



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*April 12, 2026*

*Pastor Ben Cherland*

**Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church**  
Second Sunday of Easter April 12, 2026

*Please be aware that our services are live-streamed. All participating adults and children appear on camera. If you'd prefer not to be filmed, there are seats along the wall in front of the Tech Booth that will keep you off camera. For Communion, simply remain in your seats and Pastor Ben will come to serve you.*

**GATHERING**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters  
where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.  
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
    like rains to our thirsting earth,  
    like streams that revive our souls,  
    like cups of cool water shared with strangers.  
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ, in love and mission.  
Cleanse our hearts of all division.  
Shower us with the life we have in you.  
To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,  
    in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn *ELW 368 With High Delight Let Us Unite***

**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.**

# This is the Feast

*Refrain*

S122



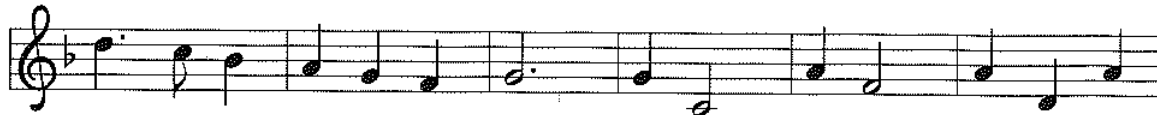
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



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

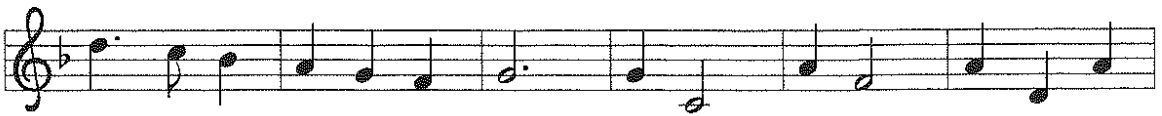


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



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



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

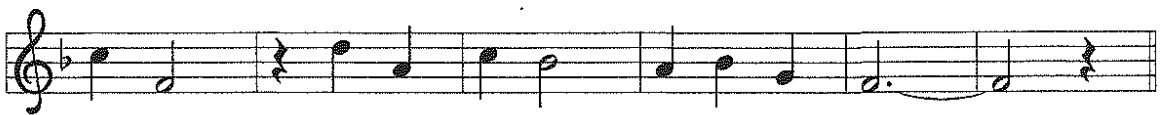


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*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 eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## WORD

### Children Sermon

#### **First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32**

*After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>22</sup> “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

<sup>29</sup> “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

<sup>32</sup> “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 16

*In your presence there is fullness of joy. (Ps. 16:11)*

<sup>1</sup> Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

<sup>2</sup> **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,  
upon those who are noble among the people.**

<sup>3</sup> But those who run after other gods  
shall have their troubles multiplied.

<sup>4</sup> **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,  
never take their names upon my lips.**

<sup>5</sup> O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;  
it is you who uphold my lot.

<sup>6</sup> **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

<sup>7</sup> I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
my heart teaches me night after night.

<sup>8</sup> **I have set the Lord always before me;  
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

<sup>9</sup> My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;  
my body also shall rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup> **For you will not abandon me to the grave,  
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

<sup>11</sup> You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and  
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

## Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ’s resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a

little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

## Gospel: John 20:19-31

The holy gospel according to John

**Glory to you, O Lord**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to

them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”<sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.<sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.<sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.”<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book.<sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

