



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 17, 2025

Pastor Ben Cherland

**Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 17, 2025**

GATHERING

WELCOME

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.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Come All You People (ELW 819)*

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

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING:

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.

²³ Am I a God nearby, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my

word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

¹ God stands to charge the divine council assembled,
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

² **“How long will you judge unjustly,
and show favor to the wicked?**

³ Save the weak and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;

⁴ **rescue the weak and the poor;
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

⁶ **Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,
and all of you children of the Most High;**

⁷ nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any prince.’ ”

⁸ **Arise, O God, and rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

SECOND READING:

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak,

Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight.

³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jubilate Deo
Canon in 4 voices, with coda
Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

$\text{♩} = \text{c.}56-69$

mf Ju - bi - la - te De - o, Ju - bi - la - te De - o.

Al - le - lu - ia.
Lent: O praise the Lord,

GOSPEL: LUKE 12: 9-56

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Hallelujah, We Sing Your Praises (ELW 535)*

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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need and all of God's creation.

*Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Knowing that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The text ends with a double bar line.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
Be pre - sent at our ta - ble Lord; be here and
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
Ev' - ry where a - dored These mer - cies bless and
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.
Grant that we May strength-ened for Thy Ser - vice be. Amen

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Amen.

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

Go in peace, remember God, keep the faith,
and wherever you live, work, rest and play,
be the church of Christ.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *We Are Marching in the Light of God (ELW 866)*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering for August is
The Fun Run

Thank you to all who participated in leading worship today, including:
Readers, Ushers, Communion Assistants, and Tech Booth Attendants.
We need your participation in these roles! Speak to Martha Crofts to sign up.

Help us spread the word about all the amazing things happening at Messiah! Our Outreach Committee is dedicated to sharing our mission, celebrating the talents of our members, and fostering growth within our congregation. If you have a passion for connecting with others and showcasing the wonderful gifts within our church family, we'd love to have you on board! Get involved today!
Contact Sandy Moe at sandra.moe@rocky.edu / 218-341-0283.
Let's grow together!

Upcoming

August 20th - A Celebration of Life on Fellowship Field for people and pets who have died this past year. There will be a release of butterflies in memory of the ones we have loved and lost. This event is sponsored by Beartooth Billings Clinic Hospice.

Worship on the Pass August 31st with the Community Church and Calvary Episcopal Church. The service is at 10:30 at the pull out just past Vista Point.

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
Donald Alexander, The family of Carl Cherland,
The family of Neil Carver, Jackie Cordill, JoAnne Fox, Hannah Gonzales Nancy
Knudson,
Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Doug & Mary Lair,
the family of Paul Odegaard, Guynema Terry, Josh Wilker, and Madison

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Administrative Assistant Hours
Monday – Thursday, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

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
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