



Messiah Lutheran Church
 Website: www.messiahluthpa.com
 Facebook / YouTube: MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert
 Messiah Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday; 11am – 2pm

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

February 22, 2026 @ 10:30am
- First Sunday of Lent / Diaconal Ministry Sunday

Worship Leader: Pastor John Mayer Dut

- Choir Practice (Sanctuary @ 9:30am)
- Coffee before the Service (Peace Chapel)
- Sunday School (during the Service)

The Service is on YouTube (MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert @ 10:30am; posted for later viewing)

Diaconal Ministry Sunday: this annual day of emphasis lifts the ministry of service — *diakonia* — and honours the ministry of diaconal ministers, who share Christ’s love through service, compassion, and justice in the world. We acknowledge and give thanks for those who feel called to public ministry serving as deacons in our church. Diaconal Sunday is also a time to affirm the common calling we have as the baptized servants of God. As followers of Jesus, we are all invited to be active partners with God in fulfilling God’s mission, to share God’s word, and to serve our neighbours in Christ’s name.

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.



UPCOMING @ MESSIAH

Messiah Choir – Lent / Easter (6 weeks)	Join the Messiah’s choir; with practice every Sunday at 9:30am . The choir will sing at the Palm and Easter Sunday Services. All are welcome!
Caring Ministry & Community Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food Bank donations are collected each Sunday - Relative’s Lodge (formerly Stepping Stones Shelter): drop off donation box in the Narthex for blankets, hygiene items, towels, winter jackets, mitts, toques, socks, and underwear. - Salvation Army Ministry donations – Online: SalvationArmy.ca; choose “Donate to a specific location”; Prince Albert Community Services; QR Code: available on The Salvation Army Prince Albert’s Facebook page ; Phone: 1-800-725-2769; Prince Albert Community Services - Adult boots and shoes (any condition - larger sizes especially) for Victoria Hospital – put in or by the Donation box.
Bible Studies (Peace Chapel or via Zoom)	Weekly on Wednesday 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=t0A2kA5mq58xSGnD5lQpzOSeNfuNjR.1

Coffee & Conversation	An informal gathering on the first and third Thursdays @ 10am in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!
Confirmation Classes: Contact Pastor John (306.961.0877)	
Senior Home Services	Monthly: Mont St. Joseph Home (first Wednesday); Points West Living (first Thursday); Good Shepherd Villas (second Tuesday). Pineview Terrance (fourth Wednesday)

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

	SK Synod congregations and LutherCare Communities have come together to give back to our Saskatchewan communities. We are collecting money for TeleMiracle 50 (February 28-March 1) in Saskatoon. Donate on line until February 28 at https://wl.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=E370151QE&id=1&cfid=35
	Interdenominational Lenten Lunches: every Thursday until April 2 from 12-1pm, hosted at Calvary United Church (114 – 25 Street East): soup, sandwich and reflection. Messiah will provide lunch on Thursday, April 2. Sign on the sheet in the Narthex to volunteer to make soup / sandwiches and/or help serving and clean up,
ELCIC Conversations Across the Church – <i>Mark your calendars for February 22.</i>	Join ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer as we begin our Lenten journey and reflect on the 40th anniversary since the formation of our church: where have we been, where are we today, and how is God calling us forward as we seek to be a church <i>Living out God’s grace and unconditional love</i> for the next 40 years. Webinar Registration - Zoom
CLWR  <i>Journey Through Lent</i> clwr.org/lenten-journey	This Lent, Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) invites you to come on a Lenten journey of reflection, action and hope. Each of these short studies will focus on a theme — Hunger, Safety, Well-Being, Identity, Loss, Community, Nature and Faith — and reflect on how these issues shape our lives, our communities, and our world. Through scripture, discussion, and action, we will consider how God calls us to respond with justice, compassion, and hope.
 LENT <i>A time to pause and reflect</i>	Rev. Bruce Ehlert, a Lutheran pastor in Saskatoon has created an email devotional series for the season of Lent. Early each morning through Lent and Holy Week, he will email you a concise prayer, scripture reading, and a picture to ponder. To participate, send an email with “subscribe” in the subject line to prayer@hbehlert.com
LENT 2026 Prayer Vigils	Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice – Lent 2026 <u>Each Tuesday evening during Lent, 7:00-7:30 pm, CST, the ELCIC and its synods are hosting a <i>Prayer Vigil for Climate justice</i>. Feb. 24, and March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31.</u> Please register here to join the vigils live and/or to receive a link to the recording.

Saskatoon (and Area) **Stephen Ministry: 30 year reunion, June 2026.** We are looking for past and present Stephen Ministers, Stephen Leaders and care receivers to contact us - like and follow our Facebook Page [@Saskatoon Stephen Ministry 30 year Reunion](#) or message/email with your current contact information at Fran Seidler, franseidler29@gmail.com 306-280-0549. We also want to remember those who have served but gone before us. Details will come available as they unfold. Looking forward to this!



GATHERING & WELCOME

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

Introduction: Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdaining the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: ELW#325 'I Want Jesus to Walk with Me'

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 (ELWp.138)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy,**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **God of new life, As Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, renew and restore us to new life, leaving in the grave all that prevents us from loving you fully. Amen.**

Children's Message

WORD

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

First Reading: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.

¹⁵ The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." ^{3:1} Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, ⁵ for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32

¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

² **Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸ **"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.**

⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.**

¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

Through Adam's disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ's obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.

¹² Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned ¹³ for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come. ¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one

man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶ And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷ If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹ For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELWp.142)

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 4th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

SERMON: Pastor John Mayer Dut

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#510 'Word of God, Come Down to Earth'

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

...

God of all healing, mend our wounds. Bring wholeness to all who are sick, give peace to all who groan in grief, and send companions to all who are lonely or isolated. *Especially we pray for Helen, 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. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

...

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. **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.** *We share a sign of that peace.*

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING HYMN: ELW#803 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross' (vs.1,2,4)

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

SENDING

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

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, **✝** bless you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW#624 'Jesus, Still Lead On'

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL: Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #SAS103624. All rights reserved. Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License, License #730647-A.