

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran

Fifth Sunday in Epiphany



When Jesus heals us, we are empowered to serve others. While at first glance it might seem that Jesus' healing of Peter's mother-in-law was self-serving, on further reflection we see the same result in nearly all of his signs and miracles. The object of Jesus' compassion now has new responsibilities. In the very next chapter a paralytic lowered through the ceiling is raised, only to become the center of a religious controversy (Mark 2:3-12), as was the man who lay by the pool of

Beth-zatha for thirty-eight years (John 5:2-15). When Jesus calms the storm (Mark 4:35-41) the disciples have to row the rest of the way! Any meaningful encounter with Jesus will result in our being changed, which in turn alters the way we see our relationship to the needs of others and the world.

Hard economic times, natural disasters, and divisive, party strife can make us feel helpless and hopeless, as if we have been abandoned by God. Even the church—local congregations as well as denominations—may feel fear and panic in the face of declining numbers and revenues, loss of loyalty from members, indifference or hostility from the surrounding culture, and internal sniping among factions. The exiled people of Israel in Babylon experienced all of this and more, so our condition is neither unique nor beyond the reach of our God. Isaiah 40:21-31 in the NRSV begins “Have you not known? Have you not heard?” Eugene Peterson, in *The Message*, translates this idea as “Have you not been paying attention? Have you not been listening?” There is some irony indeed that God's church, entrusted with God's salvation history and the gospel, still panics, still doubts and worries, still feels like it is up to us to save the church. We indeed are “clay jars” (2 Cor. 4:7)—carrying the message but not understanding, preaching salvation but not believing that God cares or will act to save. We live Isaiah 40 every day.

Ideas

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Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church

*The mission of Messiah Lutheran Church is to glorify Christ
by nurturing our faith, sharing His love, and teaching His Word.*

February 7, 2021

10:30 a.m.

We Gather for Worship

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.
Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Holy God,

C: you search us and know us.

You are acquainted with all our ways.

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

We turn inward, failing to follow your outward way of love.

We distrust those who are not like us.

**We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.**

**Forgive us, gracious God,
for all we have done and left undone.**

**Even before the words are on our tongues, you know them;
receive them in your divine mercy.**

Amen.

L: How vast is God's grace!

Through the power and promise of ☩ Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.
Indeed, we are forgiven.

In the wake of God's forgiveness,
we are called to be the beloved community
living out Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” - ELW 733

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

- 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

*GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

L: Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all you lands.

C: **Tell his glory among the nations;
among all peoples, his wondrous deeds.
Give glory and honor to the Lord!**

L: Worship the Lord, in holy attire;
tremble before him, all the earth;

C: **Say among the nations:
The Lord is king, he governs the peoples with equity.
Give glory and honor to the Lord!**

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *ELW Holy Communion Setting 10, page 205*

(Tune: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee)



Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.



Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

L: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray: **Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FOURTH GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,

and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the Lord,

and my right is disregarded by my God”?

²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The Lord is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;

his understanding is unsearchable.

²⁹He gives power to the faint,

and strengthens the powerless.

³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

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

PSALM 147:1-11, 20c

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!

²**The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**

³The Lord heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

⁴**The Lord counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**

⁵Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.

⁶**The Lord lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,

⁸**who covers the heavens with clouds and
prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow upon the
mountains.**

⁹God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the Lord,
in those who await God's steadfast love.

^{20c} **Hallelujah!**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Dearest Jesus, at Your Word" – ELW 520**

Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.

***GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark the 1st chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁹As soon as {Jesus and the disciples} left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY - *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" – ELW 742*

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--take it to the Lord in prayer.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - *"What a Friend We Have in Jesus" – ELW 742*

- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

We Respond as God's People

*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.**

OFFERING MOMENT:

What a privilege it is to share the gifts we've been given! In doing so, we honor God by caring for God's creation and God's children. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. – Hebrews 13:16

OFFERING PRAYER:

Loving God, you are never far from us. You heal the wounded spirit and give new life to the broken hearted. We offer these gifts to You, O God, as a sign of our desire to serve you and do your work on earth. Use us and what we have to bring your Kingdom near; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS:

Sing: "And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand."

