



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

14th Sunday after Pentecost – September 14, 2025

Pastor Ben Cherland

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
14th Sunday after Pentecost | September 14, 2025

GATHERING

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

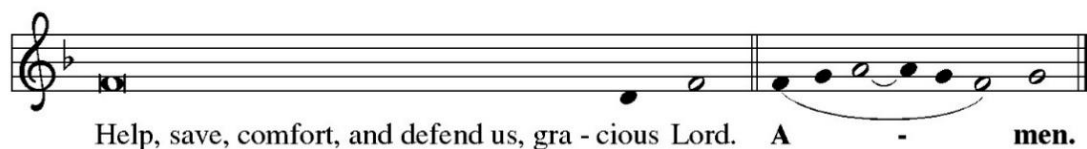
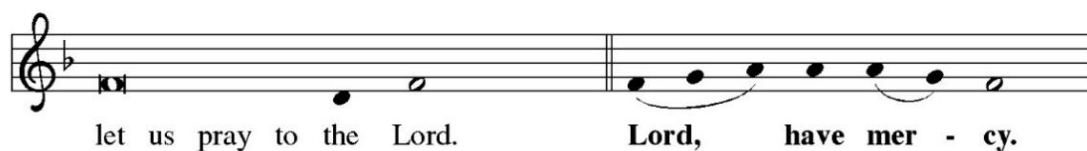
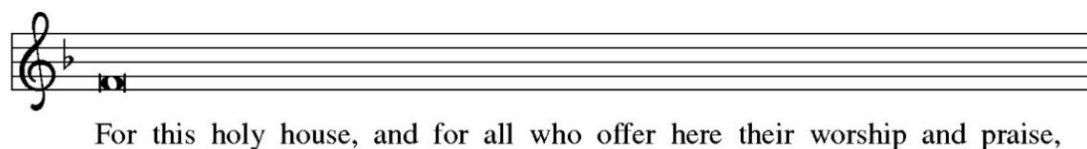
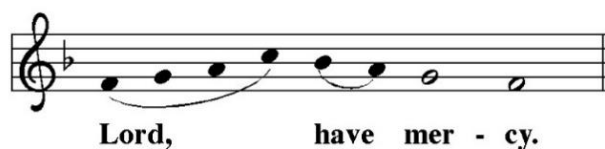
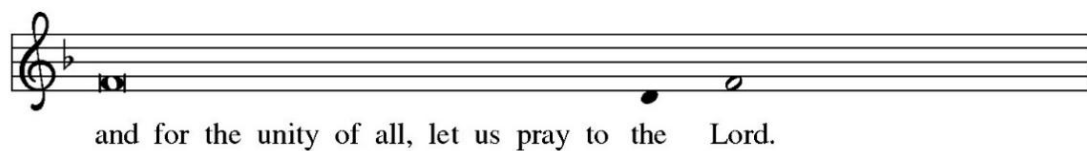
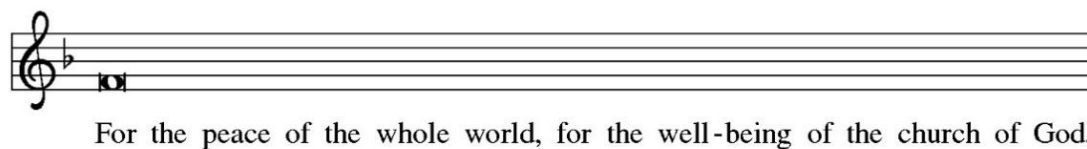
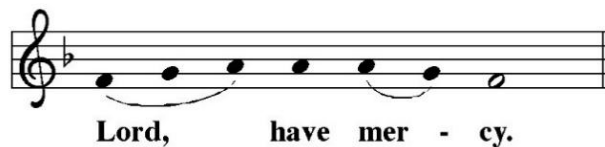
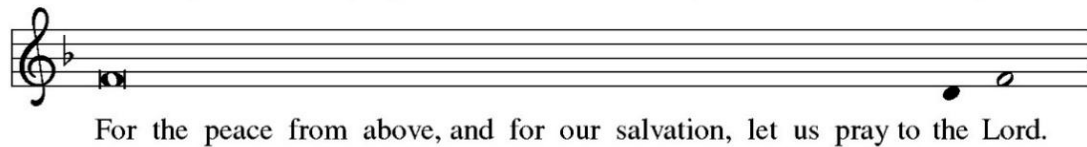
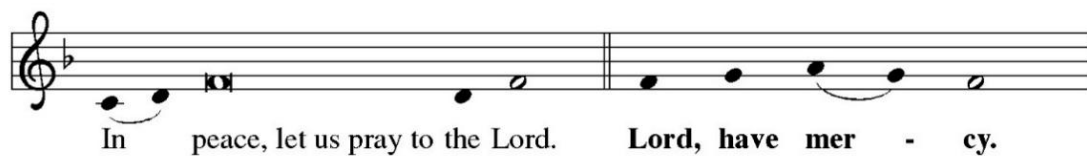
Amen

