



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
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MARCH 8, 2026 @ 10:30AM – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Worship Leader: Pastor John Mayer Dut

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



Potluck Lunch: (following the service) - bring something to share


The Service is on YouTube ([MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert](https://www.youtube.com/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 (6 weeks)	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)	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 ...

	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,
 CLWR CLWR's Journey Through Lent clwr.org/lenten-journey <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 Prayer Vigil for Climate justice. 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.
	Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ) has a new book that offers a different conversation about refugees and migrants in Canada titled A Renewed Canadian Welcome - Eleven Visions from Migrants and Advocates. Born of the work of CPJ, A Renewed Canadian Welcome 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. For more information on this, go to A Renewed Canadian Welcome Book – Buy Now CPJ
Conversations Across the Church	The recording of our second event held on February 22 is now available! Thank you to everyone who joined us! We are grateful for the time you’ve given to gather in worship and reflection with our wider church community! You can watch the video recording on our website when you click here . The next Conversations Across the Church event is taking place on Mar 24, 2026. Visit our website to register!
	World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical movement which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. For 2026, a committee of Christian women from Nigeria wrote the service. Included are stories from three women who describe their personal journeys and how their faith in God kept them motivated to persevere. Visit wdpcanada.ca to learn about this 99-year-old tradition of faith and prayer.

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

Introduction: *In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.*

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: ELW#533 'Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty'

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. **Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth 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: Exodus 17:1-7

Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question — "Is the Lord among us or not?"— received a very positive answer.

¹ From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give

us water to drink.” Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?”³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?”⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, “What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”⁵ The Lord said to Moses, “Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go. ⁶ I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.” Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, “Is the Lord among us or not?”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 95

¹ Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

² **Let us come before God’s presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

³ For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴ **In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵ The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**

⁷ For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God’s pasture and the sheep of God’s hand. Oh, that today you would hear God’s voice!

⁸ **“Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹ There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.

¹⁰ **Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, ‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.’**

¹¹ Indeed I swore in my anger, ‘They shall never come to my rest.’”

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-11

Though we often hear that God helps those who help themselves, here Paul tells us that through Jesus’ death God helps utterly helpless sinners. Since we who had been enemies are reconciled to God in the cross, we now live in hope for our final salvation.

¹ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸ But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more surely, therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰ For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹ But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELWp.188)

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord. Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you promised; we will trust your word. Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Gospel: John 4:5-42

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

⁵ [Jesus] came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph.⁶ Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.”⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to

buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?" ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you." ²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." ³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." ³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

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

SERMON: Pastor John Mayer Dut

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#335 'Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross'

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.**

...

When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need (*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.1,3,4)

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. (*sung*) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

SENDING SONG: ELW#618 'Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer'

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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