



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Ben Cherland

August 10, 2025

A Service of Readings and Song

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN *How Great Thou Art (ELW 856)(V. 1 & 4)*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HYMN *Borning Cry (ELW 732)*

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN *Earth and All Stars (ELW 731, v. 1,4 & 5)*

Psalm: Psalm 33:12-22

Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. (Ps. 33:22)

- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!
- ¹³ **The Lord looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**
- ¹⁴ God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵ **God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- ¹⁷ **The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ **to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,
our helper and our shield.
- ²¹ **Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

HYMN *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* (ELW 774)

Men sing V. 1, Women Sing V. 2 Everyone sings on V. 3 and the refrain

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN *Give Me Jesus (ELW 770)(V.1,2 & 5)*

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN Medley— *You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore (ELW 817, v. 1)*
 Jesus Loves Me! (ELW 595)
 Lord, Be Glorified - In my life, In our song, In your
 church, In your world (ELW 744)
 Precious Lord Take My Hand (ELW 773)
 What a Friend We Have in Jesus (ELW 742, v. 1)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord in Your Mercy

Hear Our Prayer, Amen

LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

HYMN *His Eye is on the Sparrow – solo, join in on the refrain*
Refrain: I sing because I'm happy
I sing because I'm free
For His eye is on the sparrow
And I know He watches me

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.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

HYMN *We Are Marching in the Light (ELW 866)*

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!

Please bring your clean mismatched, outgrown, holy or just unwanted socks to the SOX BOX in the lobby. Along with the Episcopal and Community churches, we are collecting them to be recycled by Smart Wool into filling for dog beds and other things. This helps protect the environment by keeping them out of the landfill.

Upcoming

August 12th, Tuesday at 4:00 pm there will be an informal reception for Josh Wilker who is returning to civilian life. Everyone is invited to come and welcome Josh back.

Next Sunday August 17th we will have worship on Fellowship Field with a potluck picnic following.

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.

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, the family of JoAnne Fox, Nancy Knudson, Dolly Koski, Rick and
Sandy Koski, Doug & Mary Lair, the family of Paul Odegaard, Brian S.,
Guynema Terry, Josh Wilker, and Madison

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
From sundaysalndseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.