



Messiah Lutheran Church
 Website: www.messiahluthpa.com
 Facebook / YouTube:
 MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert

Pastor John Mayer Dut Messiah Office / Lisa Haight
 Cell: 306.961.0877 Phone: 306.763.7374
Pastor.mlc@sasktel.net messiah@sasktel.net

Messiah Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday; 11am – 2pm

January 4, 2026 @ 10:30am: Second Sunday of Christmas

Worship Leader: Pastor John Mayer Dut Musician: Colleen Bowen

Worship Assistants: Cheryl Bauer Hyde, Merv Bender, Dave Bragg, Louise Fornal, Wayne Hyde, Jean Meyers

Coffee in the Peace Chapel (9:45am); No Sunday School (resume January 11)

The service is broadcast live at 10:30am and posted on the Messiah YouTube channel.

Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns:

Savannah Willis (granddaughter of Bert Schmid), Lyla Eisen (sister of Arlene Wagner), Ken Haugen, Annette & Dennis Ulmer, Daryl Berg, Larissa/Taylor & family (Jean Meyers), Len Ferchoff (friend of Pastor John), Dick Honch, Treasa Sauvie (sister of Darla Kindt), Diana Fengstad (grandmother of Jessica), Leon Filbey (uncle of Jessica Fengstad), Sheila Bolin (sister of Rose Statz), Wayne Cowan, Pearl Berg, Stanley Livingstone, Michelle White, Trudy (Edwards) Migneault, Rose Schmid (great granddaughter of Bert Schmid), Barb Johnson, Rose Statz, Sheila Baessler, Sharon Olson (cousin of Betty Haugen), Jean Batiuk (sister-in-law of Anne Mayert), Audrey Hodgson, and all those we name aloud or in our hearts.



UPCOMING @ MESSIAH

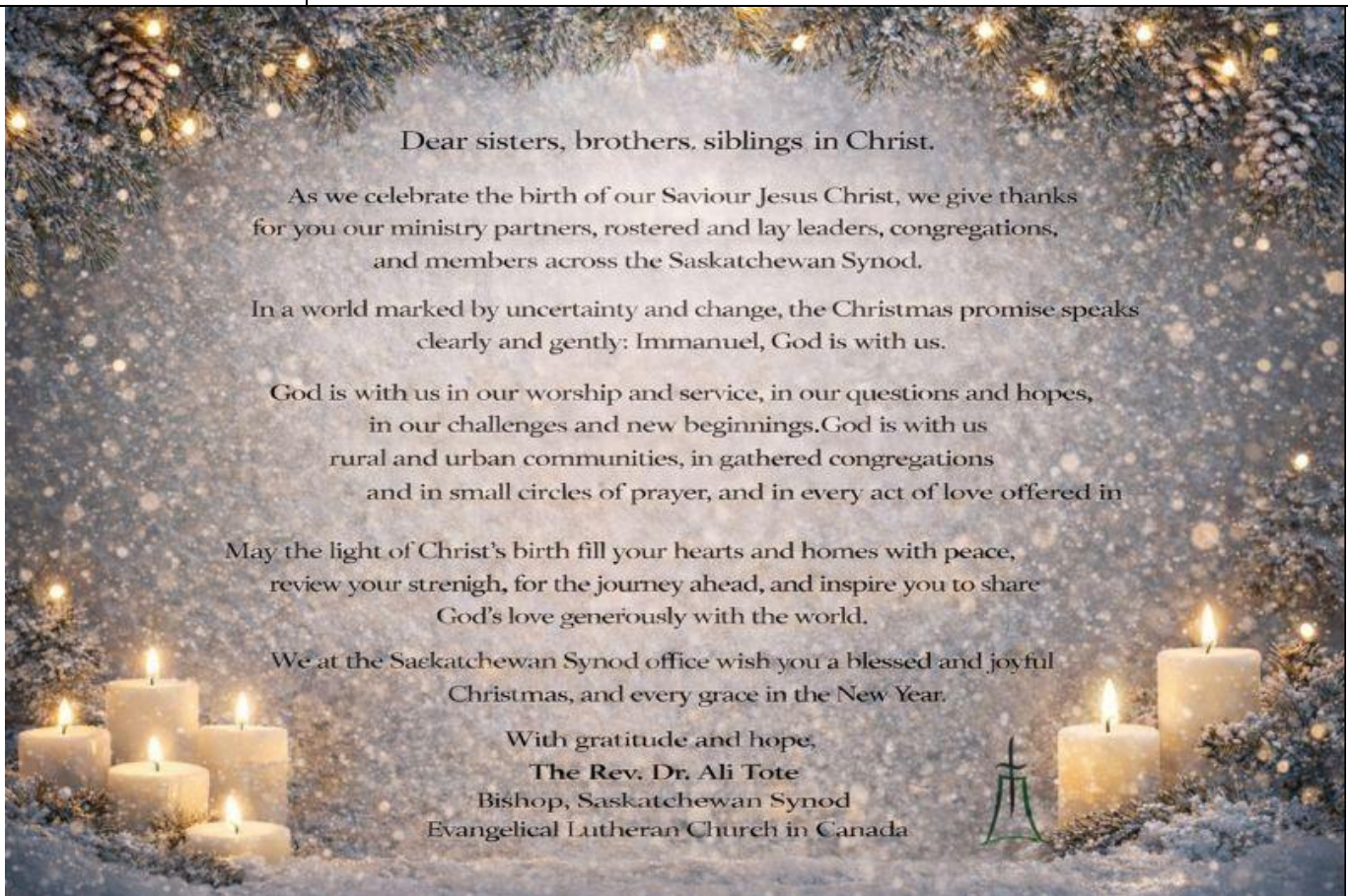
<p>Caring Ministry & Community Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food Bank donations are collected each Sunday - Stepping Stones Shelter donations: drop off box in the Narthex for blankets, hygiene items, towels, winter jackets, mitts, toques, socks and underwear. - Please pray for the Salvation Army Ministry and the people they serve following the devastating fire. Contact the Salvation Army (306.763.6078) or email Kim Jonathan (YWCA Prince Albert) at kimjonathan@ywcaprincealbert.ca to volunteer or donate.
<p>Bible Studies In the Peace Chapel or via Zoom</p>	<p>Weekly on Wednesday (resumes January 14) at 7pm – Zoom ID: 885 6495 2469 & Passcode: 518446 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88564952469?pwd=yAY3S5UwbKXH7MLDyTJxTLN0lpkcrZ.1 Monthly on third Tuesday at 7pm – Zoom ID: 859 1940 4343; Passcode: 210248; https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85919404343?pwd=t0A2kA5mg58xSGnD5lQpzOSeNfuNjR.1</p>
<p>Coffee & Conversation</p>	<p>An informal gathering on the first and third Thursdays – (next January 15) @ 10am in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!</p>
<p>Confirmation Classes</p>	<p>Contact Pastor John (306.961.0877)</p>
<p>Senior Home Services monthly</p>	<p>Mont St. Joseph Home (first Wednesday); Points West Living (first Thursday; second Thursday January 8 this month only); Good Shepherd Villas (second Tuesday). Pineview Terrance (fourth Wednesday).</p>