GATHERING HYMN *ELW 807 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

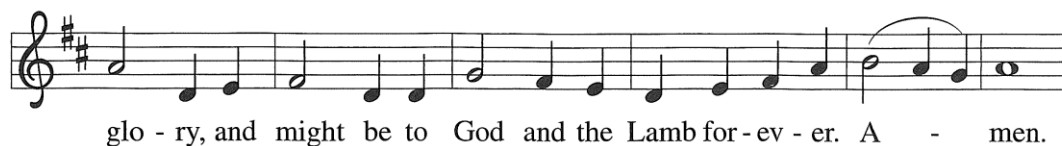
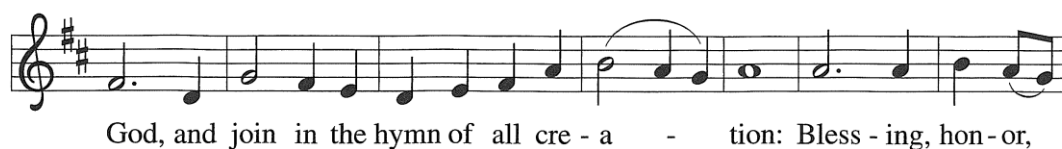
GREETING

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, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.

⁷ The Lord said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” ⁹ The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 51:1-10

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. (Ps. 51:1)

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

² **Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.**

³ For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.

⁴ **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

⁵ Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother’s womb.

- ⁶ Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**
- ⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- ⁸ Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**
- ⁹ Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Jubilate Deo

Canon in 4 voices, with coda

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

$\text{♩} = c.56-69$

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 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *ELW 608 Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*

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**

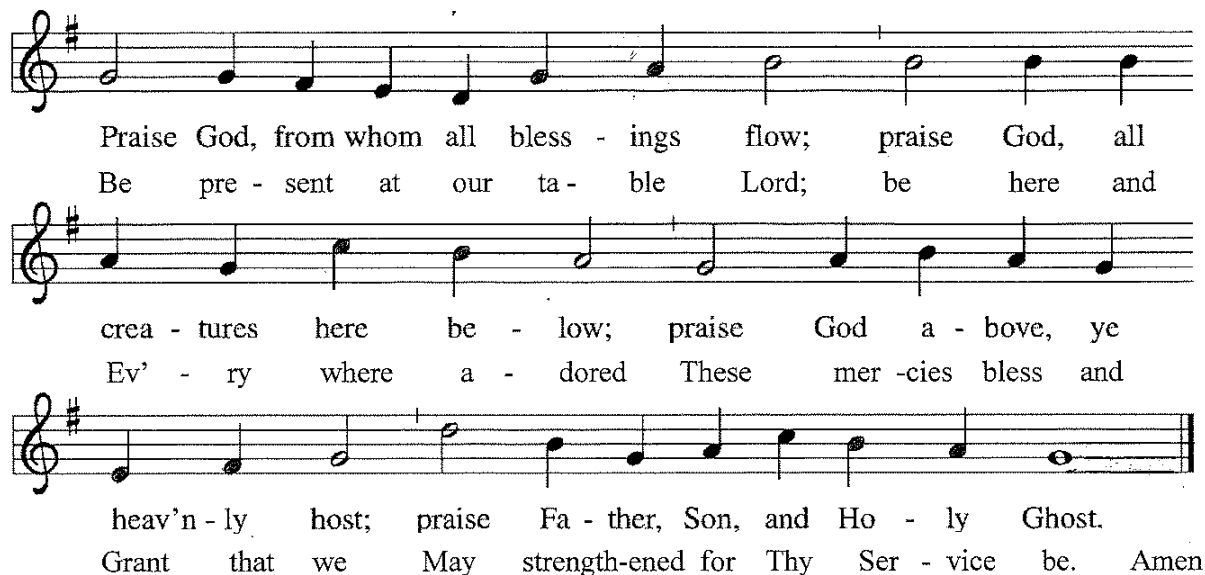
PEACE

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

MEAL

OFFERING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



The musical notation consists of three staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is written in a simple, hymn-like style. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The text reads: 'Praise God, from whom all blessings 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'.

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.

