

Messiah Lutheran Church
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Messiah Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9am -4pm

Worship for Sunday January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Services are in-person and livestreamed/posted on the Messiah YouTube channel. **Wearing of masks is not required but Messiah is a mask-friendly environment.** Covid vaccinations, social distancing, and hand sanitizing are encouraged.



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, hope and strength in their time of need.



Congratulations:

**We welcome the birth of *Elaina Joy*, (9lbs 11oz)
born Wednesday January 18, 2023 to proud parents
Kristi and Ian Stolee.**

This Week & Coming Up:

- **Lectionary Online Bible Study** (via Zoom) each **Wednesday at 7pm**. We will follow the lectionary Gospel reading each week. All are welcome to join in at any time, no previous attendance necessary. If you are interested in participating, please contact (phone/text) Randi at 306.961.4451 or let Lisa at the Church office know at 306-763-7374/ messiah@sasktel.net
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84936675671?pwd=bExtMHdlOUkxU0dscjRlM1UvSVdVZz09>
Gospel Lesson: **Matthew 5:13-20**
- **In-person Bible Study** with Pastor Dan in the Peace Chapel. 4 week study on 'The Sermon on the Mount'. Second week of the study continues **Thursday, February 2 @ 7:30.**
- **Potluck lunch, Sunday, February 5,** following the worship service. All are invited to bring a lunch item (cold finger foods such as sandwiches, vegetables/salads, and desserts are recommended) to join in a meal and fellowship. Council members will set up for the potluck, and all are welcome to help with cleanup. We rejoice in this opportunity to come together.





Choir continues on a weekly basis on **Sunday at 9:15am**, in the Sanctuary.
All are Welcome! Please contact May Janzen or Colleen Bowen if you have questions or for further information. **Next choir practice and performance – February 5.**



ATTENTION : YOUTH

CLAY GATHERING – AUGUST 2023

Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth Gathering:
For some this is a long tradition and we are happy to get it back.
For others this is new, so check out the 'about' page:
<https://claygathering.ca/whatisclay/>

Registration starts in February, so please let us know ASAP!



CLAY is open to youth ages 14 – 19. Please contact Lisa at the Messiah office or Merv Bender if you are interested in learning more about participating in the CLAY gathering in Waterloo, ON.

Lisa: 306-763-7374/ messiah@sasktel.net
Merv: 306.960.8346/ merv.bender@sasktel.net



Prayer Requests for January 24, 2023

- Pray for our students as they enter exam week.
- Pray for the '1000 for 1000' campaign that LCBI stays financially sound.
- Pray for upcoming choir tours in Saskatchewan and Alberta.
- Pray for LCBI Mexico Mission Team – February 16-27, 2023

Hogar Para Ninos, Foundation For His Ministry in Colonial Vicente Guerrero, Mexico. We will be travelling and at the Mission for 11 days. While there we will be assisting staff with the day to day tasks and projects happening there as well as working and playing with the kids who live there. They covet your prayers leading up to the trip and during. This will be a life changing experience for all involved.

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 94)

In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: ELW#817 'You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore' (vs 1,3,4)

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: OSB#174 'Prayer Of St. Francis'

- 1 **Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me bring Your love. Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord. And when there's doubt, true faith in you.**
- 2 **Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, only light. And where there's sadness ever joy.**
Chorus: **Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.**
- 3 **Make me a channel of your peace. It is pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving to ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: OSB#167 'Praise Him, Praise Him' (vs. 1, 2, 3)

- 1 **Praise Him, praise him, all ye little children; God is love, God is love. Praise Him, praise him, all ye little children; God is love, God is love.**
- 2 **Love Him, love him, all ye little children; God is love, God is love. Love Him, love him, all ye little children; God is love, God is love.**
- 3 **Thank Him, thank him, all ye little children; God is love, God is love. Thank Him, thank him, all ye little children; God is love, God is love.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom and through Your Word and Spirit you have revealed in Jesus your call to follow Him. Give us such a hunger and thirst to be faithful as your people, that we might persevere, and in our day to day lives, strive for the things that make for peace. And we ask that in our communications and the use of your gifts, that the world may see and treasure the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord and all He has done. Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

With the mountains and the foundations of the earth as the jury, God brings a lawsuit against Israel. God has been faithful to Israel with a long history of saving acts. Israel went its own way and replaced faithfulness with empty rituals. God does not want lavish sacrifices without faithfulness. Rather God expects of His people to do what is right, in loyalty to God, and to walk faithfully in God's service.

¹Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the LORD has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

According to the world's standards, knowledge and self-assertion is the hope for our world. The message of the cross found in repentance and God's forgiveness seems foolishness. But, in the cross of Jesus we discover the heart of God and the wisdom of God that redeems life and provides the fellowship with God and with each other that is so needed to live.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those

who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you." The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: Pastor Dan

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#728 'Blest Are They' (vs 1,3,4,5)

APOSTLES' 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

. . . (Merciful God, **receive our prayer**)

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)

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.

PEACE

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

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING HYMN: OSB#187 'Seek Ye First' (vs.1)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us also through your Word and Spirit, that we might live out our love for you so that more and more, the world might see even through us, signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW#866 'We Are Marching in the Light' (vs1 Marching; vs3 Praying; vs4 Singing)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**