

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

Worship for Sunday January 8th, 2023
Baptism of our Lord

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 and hope in their time of need.



Coming Up!

- Lectionary Online Bible Study (via Zoom) will be facilitated by Randi Arnot each Wednesday at 7pm, starting **January 18th**. We will follow the scriptural readings for the following Sunday. 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. 306-763-7374/messiah@sasktel.net

- In person Bible Study with Pastor Dan in the Peace Chapel. 4 week study on 'The Sermon on the Mount' Further details to be announced.

- Choir starts AGAIN! – Sunday, January 8 @ 9:15am
In the Sanctuary. (Please contact May Janzen or Colleen Bowen if you have questions or for further info).





*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/>

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

The annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be observed from January 18 to January 25, 2023: 8 Days of online Biblical Reflection

An online Bible study led by a diverse selection of ministers **12:15-1:00 pm** daily (Saskatchewan time) except Sunday, January 22 which will be at 3 pm. Please be sure to register using this link - <https://bit.ly/WPCU-2023-Bible-Study> This Bible Study series will also be available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/@PrairieCentreforEcumenism>

Presented on Zoom by the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism and the Regina Council of Churches.

- Wednesday, January 18 - Rev. Brody Albers, Anglican, Christopher Lake
- Thursday, January 19 - Rev. Dr. Kathleen James-Cavan, United Church, Saskatoon
- Friday, January 20 - Major Al Hoeft, Salvation Army, Regina
- Saturday, January 21 - Pastor Rachel Wallace, Mennonite, Eigenheim
- Sunday, January 22 (**at 3pm**) - Deacon Harry Lafond, Roman Catholic, Saskatoon
- Monday, January 23 - Dave Feick, Micah Mission, Saskatoon
- Tuesday, January 24 - Rev. Keitha Ogbogu, Free Methodist, Calgary
- Wednesday, January 25 - Rev. Dr. Ali Tote, ELCIC, Saskatoon

The 2023 theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, "Do good; seek justice" (Isaiah 1:17), was prepared by the Minnesota Council of Churches. The themes for each day should be familiar to everyone who lives in Canada. The issues facing the churches in the United States affect us because of their proximity to our borders and as they relate to our present situation in Canada.

Although Canadians often speak of building a diverse, inclusive, and just society, we know that racism is deeply embedded in our society and that we have seen great violence against people of colour and against ethnic and religious minorities. As we undertake these Bible Studies, let us bring the honest questions and reflections that come when the light of the gospel illuminates the truth of both our past and our present. As we seek greater unity, may it be in service to the love and justice God has revealed in Jesus.

GATHERING

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

GATHERING SONG: ELW#456 'Baptized in Water'

GREETING (ELW p. 203)

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, without One Plea' (vs 1,3,4)

HYMN OF PRAISE: ELW#844 'Praise to the Lord'

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all through the wisdom that comes from the teaching of your Word, and the counsel of your Spirit. Amen.**

CHOIR SELECTION

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 42:1-9

God's servant is endowed with God's spirit in order to bring justice to the nations. The servant will not exercise authority boisterously or with violence, nor will weariness ever prevent the fulfilling of the servant's task. God's old promises have been fulfilled; the servant's new assignment is to bring light to the nations.

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ²He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. ⁵Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶I am the LORD, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸I am the LORD, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.
 The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 29

¹Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name; worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders; the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷The voice of the LORD bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength to your people; give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

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 3:13-17

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

Before Jesus begins his ministry, he is baptized by John, touched by the Spirit, and identified publicly as God's son.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

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

SERMON: Pastor Dan

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#304 'Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized'

APOSTLE'S CREED (ELW p. 206)

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)

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.

PEACE

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

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING HYMN: ELW#686 'We Give Thee but Thine Own' (vs 1)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among us to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be a blessing for others. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

(Sung) Amen. Amen. Amen

SENDING SONG: ELW#445 'Wash, Oh God, Our Sons and Daughters'

DISMISSAL

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