

Messiah Lutheran Church

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Messiah Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday (10am – 2pm)

Messiah is a mask-friendly building

Worship for Sunday, April 24, 2022

2nd Sunday of Easter

Sunday Worship Services begin at 10:30am in-person and livestreamed/posted on the Messiah YouTube channel). **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.



Condolences and prayers for the family and friends of Esther Sherwood, who passed away on April 18. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Today & This Week

- **Sunday School at 10:00am** both in person and on Zoom.
- **Annual General Meeting** immediately following the Worship Service
- **Confirmation at 7pm.**
- **Lectionary Bible Study each Wednesday at 7pm on Zoom or in person.** We will study the coming week's lectionary texts. All are welcome to join in!



**Decolonizing Ourselves:
Exploring the Spirit of
Land Acknowledgements**

A Workshop Series
with

Rose Roberts, PhD
Stryker Calvez, PhD

For faith communities and individuals.

Join us online to reflect on how we can
breathe life, prayer and spirit into land
acknowledgements

MAY 3RD & 5TH 2022

7PM MT | 7PM CST | 9PM EST

REGISTER @ bit.ly/3jfkpQD



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GATHERING

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters. You nourish us and enclose us in safety. You call us forth and send us out. In lush and barren places, you are with us. You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more. Claim us again as your beloved and holy people. Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb, be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: ELW#377 "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!"

THE GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the saints, be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE: ELW, p. 184

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW#869 "We Have Seen the Lord"

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Let us pray, **O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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: Acts 5:27-32

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

A reading from Acts.

²⁷When they had brought [the apostles,] they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, ²⁸saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." ²⁹But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. ³⁰The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³²And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

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

PSALM 118:14-29

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted! The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁷**I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.**

¹⁸The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

¹⁹**Open for me the gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD; here the righteous may enter."

²¹**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become my salvation.**

²²The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

²⁵**Hosanna! O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD, prosper our days!**

²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; we bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷**The LORD is God and has given us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the altar.**

²⁸You are my God, and I will thank you; you are my God, and I will exalt you.

²⁹**Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good; God's mercy endures forever.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

A reading from Revelation.

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW, p.188**GOSPEL: John 20:19-31**

The Holy Gospel according to John in the 20th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." ²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." ²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." ³⁰Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: "Can You Believe It?"

CHILDREN'S SONG: "Lord I Lift Your Name on High"

SERMON: Rev. Thomas Keeley, Benediction Lutheran Church, BC Synod

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#635 "We Walk By Faith"

NICENE CREED

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

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER

God blesses us through prayer.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Set free from captivity to sin and death, we pray to the God of resurrection for the church, people in need, and all of creation, praying God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

...

In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING HYMN: ELW#646 "The Peace of the Lord"

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray, Living God, **you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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, the Author of life, Christ, the living Cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, bless you now and forever. **Three-Fold Sung Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW#535 "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises!"

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Tell what God has done!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!