Almighty God ... On wings like an eagle's, you enable us to soar with the possibilities of change and transformation both within our own spirits and within this broken world which needs so much care. And yet it is not the bright skies where we most often live. We are here with our feet on the ground— your feet planted firmly beside us; as we try to walk without fainting: as we walk through the shadows of fear, sickness, and loss; as we walk through life's changes: birth, growth, aging, death.

Sing: "And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand."

We need your strength to not grow weary as we look to you for hope and new life amidst old attitudes and injuries. We long to run and not grow faint as we face today's challenges of differences and divisions that seep into our daily

encounters. Hold us in the palm of your hand. Strengthen us to work for compassion and wholeness for all people, all creatures, and all the earth.

Sing: "And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand."

Shelter those who are hurting in body, mind, or spirit. Restore those in need of your healing. Protect us from all that brings us fear and renew our spirits with the light of your dawn! Lift us up to the heights, Holy One, so we may again catch a glimpse of your glorious presence in our midst, now, and in your kingdom to come! Strengthen us with the words our Lord taught 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.**

***BENEDICTION**

We Are Sent to Serve

***SENDING HYMN: "Let All Things Now Living" - ELW 881**

- 1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving,
to God the creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected, and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.
- 2 God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

Text: Katherine K. Davis, 1892-1980, alt.

Text © 1939, 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Company

***DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week at a Glance

Sunday February 07

10:00am Sunday School
 10:30am In Person Service
 10:30am FB Live/Radio
 1:00pm No Youth Praise Band Practice
 7:00pm Virtual Zoom 7th- 12th Grade YG

Sunday February 14

10:00am Sunday School
 10:30am In Person Service
 10:30am FB Live/Radio
 1:00pm Youth Praise Band Practice
 7:00pm Virtual Zoom 7th- 12th Grade YG

Monday, February 08

1pm – 4pm Quilting

Monday, February 15

Quilting 1pm – 4pm

Tuesday February 09

10am – 4pm Quilting
 5:30pm Church Council Meeting

Tuesday February 16

Quilting 10:00am – 4pm

Wednesday, February 10

3:30 pm: 1st-3rd Grade YG
 5:30 pm: Confirmation “TO GO BOX”
 Suppers
 6:00pm: 7th, 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation
 Classes.
 7:00 pm: 7th-12th Grade Moessiah
 R.O.C.K.

Wednesday, February 17

3:30 pm: 4th-6th Grade YG
 5:15pm: Bell Choir Practice
 5:30 pm: Confirmation “TO GO BOX”
 Suppers
 6:00pm: 7th, 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation
 Classes.
 6:30pm: Messiah Ash Wednesday Service
 7:00 pm: 7th-12th Grade Moessiah
 R.O.C.K.

Staying connected

*Thank you for worshipping with us
 in person, via radio, or on Facebook Live!*

Messiah radio broadcast: Tune in on Wild 102 radio at 10:30am.

Roseauonline.com.

FaceBook Live: Go to Messiah’s Facebook page to watch livestream video of worship at 10:30am.

Breeze App: If you listen to the radio broadcast of our worship service, please Check In to today’s worship via the Breeze app on your phone.

Pastor Dave’s Installation: On Sunday, February 14th, the NW Minnesota Synod Bishop, Rev. Bill Tesch, will be joining us to formalize Pastor Dave’s call to serve at Messiah. A service of installation for Pastor Dave will take place as a part of our 10:30 AM service. We invite you to mark your calendar and attend in-person, on Facebook Live, or via radio broadcast! Bishop Tesch will also be installing Deacon Joanne at Moe’s 9:15 AM service.

Messiah Quilting: *Please join us! Mondays from 1-4pm and Tuesdays from 10am-4pm, Feb-March (we will be following Minnesota State Covid-19 guidelines).*

Giving Envelopes for 2021 & Year End 2020 Contribution Statements

All church members will find the giving envelopes have been placed in their church mailbox for pick up at the Sunday Service or at any time during office hours.

Year End Contribution Statements have been sent via email. If you did not receive yours, the statement is now in your church mailbox. Please provide the church office with your email address if you would like to receive it this way.

