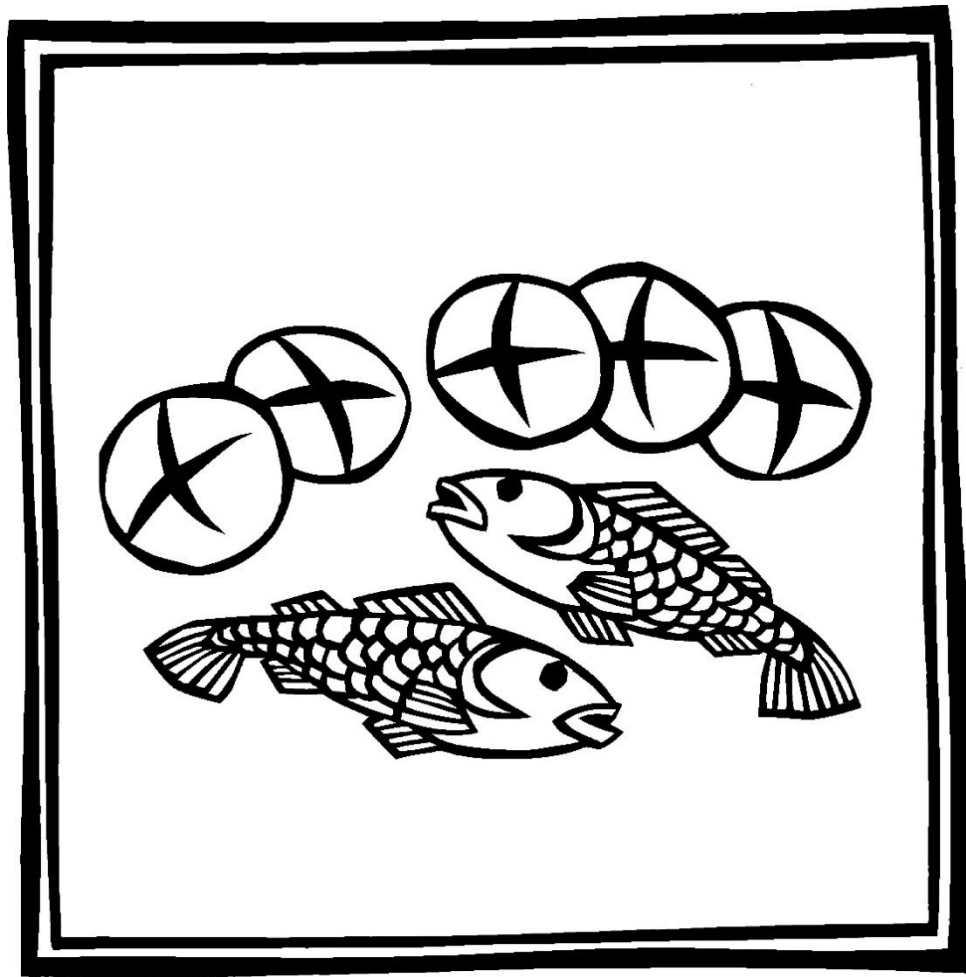




MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

*August 2, 2026
10th Sunday after Pentecost*

*Pastor Ben Cherland
The Reverend Professor Pat Keifert, PhD Presiding Today
Assisting Minister - Katrin Chandler*

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
10th Sunday after Pentecost - August 2, 2026

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.

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.

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 461 All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious Father, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world. Give us this bread, that he may live in us and we in him, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 15:1-5

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;

come to the waters;

and you who have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread

and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;

listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,

for he has glorified you.

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

PSALM 145: 8- 21

You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)

⁸ The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹ **LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD,
and you give them their food in due season.**

¹⁶ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in all your ways
and loving in all your works.**