## Sermon

**Hymn of the Day** *ELW 619 I Know That My Redeemer Lives*  
*choir only on stanza 4; omit stanzas 5 and 7*

## **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.**

## **MEAL**

### **Offering**

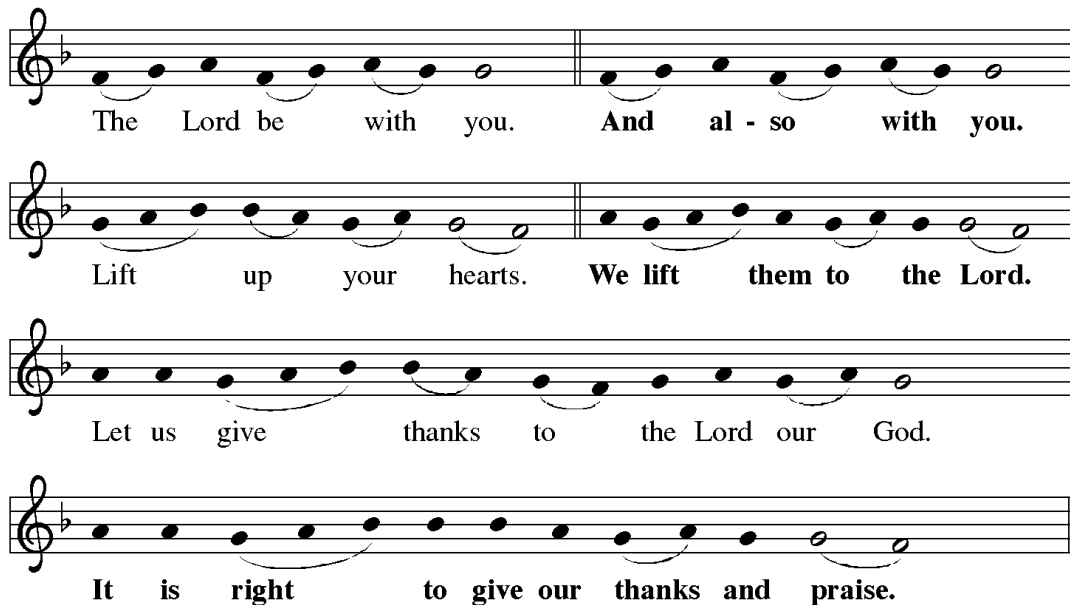
**Offering Hymn *ELW 860 I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me***

