

The Mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Messiah is to proclaim our faith in Jesus Christ by daily witness through prayer, service, and thanksgiving.

**Welcome to Worship
December 10, 2023
3rd Sunday of Advent
Celebrating our 69th Anniversary**



Reverend Timothy Anas

Reverend Thomas R. Mason, Pastor Emeritus

**Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Messiah
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**Sunday Worship: 8:15am and 10am
Office Hours: M W F – 9 to 3; T Th –by appointment
Office Secretary: Kimberly Borget**

Church Council President: William Bennion

**Messiah Lutheran Pre School Director: Rose Aloian
Assistant Teachers: Jill Harden & Michele Hausauer
www.facebook.com/learningwithloveMLprek**

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: As Saints of Old LBW 404

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Please Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we continue to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen

The minister stands and addresses the congregation.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Please Stand If you are able

P Peace of the Lord be with you always

C And also with you.

Peace

The PEACE is shared at this time. If you are uncomfortable shaking hands, put your hand to your heart and say "Peace be with you" This can also be done at the end of service with the Pastor.

PRAYER OF THE DAY



P Let us pray together....

C Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

**Or, He descended to the dead.*

PRAYERS

Each petition ends:

A God, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P In your mercy, O God, respond to these prayers, and renew us by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

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.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please Stand

OFFERING ANTHEM (LBW p. 66)

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,"
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P O Lord, we Give thee but thine own whate'er the gifts may be. For all that we have is thine alone, a trust of Lord from thee.

C Amen.

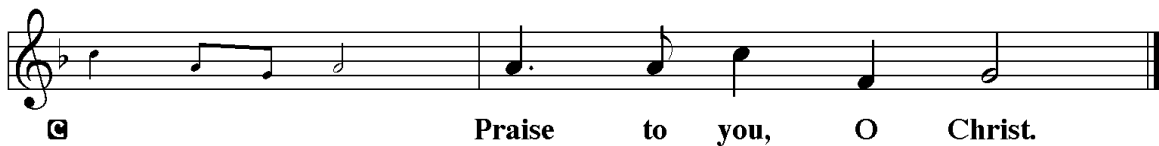
Gospel: Matthew 23:8-12

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, 23rd chapter, starting with verse 8.



⁸But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. ⁹And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father — the one in heaven. ¹⁰Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. ¹¹The greatest among you will be your servant. ¹²All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

Reading from "The Story" NIV Bible
Chapter 12 – The Trails of a King

Children's Sermon

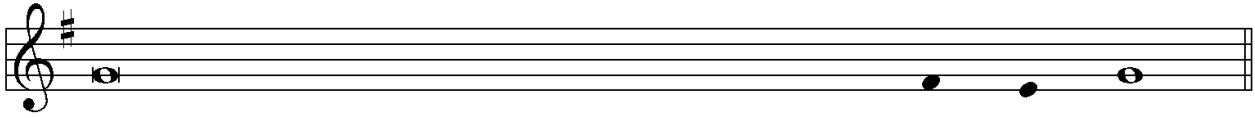
As the children come forward everyone sings "Jesus Loves Me."

Choir Anthem

Sermon

Please Stand if you are able

BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.



A - men

Closing Hymn: We Give Thee but Thine Own LBW 410

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
C Thanks be to God.

God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again

God be with you 'til we meet again,
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you:
God be with you 'til we meet again.

Organ Postlude *****

Visitors & Guests: We welcome you in the Name of our Risen Lord Jesus Christ! Please introduce yourselves & sign our guestbook in the narthex.

Newsletter Articles: Do you have any news to put into the newsletter? Please let Pastor know or email any submissions to the office email at Office@messiahLewiston.Org. The monthly deadline for inclusion is the 25th of every month.

Altar Flowers: are now available for scheduling. The cost is \$49 for a single bouquet and \$64 for a double. There is a calendar on the bulletin board in the narthex where you may reserve a date or call the office.