¹⁸ You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

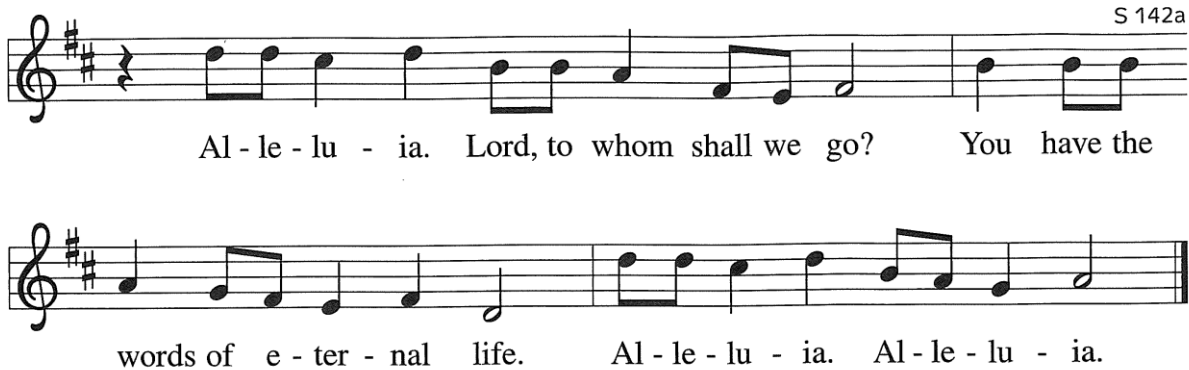
SECOND READING: ROMANS 9:1-5

This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON – “Together in Praise and Service”

HYMN OF THE DAY *ELW 858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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.

MEAL

OFFERING

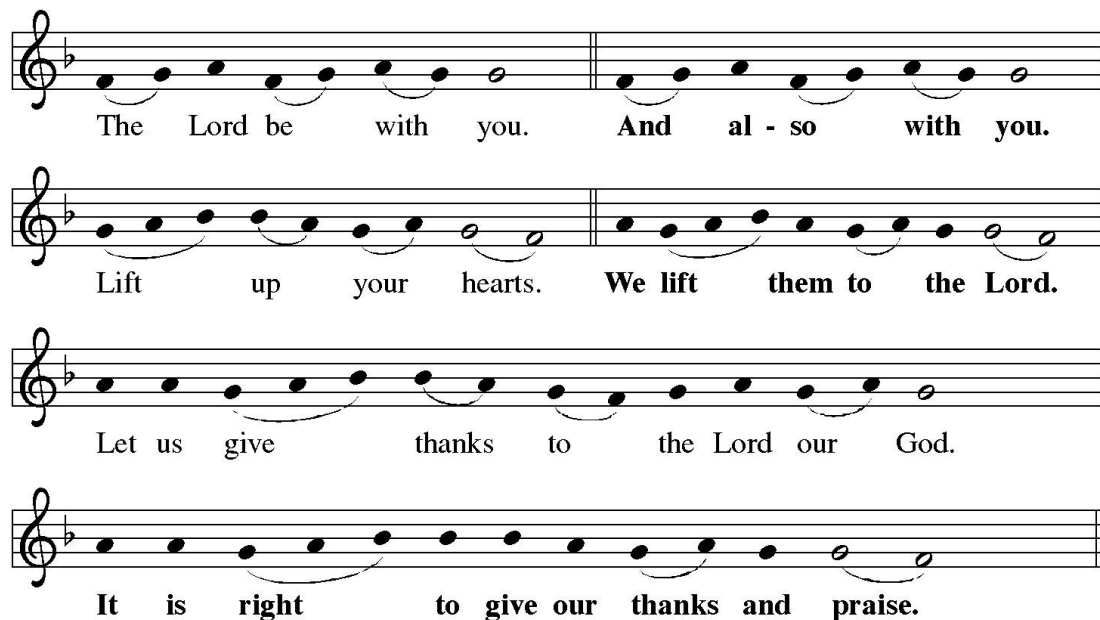
ELW 186 Create in Me a Clean Heart

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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