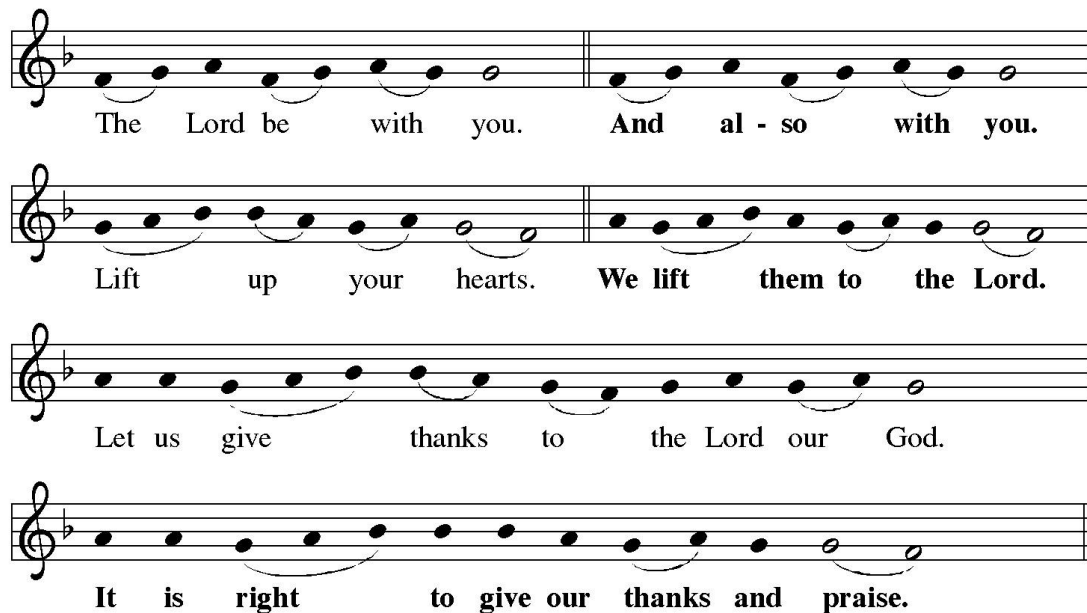
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

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.

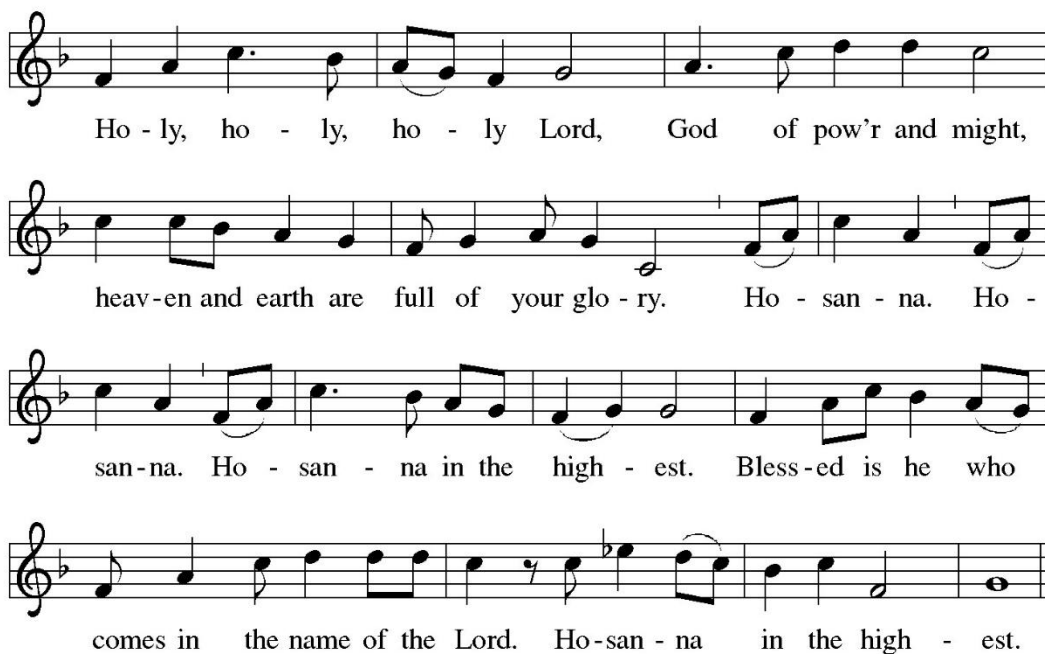
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

