



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christ the King Sunday, November 23, 2025

Pastor Ben Cherland

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
Christ the King Sunday – November 23, 2025

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, (+) one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen

Each day God gives us the gift of new life. Each day, sin challenges us to walk away from the path of discipleship and put ourselves before God. We take this time to ask God's forgiveness for our selfish ways; knowing that God's forgiveness resurrects our life for the sake of Jesus, God's Son and our Savior.

Holy and Life-giving God, **We confess the loves and desires which place things before thanks; fortune before faith; our wants before yours. Forgive our selfish plans and place the way of the cross before us anew each day. Lead us through the changes and chances of life, not by our own will but by the example of Jesus, your Son, and by the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.**

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

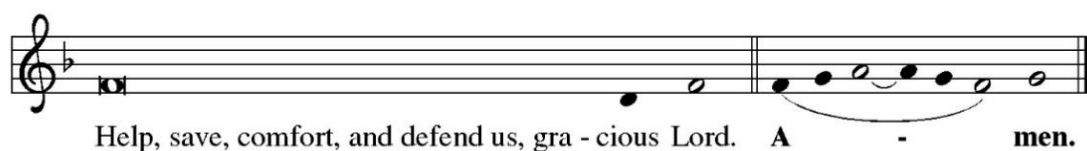
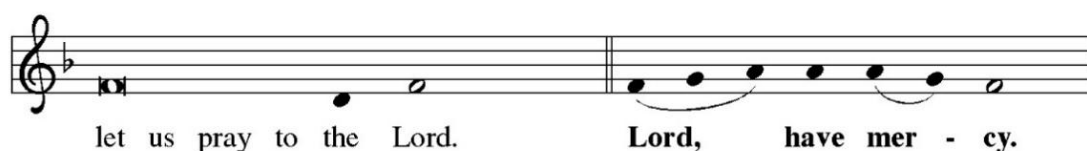
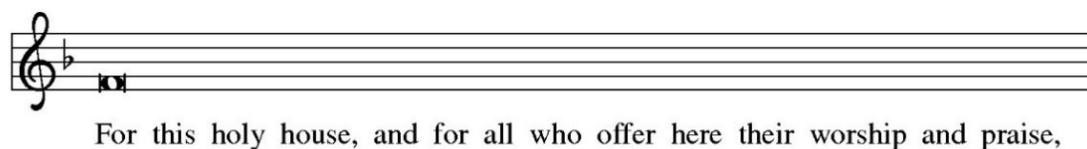
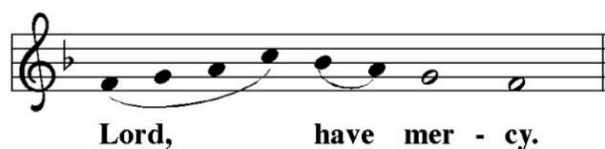
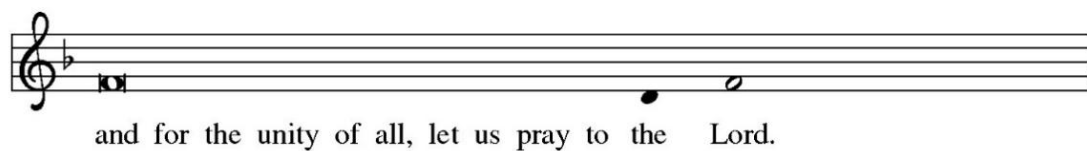
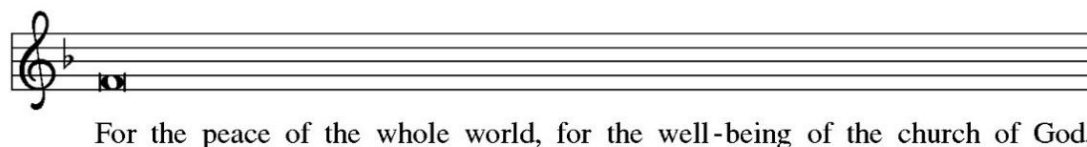
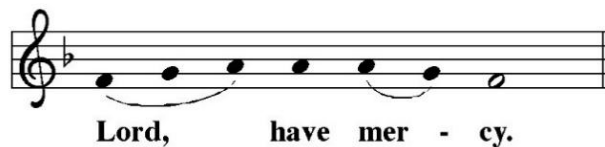
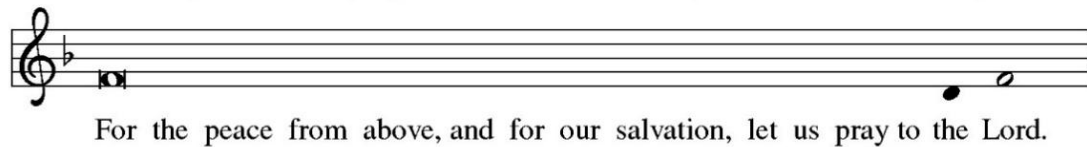
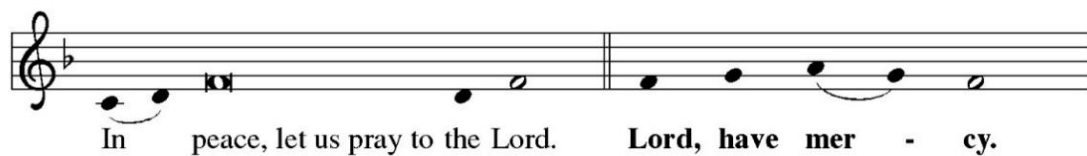
GATHERING HYMN *ELW 645 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation*

