



Messiah Lutheran Church
 1796-15 Avenue East, Prince Albert, S6V 8A1
 Website: www.messiahluthpa.com
 Facebook and YouTube: MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert

Contact: Pastor John Mayer Dut
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Messiah Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday, 12 noon – 3pm

Worship for Sunday July 9, 2023
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost & Holy Communion

Worship Leader: Pastor John Mayer Dut **Musician:** Elaine Serfas
Worship Assistants: Merv Bender, Cheryl Bauer Hyde, Wayne Hyde, Garth Ulrich.

Worship Services are **Sunday at 10:30am**, in-person and livestreamed,
 on the Messiah YouTube channel (posted for later viewing).

Wearing of masks is not required but Messiah is a mask-friendly environment.

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.



Our friend and brother in Christ, **Adolph Peters** passed away on February 9, 2023. Adolph's internment will be held on **Saturday, July 8 @ 10am, at the Spruce Home Lutheran Cemetery** (1.6kms south of Spruce Home, turn east on the Pulp Haul Road – 1.5kms on the south side of the road). A time of fellowship with lone and their family will follow at the Crooked Rake Farm (near Paddockwood).

Thank You

To all those who have offered to help make our church more functional, beautiful and clean. We greatly appreciate your willingness, and gifts of service! Especially thank you to **Dennis and Elaine Serfas, Betty Haugen, and Jean Meyers** for the gardening, watering and flower beds. For the gentlemen: **Merv Bender, Wayne Hyde and Garth Ulrich** for assisting with garbage/recycle bins. Let's be encouraged by these folks to continue to:



Reminder before every Service there is Coffee Time:

All are welcome to join for coffee and conversation in the Peace Chapel prior to the worship service at 10:30am. Thank you to those who make this happen on a weekly basis.

Worship assistants (readers, ushers, power point operators) are needed to help on Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or call/email the Messiah office to volunteer! Thank you.

Congratulations to our honoured 2023 Graduates!



Caleb Alford – Gr. 12 L.C.B.I, Outlook
Mabor Dut – Gr. 12 E.D Feehan, Saskatoon
Nynkuer Dut – BA. Nursing, U of S, Saskatoon
Petra Finnestad – Gr. 12 Saint Mary’s P.A
Logan Haight – Gr. 12 L.C.B.I, Outlook
Kylee Hansen – Gr. 12 – Weldon, SK
Deng Kuel Kuel – Gr. 12 – Prince Albert, Sk
Nyasabit Kamen Guier – Gr. 12 – Prince Albert, Sk
Stanley Livingstone – Gr. 12 – Saint Mary’s, P.A
Madison Pettem-Mark – Gr. 12 – Carlton, P.A
Madelyn Taylor – Gr. 12 in 2022- Weldon, SK.
Completed 1st yr Nursing in 2023
Isabella Waldner – Gr. 12 – Carlton, P.A

“Get all the advice and instruction you can, so you will be wise the rest of your life. You can make many plans, but the Lord’s purpose will prevail”
- Proverbs 19: 20-21

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

- **SATURDAY JULY 29 – MARCH FOR JESUS – 1ST Annual Non-Denominational Praise Walk.**
Dress code: **Red** or **White** t-shirt. Starts at 10:00am till 3:00pm @ 160 12th St. E. (Victory Temple Church). For more information please contact 306-715-0734 or victorytemplepa@gmail.com



GATHERING

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

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

Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ✠ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: ELW#824 'This is My Father's World'

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 145:8-14

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD, and your faithful ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your power,**

¹²that all people may know of your power and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures throughout all ages. You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.**

¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a

Life captive to sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be wrong. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 142)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶"To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another, ¹⁷'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.' ¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds." ²⁵At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been

handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

SERMON: Pastor John – “Jesus Christ helps you to carry your burdens”

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#742 ‘What a Friend We Have in Jesus’

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

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation, saying Hear us, O God, and responding **Your mercy is great.**

God of the covenant, you call ministers to proclaim your gospel of grace throughout the world. Inspire pastors, deacons, church musicians, and all ministers of your word (*especially name/s*) as they carry out your work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, you reveal your goodness through all you have made: rivers and seas, plants and animals, and endangered species. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, botanical gardens, zoos, and wildlife sanctuaries. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, you desire that all the peoples of the world live in peace. Guide government leaders at all levels—national, state/province, and local—to work for justice, mercy, and reconciliation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of compassion, you bring healing to those who are sick, consolation to those who are grieving, and well-being to those who are distraught. Send skilled caregivers to all in need (*especially*), and make your presence known among all who suffer. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of rejoicing, you have brought us together this day to worship around word and sacrament. Encourage children in their learning and growing, and watch over those who are absent today. Lead us all to places of renewal and refreshment. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of all faithfulness, through the witness of the faithful departed you reveal love in action. Embolden us by their example to build up the beloved community in all the contexts we encounter. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING: ELW#686 'We Give Thee But Thine Own' (vs 1&2)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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. **Amen. Amen. Amen. (sung)**

SENDING SONG: ELW#726 'Light Dawns on a Weary World'

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

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