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,

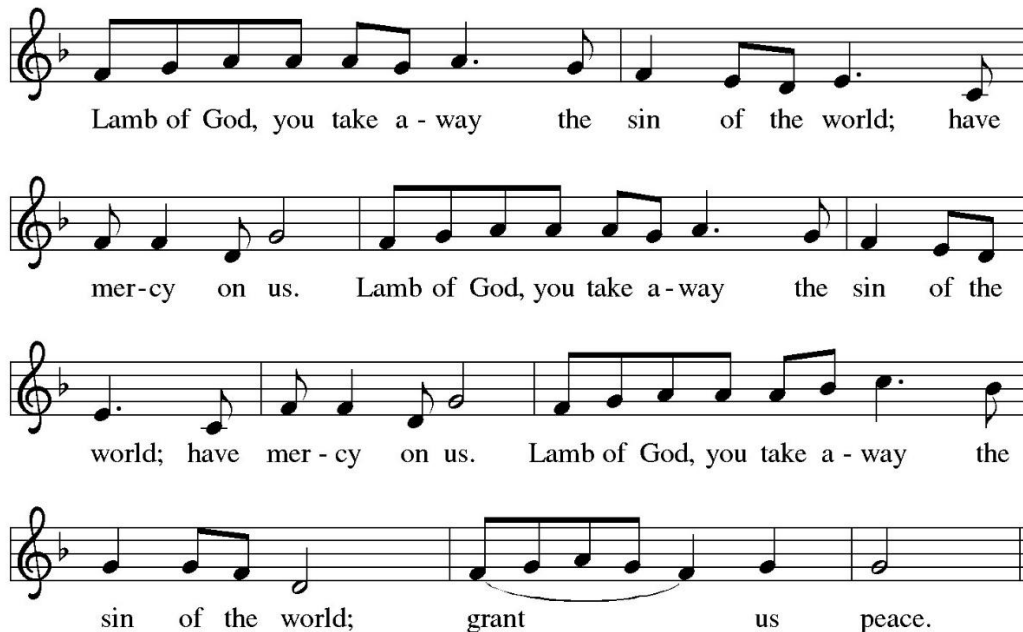
and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG



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 *ELW 592 Just As I Am Without One Plea*

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 go in peace, praising God in word and deed.^[1]

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord look upon you with kindness and give you peace.

^[1] Adapted from Henri Frederic Armiel, Swiss Philosopher

SENDING HYMN *ELW 544 Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing*

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering for September is Pastor's Discretionary
--

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.

Upcoming

Herb Hunt will be 90 on September 23. Herb often says how much he misses everyone in Red Lodge. Maybe a bunch of us could send him birthday cards to let him know we miss him, too.

Herb's address is [2311 Ivy Lane, Billings, MT 59102](#)

In addition,

Herb's son, Jeff, is hosting a 90th birthday party for Herb Saturday, September 20th at noon at the Veterans Park Rec Center at 13th St West and Poly Drive. Lunch, cake and drinks will be provided.

Please RSVP to Jeff Hunt at either 406-970-0030 or hjeffreyhunt@gmail.com

Messiah Chimes resumes rehearsals today at 11:30 am with the exciting addition of handbells. This opportunity comes through the admirable generosity of First Lutheran Church in Havre. From now through spring, these valuable musical instruments are in our care, for the opportunity of learning about their unique sounds and performance techniques.

By way of education, let's all respect that they are handled only with gloves, maintaining their polished bronze. Also, like the Liberty Bell, a crack renders them unable to make music.

As always, your interest is welcomed!



SAVE YOUR SUDS

a community ministry of kindness

Save Your Suds is a ministry that was started by Calvary Episcopal Church in June of 2023.

The purpose of the program is to spread kindness in our community by helping people pay for their laundry expenses at Rock Creek Laundromat.

Owner of the laundromat, Jim Moore, generously donates the cost of washing. He provides us with a key to the washing machines that allows us to bypass the need for quarters or credit cards.

The cost of drying is covered by donations from the Episcopal Church Women and from parishioners from Calvary.

Volunteers run the program which is held on the first and third Sundays of every month from 5-7p.m.

Each week a bin is provided to that week's volunteers.

The bin is outfitted with the following items:

Detergent, Dryer sheets, Washer key and instructions for the use of the key, Quarters for the dryers, Clipboard to record number of loads and amount of quarters used.

Members of the community have become somewhat dependent on the SYS program and are very appreciative of the help. This is a wonderful way to support our neighbors and spread kindness in our community. Calvary would love to have our friends from Community UCC and Messiah join us in this essential ministry. To volunteer, please contact Kathie Wilson at: grgtlv@aol.com

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
The family of Donald Alexander, Claudia B, The family of Carl Cherland,
Jackie Cordill, Hannah Gonzales, Nancy Knudson,
Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Doug & Mary Lair, Jacques Odegaard,
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.