GREETING

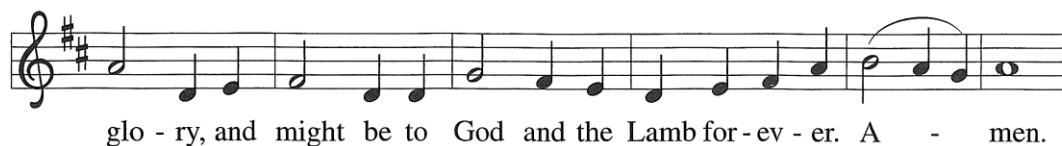
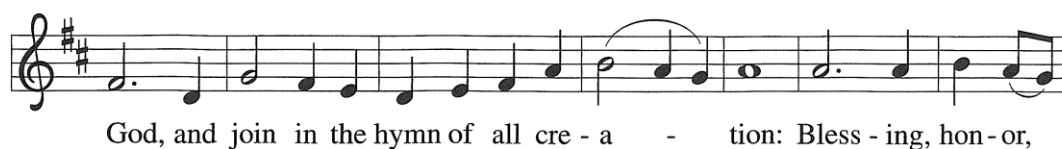
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy.
 We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory.
 Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your
 divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and
 reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
 Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 46

I will be exalted among the nations. (Ps. 46:10)

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

**⁶ The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

**⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

**⁸ Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

**⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.**

**¹⁰ “Be still, then, and know that | I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”**

**¹¹ The Lord of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.**

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jubilate Deo

Canon in 4 voices, with coda

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

$\text{♩} = c.56-69$

① ② ③ ④

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

Al - le - lu - ia.

Lent: O praise the Lord,

The Holy Gospel according to Luke Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he

said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.” ⁴³ He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *ELW 502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

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.**

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

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, using quarter and half notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

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.