### **Offering Prayer**

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

# Great Thanksgiving

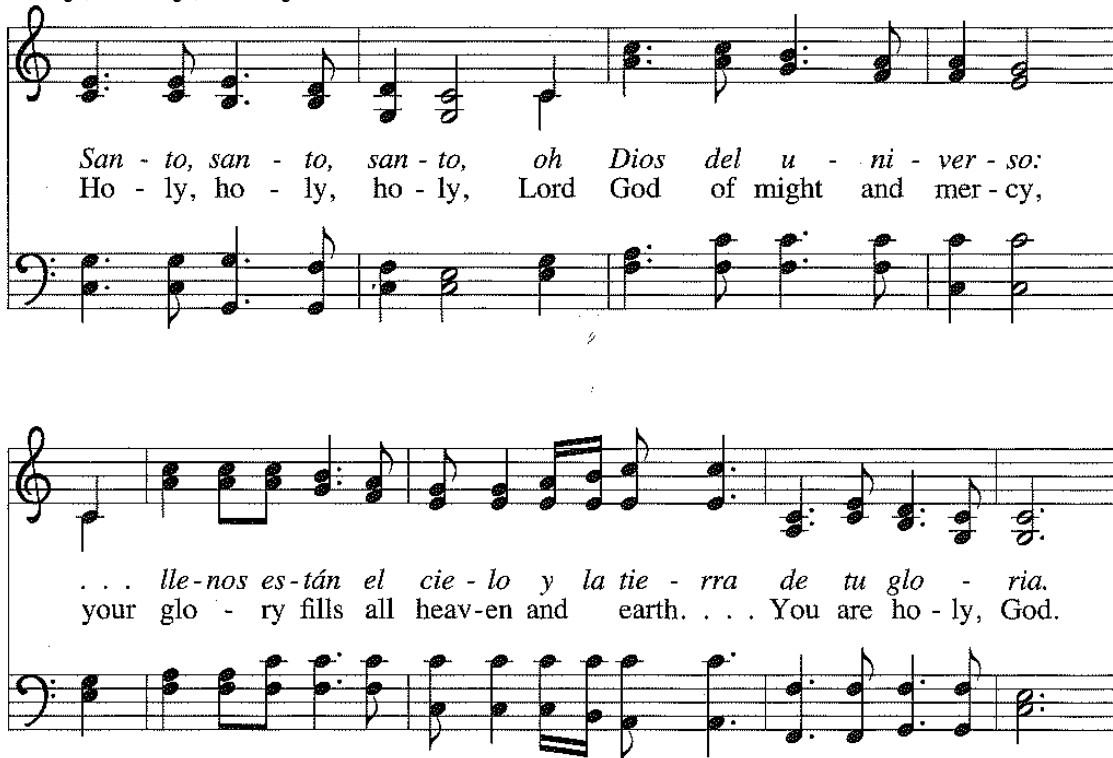
## Dialogue



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



*San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:*  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,  
*... lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.*  
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.

Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .  
 . . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e - res, oh Dios.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Traditional; English text, hymnal version  
 Music: Argentine traditional  
 English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

ARGENTINE SANTO  
 Irregular

## Thanksgiving at the Table

### The 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 Hymns

HOLY COMMUNION

### In This Feast of Love

*Tässä pöydässä*

962

*Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä,                      täs - sä*  
1 In this feast of love,                      in this  
2 In this bread and wine,                      in this  
3 Grant us peace, O Lord,                      grant us

*pöy - däs - sä                      syn - ti - sil - le*  
feast of love,                      Lord, you share your  
bread and wine,                      you have prom - ised,  
peace, O Lord;                      fill us with the

*it - se - si an - nat,                      Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!*  
blood and your bod - y,                      Je - sus, Lamb of God.  
Lord, to be with us,                      Lamb . . of God div - ine.  
joy of your Spir - it,                      ev - er - liv - ing Word.

*ELW 483 Here is Bread*

## **Prayer After Communion**

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **Blessing**

May our Glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn *ELW 535 Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises***

### **Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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

## **Delving Into the Bible**

**Song of Songs 8:7** Many waters cannot quench love; rivers cannot sweep it away. No matter what a man and wife go through, if they have God's love and love one another, no problem can remove their love - not death, time or disaster. I know true love. My husband is now with God and I know I will see him again.

*DJ Rosekelly*

## **Announcements**

Thank you to all who participated in leading worship today, including:  
Readers, Ushers, Communion Assistants, and Tech Booth Attendants.

If you'd like to participate in leading worship, speak to Martha Crofts - there is always a need for more faces in these roles.

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St. John's United-Aeries invites you to "Meals & Meaning: A Free Speaker Series for Active Aging"

Coming Up: Big Life Questions & Purpose Beyond Retirement  
Aeries Overview

Presented by: Tom Schlotterback, SJU Foundation President Emeritus - with  
Kevin Sider, St. John's CMIO.

Wed., April 15th - 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM (Lunch included)

St. John's Lillis Center, 2429 Mission Way

Call 406-655-5400 to RSVP for this free event!

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Messiah is in need of regular cleaning. If you are willing to sign up to do some light cleaning (bathrooms, vacuuming, or glass cleaning) it would go a long way. We all need to do our part to keep the building sparkling! Please let Dianne know what you'd like to contribute. And THANK YOU

.....

<p><b>Special Offering for</b> April Lutheran World Relief Quilters</p>
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## **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.

The people of Messiah are praying for

Claudia B, Meredith Cherland, the family of Jack Ervin,  
Hannah Gonzales, John Graham, Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Jim Kyner,  
Doug & Mary Lair, Lois Miller, Chandra Rameriz, Carlos Ramalho,  
Roxanne Runyan, Sadie Sceva, Guynema Terry, Ace and Jett Wildung,  
Josh Wilker, Josh Winter, and Judy Yasi,  
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.

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