



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

*May 4, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter*

Pastor Ben Cherland

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church

Third Sunday of Easter | May 4, 2025

GATHERING

Prelude: Ella Kinzley playing Snow Owl and Footprints on the Moon

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.

Recreate 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 SONG

Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded



1 Day of de - light and beau-ty un - bound-ed, tell the news, the gos - pel
2 Day of de - light and beau-ty un - bound-ed, tell the news, the gos - pel



spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ
spread! Day of all won - der, day of all splen - dor, praise Christ



ris - en from the dead! Sing of the sun from dark - ness ap -
ris - en from the dead! Sing now of mourn - ing turned in - to



pear - ing; sing of the seed from bar - ren earth green - ing;
danc - ing; sing now the mys - t'ry, hope of our glo - ry;



sing of cre - a - tion, al - le - lu - ia! Sing of the
sing with thanks - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia! Sing now of



stream from Je - sus' side flow - ing; sing of the saints in
fast - ing turned in - to feast - ing; sing the Lord's fa - vor



wa - ter made ho - ly; sing of sal - va - tion, al - le - lu - ia!
last-ing for - ev - er; sing, all things liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

Text © 2011 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

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.

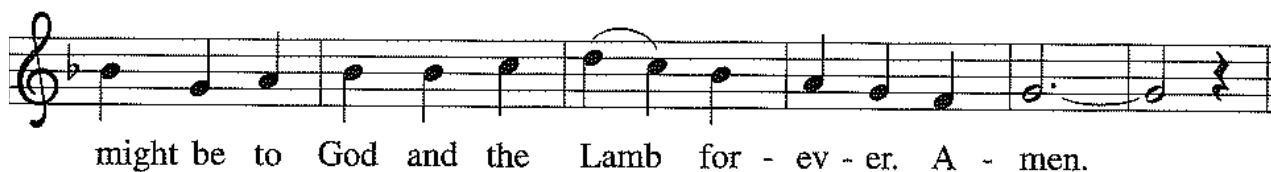
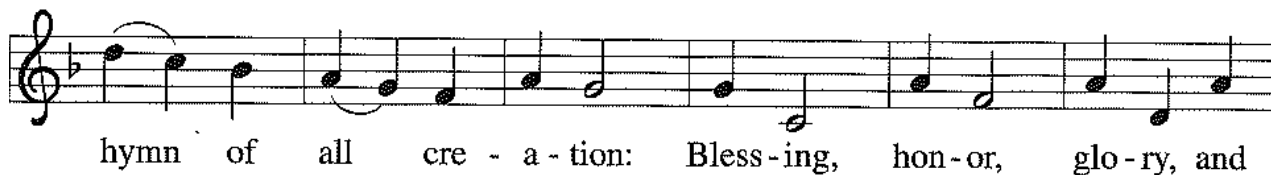
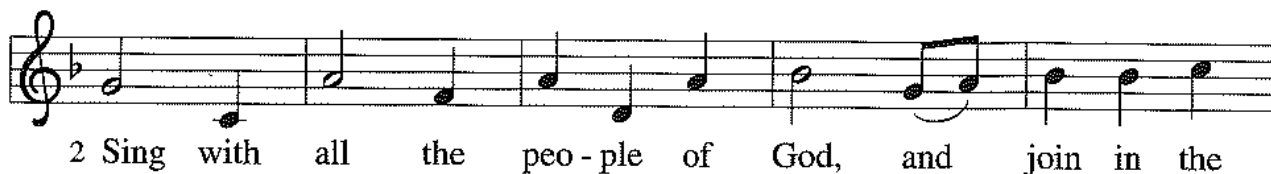
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

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 -



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow 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: Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵ He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” [⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”]

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 30

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

¹ I will exalt you, O Lord, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

² **O Lord my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.**

³ You brought me up, O Lord, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴ **Sing praise to the Lord, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.**

⁵ God’s wrath is short; God’s favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶ **While I felt secure, I said,
“I shall never be disturbed.**

⁷ You, Lord, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains.”
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸ **I cried to you, O Lord;
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

⁹ “What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰ **Hear, O Lord, and have mercy upon me;
O Lord, be my helper.”**

¹¹ You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹² **Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is “the Lamb who was slain.”