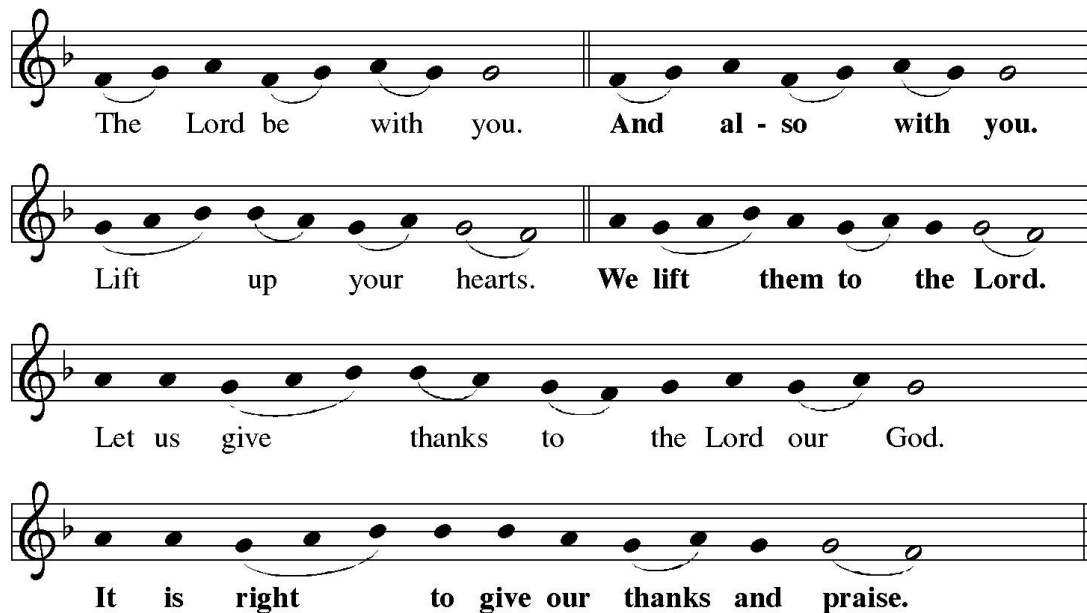
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in 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.

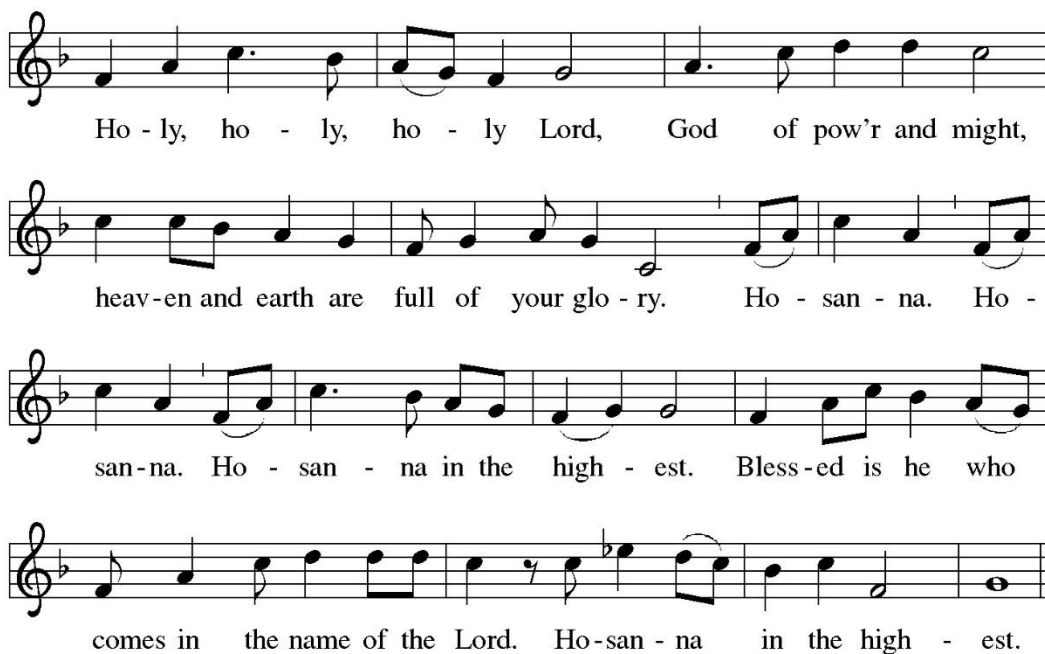
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score for the Dialogue section consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has a double bar line after the first phrase. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first phrase. The third and fourth staves continue the melody without bar lines.