Bible Study: Will be held every Wednesday at 1pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Benevolence: We are appealing to the congregation to assist us in meeting our Benevolence goals this year. Please consider giving something before the end of the year specially marked "benevolence" so that we can fulfill that part of our church budget. You can use your weekly envelopes, if you have them, and write "Benevolence Fund" on the envelope, or just use a plain envelope or one of the envelopes provided in the pews on Sunday and write "Benevolence Fund" on the outside. Thank you! Your Church Council

Flower Offering: Flowering Offering envelopes are now available. We ask that you please have them handed in by December 17. You can put them in the offering plate.

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 10	2pm Lewiston Choraleers Concert
Friday, December 15	9am to 2pm Craft Group
Saturday, December 16	Christmas Baskets
Sunday, December 24	9:15am Sing A Long Service
Sunday, December 24	7pm Candle Light Service
Monday, December 25	Christmas Day/Office Closed
Monday, December 25	10am Christmas Service
Sunday, December 31	Potluck Tailgate after 2 nd Service

Weekly Chapter Readings

December 10	Chapter 12 – The Trails of a King
December 17	Chapter 13 – The King Who Had It All
December 24	Christmas Eve Service – Sing A Long
December 31	Chapter 14 – A Kingdom Torn in Two

DEACON SCHEDULE

If you can't help on the day assigned to you, please let Pastor or Darinda know.

DATE	ASSISTANT DEACON	COMMUNION DEACON
December 10, 2023	Robin Stevens	
December 17, 2023	Joan DeVantier	Sally Schoonmaker
December 24, 2023	Kathy Harold	
December 25, 2023	Kathy Harold	
December 31, 2023	Judy Condino	Sally Schoonmaker

The lector for the month of December is TBA.

Altar guild for the month of December is Darinda Hoffman.

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

If you can't help on the day assigned to you, please let Pastor or Kim know.

Date	Acolyte	Acolyte
December 10, 2023		
December 17, 2023		
December 24, 2023		

Prayer requests may be given, in writing, or on a signup sheet in the narthex, you may also call the church office during the week.

Please let us know when names can be removed.

Please Remember in Your Prayers:

Patricia D. Barber
Erin Deering
Aviya Di Stefano
Adela Gunkelman
Fred Horwath
Ray & Dottie Kline
Sydney Zimmerman
Beth MacSwan
Jon MacSwan
Michael Coffey
Brian Ziemendorf
Jason Pitts
Katie Fabianski
Frederick Schmidt
Frank Getz
Ted Sadler

Donna Lascelle
Jared Lombardi
Heather May
Gianna Mazzei
Gretchen Morgan
Al Sandstrom
Marilyn Peltz
Jodi Nash
Arlene Sliz
Joyce Carr
Marion "Helwig" Wrobel
Chad Heath
Mary Beth Brault
Marisa Balcom
Ed Torba
Vince Simone

Mike Keicher
Elisa Gunkelman
Steven Heinz
Daniel Wade

Christi Lynch
Daniel Acome
Brian Besaw
Vanessa Gulley

Those who are caregivers or those suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

Those who serve our country:

Jim Bane
SSgt. Andrew Baxter
David Broderick
SSgt. Justin DeVantier
MSgt. Bill Ingwersen
2nd Lt. Mitchell Sembert
Specialist Anthony Tamul
Sgt. Hannah Mergi
Sgt. Tyler Colby



As Saints of Old



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
3 In grat - i - tude and hum - ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield;
to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first-fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
O God, who gave your-self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
teach us to give our-selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christierson, b. 1900, alt.
Music: REGWAL, Leland B. Sateren, b. 1913

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We Give Thee but Thine Own



- 1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
- 2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
- 3 Hearts still are bruised and dead, and homes are bare and cold,
- 4 To com - fort and to bless, to find a balm for woe,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
 and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
 and lambs for whom the Shep - herd bled are stray - ing from the fold.
 to tend those lost in lone - li - ness, is an - gels' work be - low.

5 The captive to release,
 the lost to God to bring,
 to teach the way of life and peace—
 it is a Christlike thing.

6 And we believe thy word,
 though dim our faith may be:
 whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
 we do it unto thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: HEATH, Mason and Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850