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might
and honor and glory and blessing!”

¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might
forever and ever!”

¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshipped.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hallelujah

Heleluyan

SERVICE MUSIC

171

1* 2 3

He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef. It consists of two lines of music. The first line has three measures, each with a number above it: 1*, 2, and 3. The second line has four measures. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes. The first line of lyrics corresponds to the first three measures, and the second line corresponds to the next four measures.

* May be sung in canon.

Music: Muscogee (Creek) Indian; transc. Charles H. Webb, b. 1933

Transcription © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House, admin. The Copyright Company

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 21:1-19

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

¹ After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the

third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *The Church of Christ in Every Age (ELW 729)*

APOSTLE’S 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.**

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

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

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



1 I'm so glad I'm so glad
2 Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift-ed me. Sa - tan had me bound,
3 When I was in trou - ble, When I was in trou - ble,



Je - sus lift-ed me. I'm so glad
Sa - tan had me bound, Je - sus lift-ed me,
When I was in trou - ble,



sing-ing glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! Je - sus lift - ed me.

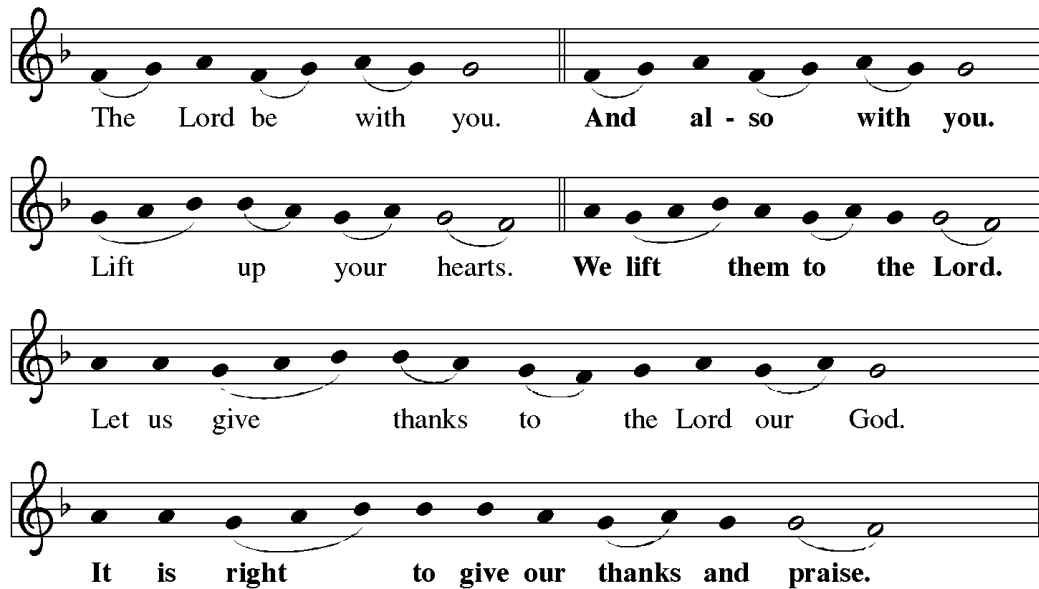
Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE