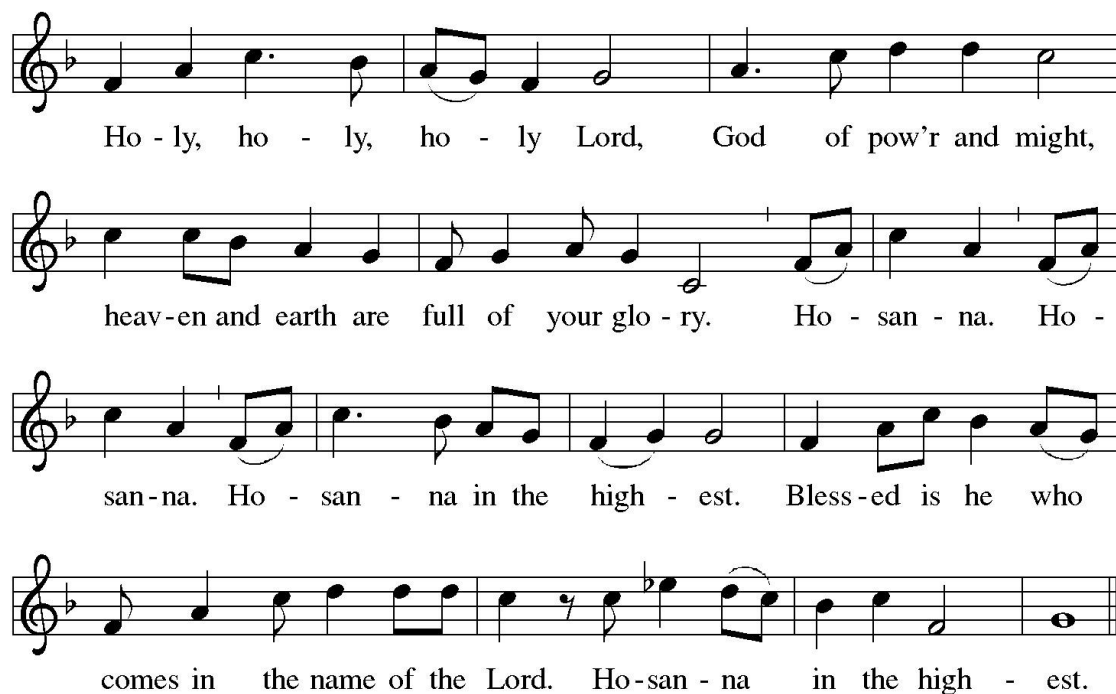
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (*Pastor*)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

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,

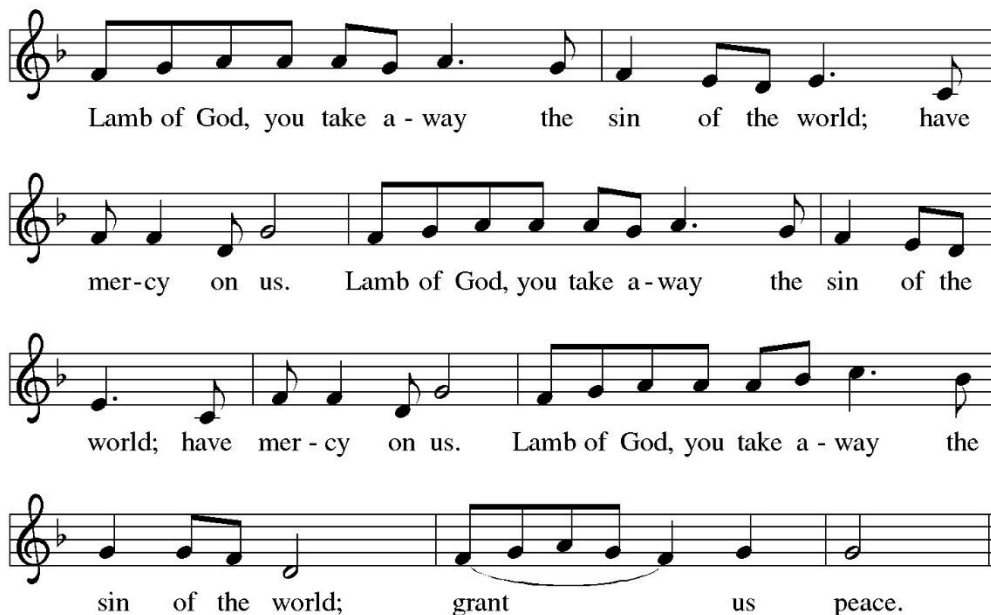
and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG



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.

ELW 515 Break Now the Bread of Life

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *ELW 674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The
Special Offering for August is
Carbon County Arts Guild Youth Education**

Sunday services will continue to be held here at Messiah during Pastor Ben's absence with the exception of August 30 when we will be joining the Red Lodge Community UCC and Calvary Episcopal congregations for Worship on the Pass.

If you donated a pie to the quilt guild, you will find your pie plates in the kitchen.

Please write your prayer requests in the prayer request book in the gathering area. We ask that you re-submit requests at the first of each month if they are still desired or contact the church office at 406-446-2430 or email requests to redlodgemessiah@gmail.com with specific information and permission from the person you are adding.

The people of Messiah are praying for
Renee Boyer, Hannah Gonzales, Herb Hunt, Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski,
Jim Kyner, Mary Lair, Bob Pollock, Carlos Ramalho, Sadie Sceva, David Smiley,
Guynema Terry, and Judy Yasi
and

The unspoken prayer requests of our congregation.

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

As a community of Christ's followers, we seek to grow, making a difference in the lives of others.

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

Katrin Chandler, a Lay Ministry Associate, has been authorized by the Bishop of the Montana Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation this Sunday.