



Messiah Lutheran Church

Light in the Beartooths

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 24, 2024

Pastor Ben Cherland

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
Reign of Christ Sunday | November 24, 2024

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the 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 of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *ELW 855 Crown Him With Many Crowns*

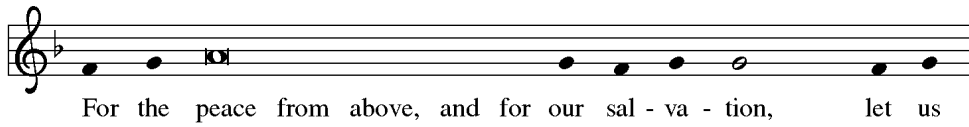
GREETING

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.**

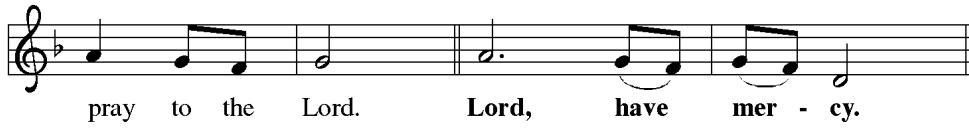
KYRIE



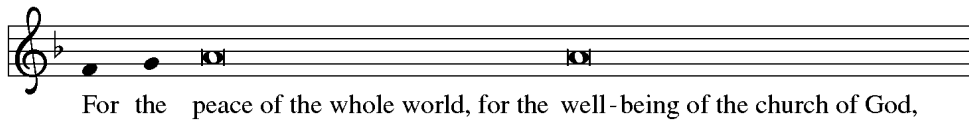
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.




For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us



pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



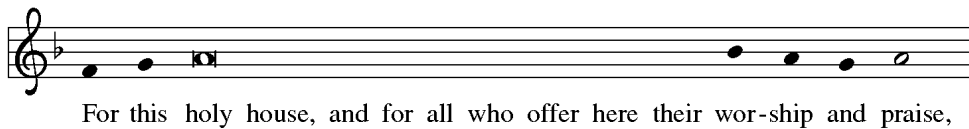
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain




This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -




lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN SERMON

First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

⁹ As I watched,

 thrones were set in place,
 and an Ancient One took his throne,
his clothing was white as snow,
 and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
 and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰ A stream of fire issued
 and flowed out from his presence.

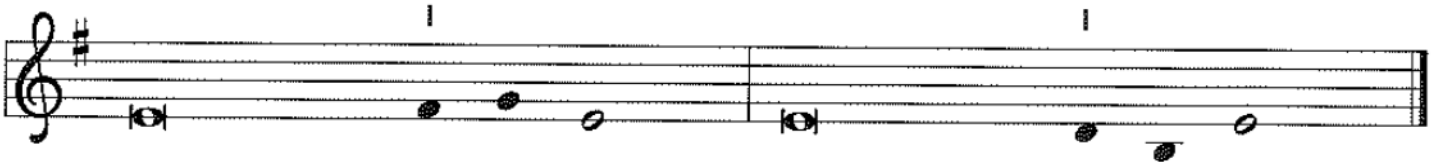
A thousand thousands served him,
 and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment,
 and the books were opened.

¹³ As I watched in the night visions,
 I saw one like a human being

coming with the clouds of heaven.
 And he came to the Ancient One
 and was presented before him.
¹⁴ To him was given dominion
 and glory and kingship,
 that all peoples, nations, and languages
 should serve him.
 His dominion is an everlasting dominion
 that shall not pass away,
 and his kingship is one
 that shall never be destroyed.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**



Psalm: Psalm 93

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established. (Ps. 93:2)

¹ The Lord is king, robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and [|] armed with strength.

The Lord has made the world so sure that it can- [|] not be moved.

² **Ever since the world began, your throne has [|] been established; you are from [|] everlasting. R**

³ The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted [|] up their voice; the waters have lifted up their [|] pounding waves.

⁴ **Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers [|] of the sea, mightier is the Lord who [|] dwells on high.**

⁵ Your testimonies are [|] very sure, and holiness befits your house, O Lord, forever and for- [|] evermore. R

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

^{4b} Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

941

Breathe on Us, Breath of God

Breathe on us, Breath of God; Breath of God, breathe on us.

