeting ID: 892 4776 6302, Passcode: 665871. The theme is "Turning Toward God's Abundance".



- Messiah Annual Reports: please submit them to the office by Tuesday, March 22. The Annual General Meeting has been set for Sunday, April 24; more details to follow.

Upcoming:

Mark Your Calendars: Sunday, April 3 @ 3pm Youth & Family Bowling, \$5/participant. Let Pastor Fran or Shannon Pettem know if you plan to attend, to ensure that enough lanes are booked! More info to come.



Ecumenical Stewardship Seminars:

Think about the use of sacred buildings and properties in new ways. The final session is Thursday, March 24, at 3pm. For further information, contact Archdeacon Cheryl Toth at stewardship@sasktel.net. Registration required: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpduirjluHdE69wl-4LGI5vIHO0mGqViK>

Doctrine of Discovery: As part of your Lenten Spiritual Practice, please join the BC Synod every Thursday at 8pm (7pm PDT) until April 7 for an in depth look at the Doctrine of Discovery. To register, go to: <https://bit.ly/3IQ3peD> or for more information go to the BC Synod website.

Kinasao:

Kinasao's Annual General Meeting is coming up on Sunday, April 10, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Saskatoon @ 3 PM. The meeting will take place both in person, and over Zoom. Our congregation is a member congregation of Kinasao Lutheran Bible Camp. All members of our congregation are therefore 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.

Men's Retreat: April 1-3 with guest speaker Rick Istifo

Women's Retreat: April 29-May 1 with Pastor Fran on the topic: "Sacred Journeys"

Register on Kinasao website: <http://www.kinasao.ca/camp-kinasao/weekend-retreats>

🌸 Easter is just around the corner, on Sunday 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.



Ukraine Emergency Appeal

Please consider making a donation for the "Ukraine Appeal" either through Messiah or call CLWR at 1-800-661-2597 to donate by credit card or go online at <https://www.clwr.org/product/E-104/ukraine-crisis>.

Send a cheque made payable to CLWR and mail to CLWR, 600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R#B 0W5. Please indicate that you wish to contribute to "Ukraine Appeal".

GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN THEME INTRODUCTION

GATHERING HYMN: #533 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

OPENING DIALOGUE

As children, we hear: Don't touch! Slow down!

As teenagers, we hear: Your curfew begins in an hour.

As adults, we hear: Cash or credit?

In the water and the word, we hear: You are loved, my precious child.

SCRIPTURE SONG: OSB#225: "I Love You, Lord" 2X

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Let us pray, open our ears, Lord, to heed your will for our lives. Help us not only to hear, but to listen and understand with our hearts. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:2-5

A reading from Isaiah.

²Why was no one there when I came? Why did no one answer when I called? Is my hand shortened, that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver? By my rebuke I dry up the sea, I make the rivers a desert; their fish stink for lack of water, and die of thirst. ³I clothe the heavens with blackness, and make sackcloth their covering. ⁴The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens — wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

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

PSALM 40:1-8

¹I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

²He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

³He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

⁴Happy are those who make the LORD their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

⁵You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

⁶Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

⁷Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

⁸I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.

A reading from First Corinthians.

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. ⁶Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did.

⁷Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents.

¹⁰And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹²So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

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

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

The Holy Gospel according to Luke in the thirteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.²[Jesus] asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?"³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." ⁶Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' ⁸He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Quiet Zone"

CHILDREN'S SONG: "My God is So Big"

SERMON: "From the Brink of Death"

Silence for reflection

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#513 "Listen God is Calling"

SILENT REFLECTION & MEDITATION

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 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: ACS#924 "As the Winter Days Grow Longer", vs. 1 & 3

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#723 "Canticle of the Turning"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember Jesus journeys with you.

Thanks be to God.