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

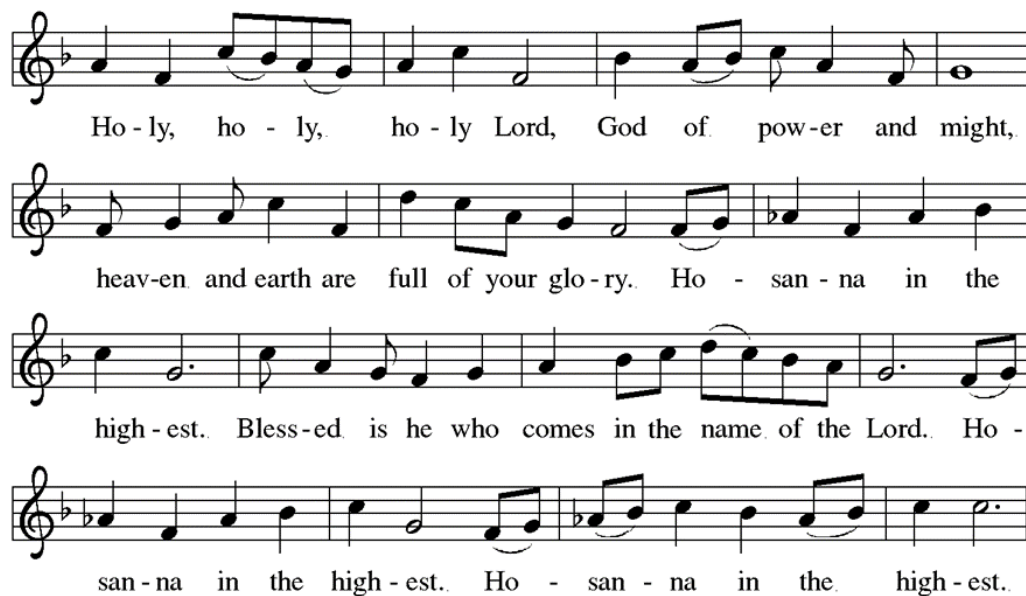
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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-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.

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 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.

COMMUNION HYMN

Eat This Bread Drink This Cup (ELW 492)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **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 SONG *Alleluia Sing to Jesus (ELW 392)*

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering

May
Christikon

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. Pastor Ben

Messiah Quilters need your help tomorrow, Monday, May 5 at 1:00 pm to pack up
and box and weigh the Lutheran World Relief quilts for shipping. We then need to
clean/vacuum the chairs. Please bring your lint rollers as they work well to get off
threads and lint. We thank you in advance for your help with this BIG effort.

Barb Ostrum and the Quilters

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!

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.

If you are interested in helping to lead worship, we're developing a new role for you
here at Messiah called (drumroll) **Assisting Minister!** It would consist of reading
the Prayer of the Day, the Psalm, the Prayers of the People and helping me with a
few things around the Eucharist. There is a history to this role in the Church and it
will enrich worship and your life in the church. Connect with Pastor Ben if you're
interested.

Upcoming

End of Life Adult Forum series Monday nights in May and June.

May 5 – 7:00 pm Lanette Dally – End of Life Issues to Avoid

May 12 – 7:00 pm Roy Olpin – Death Care

May 19 – 7:00 pm Jim Johnson – Visiting the Dying

June 2 – 7:00 pm Pastor Ben – Funerals and More

Rogation Sunday Outdoor Worship with Calvary Episcopal – June 22, 2025

Two Opportunities to join our Red Lodge ecumenical partners in worship!

Rogation Sunday service and potluck with Calvary Episcopal at the Tuell Ranch on June 22nd. Messiah showed up in force last year and enjoyed a moving worship service with our friends at Calvary.

AND

Messiah is invited to join the Community Church for worship at Kaleva on July 27th. 10 a.m. worship service with a potluck after. Bring your own chairs. (Kaleva is a private campground just off Highway 212, south of Roberts.)

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
Carl and Meredith Cherland, Neil and Alice Carver, Jackie Cordill, Mason Daily,
JoAnne Fox, Herb Hunt, Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski,
Jack Kyner and his family,
Doug & Mary Lair, Rob Loney, Paul Odegaard,
Josh Wilker, and M.T.

**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 sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.