



**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
 1796-15 Avenue East, Prince Albert, S6V 8A1  
 Website: [www.messiahluthpa.com](http://www.messiahluthpa.com)  
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**Messiah Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9am -4pm**

**Worship for Sunday March 19, 2023**  
**Fourth Sunday in Lent & Holy Communion**

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.



**NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL CALL MEETING – Sunday, April 2**

The Messiah Call Committee (Chair David Bragg, Lorne Christopherson, Harvey Jacobsen, Lois Manchur, Madison Pettem-Mark, Shannon Pettem) are pleased to recommend **Pastor John Dut** for call to Messiah. A special congregational meeting of call will be held immediately following service on Sunday, April 2. Bishop Sid Haugen will be in attendance. Please direct inquiries to any member of the Call Committee

Note: Nineteen (19) voting members are required for quorum, proxy / absentee voting is not permitted, and approval of the call requires approval by two-thirds of the voting members in attendance.

- **Choir practice @ 9:15am and singing during service!**



**Potluck Dinner**



- **Potluck lunch, Sunday, April 2** - following the worship service. All are invited to bring a lunch item (cold finger foods such as sandwiches, vegetables/salads, and desserts) to join in a meal and fellowship. All are welcome to help with cleanup. We rejoice in this opportunity to come together.

- **Women’s Bible Study Group (previously Naomi Circle)** - ‘12 Women of the Bible’ series. Next meeting on **Tuesday, April 4 @ 7:00PM** in the Peace Chapel. Join us and bring a friend.

Greetings from the Call Committee!

The Messiah Call Committee has worked together since forming in October to give direction to Messiah's search for its next ordained leader. After much study of candidate biographies, interviews, reference checks, and prayerful deliberation with God and each other, we unanimously recommend *Pastor John Dut* to be the next Pastor of our church.

John came to Canada over 20 years ago as a refugee from the South Sudan. He graduated with a Masters of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS), Saskatoon in 2013 and since then has served several parishes in the Saskatchewan and Manitoba Northwestern Ontario (MNO) Synods. John and his wife Alieza have five mostly adult children. Our committee is particularly impressed with the broad worldview he can provide thanks to his cultural background and wide variety of experiences. We feel that John can connect not only with our members but a variety of cultures in our community. We see an opportunity for outreach to immigrant families and linking with the Multicultural Society as a resource for accomplishing this. John lists prayer, teaching and visiting as his top three skills for ministry. While John does speak with an accent we may not be used to at first, we will have the chance to visit with him face-to-face and receive mentorship from the Saskatchewan Synod on welcoming a Pastor from another culture (keep in mind that Rev. Dr. Ali Tote serves as the Assistant to the Bishop and can be an extremely valuable resource in this process).

Again, we are excited to present Pastor John to the people of Messiah! We hope he will be our next Pastor.

Messiah Call Committee: Lois Manchur, Harvey Jacobsen, Lorne Christopherson, Shannon Pettem, Madison Pettem-Mark and David Bragg

**Christian Women's After 5 Connection** invites you to a "Sweet Time". Monday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 7-9pm at Coronet 3551 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave W. Dinner and program - \$22.00. Contact Colleen at 306-961-6925 or [ca2315@hotmail.com](mailto:ca2315@hotmail.com) to reserve tickets.



## Attention : Youth

### CLAY GATHERING – AUGUST 2023



"Our stories and faith journeys are a lot like fire. There's the hard stuff, ashes. There are exciting parts, sparks. There are chaotic times, flames. And there is the quiet and calm, embers. Each of these are holy and vital parts of life. Whatever place you find yourself in, God is right there with you." <https://claygathering.ca/whatisclay/>

**CLAY is now open for registration!**

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](mailto:messiah@sasktel.net); Merv: 306.960.8346/ [merv.bender@sasktel.net](mailto:merv.bender@sasktel.net)

## GATHERING

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

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who journeys with us these forty days, and sustains us with the gift of grace. **Amen.**  
Let us acknowledge before God and one another our need to repent; to change direction where needed and to find in God's mercy renewed life.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God, we confess to you our sins and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we sometimes take for ourselves, with little care for others; we replace our love for You with love for the material needs of life; we often cause hurt though you call us to heal; and we sometimes choose fear over compassion and in silence often leave people to wander on paths which can be so difficult and cause such harm. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG:** ELW#886 'Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing'

### 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** (ELW p. 203)

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.  
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.  
Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.  
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

**HYMN OF PRAISE** (ELW p. 204)

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth: we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.  
Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.  
Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### MESSIAH CHOIR

## WORD

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

### FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, "How

can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’”<sup>3</sup> Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”<sup>4</sup> Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?”<sup>5</sup> He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.<sup>6</sup> When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.”<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”<sup>8</sup> Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>9</sup> Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.”<sup>10</sup> Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.”<sup>11</sup> Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.”<sup>12</sup> He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.”<sup>13</sup> Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah. **The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

### SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14

<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. <sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” **The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)

**We are turning, Lord, to hear you; you are merciful and kind – slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.**

### GOSPEL: John 9:1-41

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

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” <sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” <sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now

see?"<sup>20</sup>His parents answered, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;<sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."<sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue.<sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner."<sup>25</sup>He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."<sup>26</sup>They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"<sup>27</sup>He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"<sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.<sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."<sup>30</sup>The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes.<sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will.<sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind.<sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."<sup>34</sup>They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"<sup>36</sup>He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him."<sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he."<sup>38</sup>He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.<sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind."<sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?"<sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."

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

**SERMON: Pastor Dan Haugen. "He Opened My Eyes"**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** ELW #779 'Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound'

**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**

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

...

**Merciful God, receive our prayer.**

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**OFFERING HYMN: WOV#732 'Create in Me A Clean Heart'**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. **God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207) Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 208)**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **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.**

#### **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION: Instrumental**

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. **Embodied God, at your table, we have tasted the goodness of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open to your promise, empower us to hear the needs of our neighbors and touch the world with your love. Amen.**

#### **SENDING**

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

#### **BLESSING**

God, the giver of love, ✝ Christ, the resurrection and the life, and the Holy Spirit of rebirth bless you in this Lenten journey. **Amen.**

#### **SENDING SONG: ELW#793 'Be Thou My Vision'**

#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve in love. **Thanks be to God.**