Thank You to All Who Continue to Support the Ministry of Messiah Through Your Gifts and Offerings. You may mail your offerings to the church, sign up for an automatic debit through your bank or give a gift through the Breeze app. We appreciate your efforts to continue the work of Messiah in these uncertain times!

**Worship on 1/31/2021 – Attendance: 50 Offering: \$872.52
Monthly Direct Debit: 5,165, Weekly Direct Debit: \$590**

*Worship Servers for Sunday,
February 07:*

Reader: Mark Wilson

Communion: No Communion

Sound Booth: Paul Grafstrom

Counters: Warren & Marsha Hagen

Council Rep: Ashley Filpula

Greeter/Usher: Ashley Filpula

*Worship Servers for Sunday,
February 14:*

Reader: Gloria Skrutvold

Communion: No Communion

Sound Booth: Bob Tuttle

Counters: Dave & Sharon Grafstrom

Council Rep: Karyn Santl

Greeter/Usher: Karyn Santl

Messiah Leadership:

Pastor Dave Swonger:

218-452-4639

pastordavemlc@gmail.com

Deacon Joanne Swonger:

701-955-4479

deaconjoannemlc@gmail.com

Youth Director: Jay Ostgaard:

jjostgaard@gmail.com

Council President: Karyn Santl

Office Administrator:

Elaine Wulff

messiahroseau@gmail.com

**(Office hours: Tues-Thurs,
8:30am-4:30pm) 218-463-1648**

Organist: Joyce Hulst

Custodian: Yhone Magnusson

“Lord, Hear our Prayer”:

Requests for public prayer during worship: We are revamping how we add names to the congregational prayers during worship. To be mindful of privacy concerns, we ask that the person requesting prayer sign a permission form. An assigned representative, such as a family member or one of Messiah’s prayer chain coordinators, may also sign on their behalf. This process allows us to print people’s names in the bulletin and uplift them in public prayer during worship for a period of one month. Permission forms are available on the table in the narthex.

Requests for confidential prayer via the prayer chain: The prayer chain will continue to operate just as it has in the past. You may reach out to our Prayer Chain Coordinator, Mary Olson, 463-2364. Your prayer concern will be kept confidential and will be uplifted in prayer by those who serve as intercessors on our congregation’s Prayer Chain.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask either Sara, Sharon, Deacon Joanne, or Pastor Dave.

“The Cup of our Life” for Lent: Lent is a 40-day season that encourages us to sharpen our spiritual senses and experience our Lord’s saving grace in new ways. This year our Lenten series is “The Cup of our Life.” Each week we will consider how our lives are sacred vessels shaped for daily love and service by our Lord Jesus. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, February 17th, 6:30 PM services will be held at both Moe and at Messiah every week.

Lenten Home “Devo” Kit: These kits will be available in the narthex beginning Sunday, February 14th.

We are looking for helpers to assist in creatively promoting what’s happening at Messiah! Bulletin Boards: Attractive promotion sparks the imagination! Let’s refresh our bulletin boards to create excitement and foster good communication.

Photographers: We need a couple designated photographers to take pictures of people and events happening at church throughout the upcoming year. These pics can be snapped on your phone and sent via email to the church office. We’ll use these pictures in a variety of ways as the year progresses. **If interested, let Deacon Joanne know** (deaconjoannemlc@gmail.com) **& she’ll get you started!**

Do you have a passion for helping others And a heart for serving your community?

HELPP in Warroad organized with the mission of responding to families living within the Warroad School District who are experiencing financial hardship due to serious illness or house fire. Since 2016 HELLP has given over \$118,000 in gas and grocery cards, mainly to those who must travel a distance to receive care at a larger medical facility. In 2021, HELLP would like to offer guidance and financial support in establishing a similar organization in Roseau or another neighboring community. You can read more about their work at helppwarroad.com or at HELPP, Inc on Facebook. **If you or someone you know might be interested in helping get a HELLP organization started in the Roseau community please contact Rick Corneliusen at 242-2263 or by email at Rickcor66@gmail.com to get on their plans for this year.**