Around the Community, the Saskatchewan Synod & beyond ...



AIP332: *Singing in the Lutheran Tradition*, taught by The Rev. Kristian C. Kohler, a liturgical scholar and a ELCA rostered minister.

This course explores the rich history of Lutheran hymnody as a doxological, formational, and instructional practice. Participants will engage hymns not simply as music, but as theological texts, critically examining their musical, textual, and confessional dimensions, and considering their role in both public worship and private devotion. Students will also gain practical skills for planning and leading congregational song, making this course especially valuable for worship leaders, musicians, pastors, and lay leaders alike. **Course details: Mondays, 5 – 8pm; January 5 – February 13, and March 9 – April 20 (via Zoom); Open to lay people** who wish to audit and deepen their understanding of worship and hymnody. **To register or inquire, contact: Colleen Walker, Registrar; colleen.walker@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca**



In this 2025 Christmas message to the church, ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer reflects on Luke 2:1: "In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered."

Set against a world of power and decree, we are invited to listen closely to the Christmas gospel and to ask urgent, faithful questions in the midst of worship, family gatherings, loss and mourning, concern for creation, and the realities facing the world: Who saves and who gives peace? Who claims our ultimate loyalty? Who is it who is good news of great joy? And who brings peace built on justice, equality, and the recognition of every human life as sacred? Watch the video on the ELCIC youtube page or read it on the ELCIC website –

[A Christmas Message from ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#)

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

Introduction: *Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.*

GATHERING SONG: ACS#915 'When a Star Is Shining'

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.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty Savior, Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness, let us confess our sin.

Reconciling God, **we yearn for your presence to transform our grief, pain, and despair. We confess that we have not always prepared room in our hearts for your love; we have not always recognized your presence among us; we have not always embraced your message of peace. We cry out, weary with the burden of violence, oppression, and fear. We confess our failure to make room for those seeking refuge; our participation in violent systems that harm your innocent ones; our reluctance to embody your good news. Be born in us today and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation. Amen.**

God's grace upon grace flows over you. Christ's presence redeems the whole creation. Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad! **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Time

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock." ¹¹ For the Lord has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish

again. ¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 147:12-20

¹² Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion,

¹³ **who has strengthened the bars of your gates and has blessed your children within you.**

¹⁴ God has established peace on your borders and satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁵ **God sends out a command to the earth, a word that runs very swiftly.**

¹⁶ God gives snow like wool, scattering frost like ashes.

¹⁷ **God scatters hail like bread crumbs. Who can stand against God's cold?**

¹⁸ The Lord sends forth the word and melts them; the wind blows, and the waters flow.

¹⁹ **God declares the word to Jacob, statutes and judgments to Israel.**

²⁰ The Lord has not done so to any other nation; they do not know God's judgments. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELWp.188)

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

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 1: [1-9] 10-18

The holy gospel according to John, the 1st Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus

Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

Sermon: Pastor John Mayer Dut

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#295 'Of the Father's Love Begotten'

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

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

...

You reveal yourself in new life. Support those beginning a new job, a new relationship, or a new living situation, especially those displaced because of tragedy or loss. Be with all others who need your life-giving touch this day. *We pray especially for . . . Savannah, Lyla, Ken, Annette & Dennis, Daryl, Larissa/Taylor & family, Len, Dick, Treasa, Diana, Leon, Sheila, Wayne, Pearl, Stanley, Michelle, Trudy, Rose, Barb, Rose, Sheila, Sharon, Jean, Audrey,* and all those we name aloud or in our hearts. Send healing and recovery from you. O, God. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

...

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE: The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also, with you.** *We share a sign of Peace.*

MEAL & THANKSGIVING

OFFERING SONG: ELW#296 'What Child Is This'

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of glory, great are your wonders among us and many are the blessings you bestow. Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world, that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace, through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

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 on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 (ELWp.190) **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

God of pow'r and might, heaven 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.)

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.

Lord's Prayer (ELWp.191): 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.**

Invitation to Communion: God is now in flesh appearing. Come to the feast of joy!

Music during Communion: Instrumental

Prayer after Communion: Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, ✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy. (sung) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW#857 'Lord, I Lift Your Name on High'

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest! **And peace to God's people on earth!**

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace. **Thanks be to God.**

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Thank you for your faithful support of ministry at Messiah
