

Sunday's Worship Service

September 16 – 10:30am

15th Sunday after Pentecost

ELCIC 'Day of Action' &
Blessing of 'Back to School' Backpacks

Messiah Lutheran Church

Website: www.messiahluthpa.com

Facebook / YouTube:

MessiahLutheranChurchPrinceAlbert

Messiah Office hours:

Tuesday – Friday; 11am – 2pm

Coffee in the Peace Chapel before the Service

Live on the Messiah YouTube page;
posted for later viewing.

Pastor John Mayer Dut

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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.



@ MESSIAH

 Upcoming Dates to Note! 	September 13: ELCIC Day of Action: - Blessing of Backpacks during the Service. - Sunday School begins during the worship service; - Pancake & Sausage Lunch following the service; - Then we'll make (12:30 – 1:30pm) and deliver (1:30 – 3pm) sandwiches as part of the <u>Reaching Out program</u>. ➤ Bible Study (third Tuesday of each month – September 15) @ 7pm in the Peace Chapel in person and via zoom ➤ Lectionary Bible Study (weekly each Wednesday – begins September 16) @ 7pm in the Peace Chapel in person and via zoom ➤ September 20: Confirmation sessions begin following Sunday's Worship Service (continue on the first and third Sundays each month)
Caring Ministry & Community Service	Care Home Services (monthly from September to June): - Pineview Terrace (fourth Wednesday @ 10:30am; September 23) - Good Shepherd Villa (second Tuesday @ 3pm; October 13) - Mont. St. Joseph (second Wednesday @ 3:30pm; October 14) Food Bank: donations collected weekly Community Donations: various organizations such as the YWCA, Relative's Lodge PAGC, Salvation Army, John Howard Community Closet, Metis Prince Albert, distribute and support those who can use some help. You can drop off blankets, hygiene items, towels, jackets, socks, shoes, underwear, and other gently used clothing. We'll make sure it get delivered to one of these organizations.

"New to You?"

Check out the table in the closet section of the narthex. Do you have household items that may be of use or interest to our congregation or their friends/neighbours, bring them to Messiah. If you see something that you or someone you know could use, take it home.

Across the Saskatchewan Synod and beyond ...



Join us for **on Sunday, September 13 @ 5pm CST**. Our focus for the third Conversations Across the Church is Season of Creation. ELCIC National Bishop Larry Kochendorfer will be joined by three speakers on why this is a priority for our church. Note: you must register to receive a Zoom link and to join with ELCIC members: <https://us02web.zoom.us/joining/register/-PPJGV3gQ2SLvj9Mr1Rwyg>
Watch previous Conversations Across the Church online events: [Conversations Across the Church - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada](#)



September 19 @ 10am - LuMinHoS WALKATHON
starting at Zion Lutheran, Saskatoon. Pledge forms are on the LuMinHoS website (Upcoming Events - Walkathon), on the table in the Messiah Narthex, or talk to Messiah's LuMinHoS representative, Cheryl (306.961.2967).



Kinasao: go to Kinasao.ca or phone 306.941.6372 for details

- **September 18 – 20:** Prayer Retreat
- **September 25 – 27:** Fill Your Freezer
- **October 23 - 25:** SK Synod Youth Retreat (Ages: 12-17)

Upcoming Events & Anniversaries

– contact the ministry organization for details or pick up (on the table in the Narthex), or request (contact the Messiah Office) a copy of the Synod Messenger

- **Lutheran Campus Ministry Dinner (October 3)**
- **Spiritual Book Club via Zoom, monthly beginning October 5;** facilitated by Lutheran program coordinator Erin Storch (Providence Renewal Centre, Edmonton – go to providencerenewal.ca)
- **Bethany, Inglis, MB - 125th anniversary, Thanksgiving 2026**
- **Installation of Rev. Victoria Mwamasika, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Regina (Sunday, October 18, 3pm)**
- **Lutheran & Anglican Women's Retreat (October 31)** – see poster on bulletin board



[In a pastoral letter to the church](#), Bishop Larry Kochendorfer is inviting members and congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada to join Christians around the world in observing the 2026 [Season of Creation](#) from September 1 to October 4.
This year's theme, *Living Water*, is inspired by **Ezekiel 47:9–12** and invites the church to reflect on God's life-giving waters that bring healing, renewal and flourishing for all creation.

Worship for Sunday, September 13, 2026: 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship Leader: Pastor John Mayer Dut

GATHERING & WELCOME

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

Introduction: In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

GATHERING SONG: ELW#529 'Jesus, We Are Gathered' (x3)

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. **Faithful God, You formed us from the dust of the earth and entrusted this land to our care. As Jesus reminded those seeking signs that your presence is revealed not through spectacle but through faithfulness, teach us to recognize your holy work in the soil beneath our feet, in the rhythms of creation, and in the quiet ways your kingdom takes root among us. As Christ entered the depths of the earth and rose to new life, renew us in hope and lead us to become signs of your restoring love in the world. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Blessing of Backpacks – Children's Time

When did school start? How many of you were excited? Were any of you a little scared? Why do you have to go to school?

God gives all of us jobs; things to do that help us to serve God in the world. This is called our vocation. You have a vocation, and one of your vocations right now is to go to school. You can serve God by going to school and learning about God's world, by being with other people, by being loving toward others.

And you learn things you need to know for whatever vocation you might have later in life. You're not just learners you are teachers; kids have lots of stuff to teach grown-ups about God. You can teach us about faith and love. We need you in school, and we need you here with us at church. So, now we want to say a special prayer for you, asking God's blessings as you start your vocation of being a student.

Listen to this story from Matthew's book in the Bible, "Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (**Matthew 19:13-15**)

God, bless this bag and the child who will use it. Let them not be scared, be with them as they learn and grow this year. Show them how to serve you and help them teach us all about your love. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Children, families, and all who love them, go out into the beautiful world that God has made! Go and play! Go and learn! Go and love others! May you be filled with lovingkindness for yourself and everyone around you. May the prayers of our faith community keep you safe, healthy, and full of joy. **Amen.**

Lord God, bless all the people gathered here today. Especially bless them as they support, protect, and encourage the children among us. May they, with the children, be both teachers and learners. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 103:[1-7] 8-13

[¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

² **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits,**

³ who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases;

⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **O Lord, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel.]

⁸ **Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹ you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹² **As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to

God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: WOV#612 'Halle, Halle, Hallelujah' (x2)

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON: Pastor John Mayer Dut

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW#879 'For the Beauty of the Earth'

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

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us; responding **Your mercy is great.**

...
Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need (*especially*). **Olga, Wayne, Ken, Daryl, Myla, Dick, Treasa, Diana, Leon, Sheila, Wayne, Stanley, Rose, Rose, Sheila, Sharon, Jean, Audrey**, and all those we name aloud or in our heart. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

...
Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER:

Lord Remember us in Your Kingdom and Teach us to Pray: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

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

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING HYMN: WOV#733 'Our Father, We Have Wandered'

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **God of creation, all blessings come from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.**

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. The God of grace  bless you now and forever. (*sung*) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG: WOV#780 'What A Fellowship, What a Joy Divine'

DISMISSAL: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God!**

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