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.

The musical score for the Holy, Holy, Holy section consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is more complex than the Dialogue section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below each staff. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff ends with a double bar line. The third and fourth staves continue the melody without bar lines.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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,

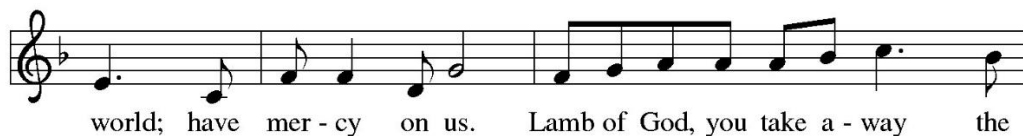
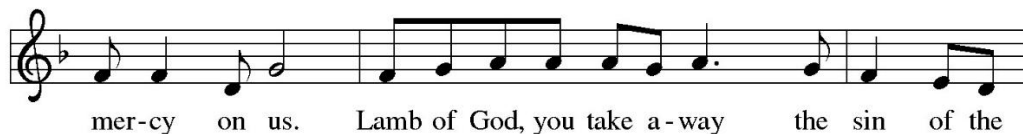
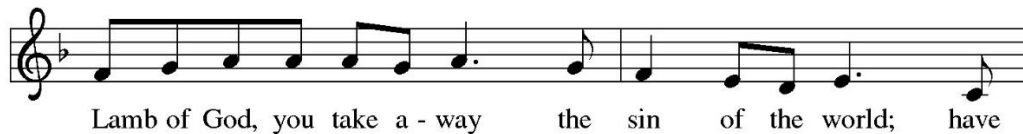
and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG



COMMUNION HYMN *ELW 522 As We Gather at Your Table*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

Life is short
and we do not have much time
to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us.
So be swift to love.
Make haste to be kind.
And the blessing of God,
who made us,
who loves us,
and who travels with us
be with you now and forever.

[\[1\]](#) Adapted from Henri Frederic Armiel, Swiss Philosopher

SENDING HYMN *ELW 389 Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing*

DISMISSAL

Go in Peace. Serve one another. **Thanks be to God!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The special offering for November is Campus Ministries
--

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

Upcoming

We are hosting a Thanksgiving celebration at our church this evening with Calvary Episcopal and Red Lodge Community Church UCC. An abbreviated service of worship at 5:00 pm will be followed by a community meal open to the public. This event has been offered to the wider Red Lodge community, and since we don't know how many guests to expect, we're asking Messiah members to be generous with their potluck dishes.

Paul Schauer will be baking the turkeys with all the trimmings - let's match his spirit by filling the table with plenty of delicious sides and desserts! Yes, Calvary and RLCC will also be contributing side dishes.

Come for worship, stay for food and fellowship, and help us share the spirit of Thanksgiving with our neighbors during this outreach event.

Trades of Hope will be here in the gathering area December 14th with fair trade goods from around the world...just in time for Christmas Shopping.

HELP THE HOMELESS IN BILLINGS, MONTANA

A message from Teri Wilker

I am collecting items for a program at Bethlehem Lutheran Church to help the homeless people of Billings, Montana.

Please donate if you have extra men's coats, boots, sleeping bags, blankets and tarps. Items may be brought to Messiah in Red Lodge, and I will pick them up.

God Bless! Teri Wilker

Save Your Suds ministry with Calvary Episcopal Church – See the bulletin board for details.

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.

Hebrews 4:16: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

This month the people of Messiah are praying for Vince and Mary Ames, Claudia B, Hannah Gonzales, Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Jim Kyner, Doug & Mary Lair, Ande Odegaard, Jackie Odegaard, Carlos Ramalho, the family of Dick Rosekelly, Pam Tuscher, Sadie Sceva, Josh Wilker, Raj and Colette, and Lexi

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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
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