Text: Patrick G. Michaels, b. 1954
Music: Patrick G. Michaels
Text and music © 2014 Hope Publishing Company

BREATH OF GOD
6 6

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

³³ Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷ Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *ELW 434 Jesus Shall Reign*

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

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

...Hear us, O God. For your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and
fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a
har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948

Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress and music © 1993 Augsburg Fortress.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across bar lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

PREFACE (PASTOR)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score consists of four staves of music in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across bar lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you



take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN ACS 954

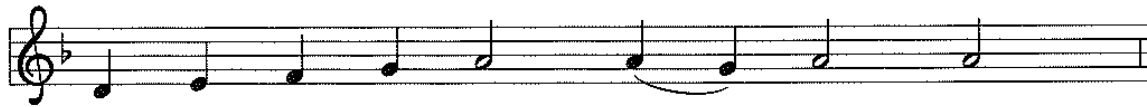
You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd 954



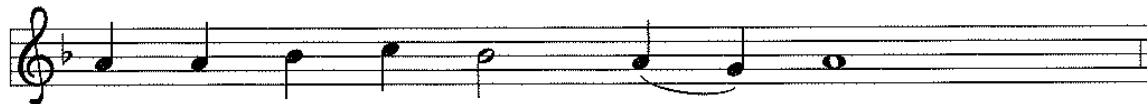
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
stripped of might up - on the cross,
sit in pow - er at God's side.
Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



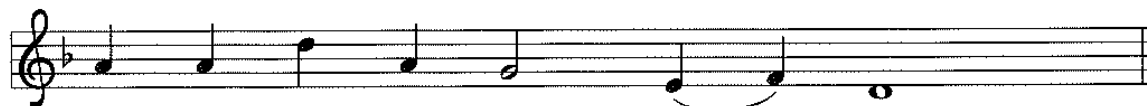
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
have a love that reach - es wide.
wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
you, who are both gift and cost.
you, who are our pil - grim guide.
you, who are our death and life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May our glorious God grant you a spirit to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, creator Christ and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen**

SENDING SONG *ELW 435 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering this November is
Campus Ministries

Mission Spending Plan Annual approval meeting will be held after worship Today. Please stay to discuss/approve our 2025 Spending Plan and ask any financial questions you may have. Additionally, we will discuss the proposed sabbatical policy, determine the "name" of our land to the east, and discuss other topics where council would like your input.

Women's Bible Study meets at 10:00 am on Tuesdays in the gathering space. For more information, you may contact Martha Crofts (239-643-3027) or Marla Ebel (406-664-3178).

This Tuesday, November 26 at 6:00 pm we will begin an Advent study with Pastor Ben, "The Weary World Rejoices". The study will continue through December. The dates are December 3, December 10, and December 17.

December 20 at 6:00 pm we will be joining Calvary Episcopal at their church for "The Longest Night" service. Both Dick Crofts and Pastor Ben will be participating musically.

We have two remaining positions on Council to be filled - Stewardship and Outreach

The Stewardship Chair helps the church recognize the gifts we have been given and how we might steward those gifts in service of the church and the world. This person would, with the help of their committee and Pastor Ben, oversee the fall stewardship campaign, invite congregation members to share with the church why they give to the church, and collect the pledges of our members. Could this be you?

The Outreach Chair helps the church reach beyond its walls for the sake of sharing the good news we celebrate on Sundays. This person would work with Pastor Ben and the rest of council to communicate our welcome and how best to "get the word out". They would help organize our special offering schedule and offer service opportunities for members in Red Lodge. Could this be you?

These are two important positions and the people that fill them would receive the full support of council and the congregation. Being part of Messiah's church council is working with other members dedicated to the thriving of the church and God's children. This is the work of every church member, but we invite you to take up one of these two positions and lead us in doing the work we're to which we are called.

Pastor Ben

Prayer Requests

For prayer requests, contact the church office at 406-446-2430 or redlodgemessiah@gmail.com or write your requests in the Prayer request book with specific information and permission from the person you are adding.

This month the people of Messiah are praying for Ilamae Akkerman, the family of Doug Beckman, Melinda Berry, Brook Feister, Jim and Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Rob Loney, Carlos Ramalho, the family of Dolly Stuber, and David Tilton

Messiah Lutheran Church
912 Lower Continental Dr, P.O. Box 1330
Red Lodge, MT 59068
redlodgemessiah@gmail.com, 406-446-2430

In an effort to make Messiah comfortable and welcoming for everyone we ask that you refrain from using strong personal scents or perfumes.
Thank you.

Live by faith . Share Christ's Love . Be a Voice for Hope