

The Fifth
Sunday
of Lent



Messiah Lutheran Church

Website: www.messiahluthpa.com

Facebook / YouTube: [MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert](#)

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

Pastor John Mayer Dut

Cell: 306.961.0877

Pastor.mlc@sasktel.net

Messiah Office / Lisa Haight

Phone: 306.763.7374

messiah@sasktel.net

MARCH 22, 2026 @ 10:30AM – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Worship Leader: Lay Led

Sermon: Pastor Kathy Calkins, retired, Alberta Synod

**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)

Prayers for Healing and On-Going Health Concerns:



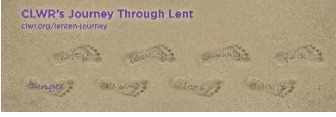

We pray for comfort and healing for all those who are suffering in body, mind or spirit; give them courage and hope in their time of need.



UPCOMING @ MESSIAH

Messiah Choir – Lent / Easter	Join the Messiah's choir; with practice every Sunday at 9:30am . The choir will sing at the <u>Palm and Easter Sunday Services</u> . 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)	<p>Weekly on Wednesday at 7pm – Zoom ID: 885 6495 2469 & Passcode: 518446 https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88564952469?pwd=yAY3S5UwbKXH7MLDyTJxTLN0lpkcrZ.1</p> <p>Monthly on third Tuesday at 7pm – Zoom ID: 859 1940 4343; Passcode: 210248; https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85919404343?pwd=t0A2kA5mg58xSGnD5lQpzOSenfuNjR.1</p>	
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 ...

<p>WHAT IS GOD CALLING CANADIAN CHRISTIANS TO DO NOW?</p> 	<p>Message from ELCIC National and the Sask Synod: As members of one body in Christ, we are called to pray to the Triune God of peace: for the cessation of hostilities, for a just and sustainable peace, for healing from trauma, and for reconciliation grounded in truth. We encourage prayer that is rooted in Scripture and attentive to concrete realities, including the suffering of civilians, abducted children, prisoners of war, and those worshipping under threat. We raise the suffering caused by the invasion of Ukraine; escalation of violence in Jordan and the Holy Land, Iran and the middle east; and all areas of our global world.</p>
	<p>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,</p>
<p>CLWR</p>  <p><i>Journey Through Lent</i> clwr.org/lenten-journey</p>	<p>Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) invites you to a Lenten journey of reflection, action and hope. Each short study 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.</p>
<p>LENT 2026 Prayer Vigils</p>	<p>Prayer Vigils for Climate Justice – Lent 2026 <u>Each Tuesday evening during Lent, 7:00-7:30 pm, CST,</u> the ELCIC and its synods are hosting a <i>Prayer Vigil for Climate justice</i>. Feb. 24, and March 3, 10, 17, 24, & 31. Please register here to join the vigils live and/or to receive a link to the recording.</p>
	<p>Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ) has a new book that offers a different conversation about refugees and migrants in Canada titled <i>A Renewed Canadian Welcome - Eleven Visions from Migrants and Advocates</i>. Born of the work of CPJ, this is a must-read for those advocating for human rights in immigration policy. It is a compelling call to reimagine Canada’s approach to immigration as one that affirms dignity, equity, and justice for all. Go to A Renewed Canadian Welcome Book – Buy Now CPJ</p>



PROVIDE RELIEF IN THE MIDDLE EAST

“No place feels safe. Families are fleeing with little notice...Children are sleeping in classrooms. Others remain in their homes, hearing bombs fall nearby.” This is what we’re hearing from our partners on the ground in Lebanon. The escalating violence in the region is causing displacement, fear and uncertainty in Iran, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, the Palestinian Territories and beyond. Please join us in prayer for peace across the region and for everyone affected by the violence. And consider donating today to provide emergency relief like food, clean water, blankets and psychological care for families experiencing trauma.

Donate today at
clwr.org/middleeast

GATHERING & WELCOME

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

Introduction: In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. The newly baptized are welcomed as we remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

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

Call to Worship

Listen to the silence. Hear the Voice of all; The still, small Voice. **The Voice of God.**

Seek the silence. Find the Source of all. That still, small Voice. **The Voice of God.**

Welcome the silence. Live in the Center of all; The still, small Voice. **The Voice of God.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God's peace is ours for we are God's. In the coldest of days, in the warmest of nights, God's love is ours. In the dark of night God calls to us; beckoning us on, seeking us out, calling us to peace, to quietness, to wholeness.

The world is dark around us, filled with coldness, terror and restlessness.

It is a darkness of our creation: Greed, hatred, envy: brokenness.

Take us and heal us of every evil. Bring us back into the comfort and closeness of your embrace, O God.

Your cleansing love, O God, purifies our darkness restoring it to us: Warm, comforting, restful: complete.

In the dark of our night we hear God call, offering love and strength and forgiveness.

With God the darkness brings comfort not fear, love not hatred, righteousness not punishment. Walk in the darkness of your life as in the light, for both the dark and the light belong to God, as do you. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: ACS#924 'As the Winter Days Grow Longer'

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, 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 Message

WORD

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

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 - *Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is a promise that Israel as a nation, though dead in exile, will live again in their land through God's life-giving spirit. Three times Israel is assured that through this vision they will know that "I am the Lord."*

¹ The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ² He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and

they were very dry. ³ He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." ⁴ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶ I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord." ⁷ So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸ I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹ Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹ Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹² Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³ And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴ I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 130

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord;

² **O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.**

³ If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ **Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.**

⁵ I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶ **My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.**

⁷ O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love; with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

⁸ **For the Lord shall redeem Israel from all their sins.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELWp142): 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: John 11:1-45

The holy gospel according to John, the 11th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus

loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: ELCIC Video Sermon, Pastor Kathy Calkins, retired, Alberta Synod

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#773 'Precious Lord, Take My Hand'

ELCIC CREED

God created us; in God's image we are created. We believe in a Creator who made us, loves us, and is with us today and always. God saved us; by God's grace we are saved. We believe in Christ Jesus who, being one with the Creator, joined us on earth for a brief time as a man, walked with us, healed us, and taught us, reminding us of who we are. With his life, death and resurrection Christ gathers all of us back into a loving relationship with God. God is creating us anew; in God's love we thrive and grow. We believe in the Spirit who, being one with Christ and the Creator, calls us, comforts us, and guides us every day and every moment of our lives.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

...

We pray for all people in need. Take away the stone of poverty that weighs down so many. Console any who weep and heal all who are sick (*especially*) **Helen, Lyla, Ken, Daryl, Larissa/Taylor & family, Dick, Treasa, Diana, Leon, Sheila, Wayne, Pearl, Stanley, Rose, 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

Lord of all, we give you thanks and praise,

For you have richly blessed us in this nation with an overflowing wealth of health, peace, safety, and all things needed for our daily lives. By those blessings you entrust us with greater responsibility towards others less fortunate. May we never take for granted what you have bestowed us, and always seek to share those blessings with those less fortunate. Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

May the God of love and grace keep you safe. May the God of comfort and healing hold you close. May the God of peace and joy fill your heart. (sung) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW#767 'Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me'

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

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