

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

June 1, 2025 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Pastor Ben Cherland

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church

Seventh Sunday of Easter | June 1, 2025

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 SONG (ELW 709) When Our Song Says Peace

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





PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN SERMON

First Reading: Acts 16:16-34

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

¹⁶ One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." ¹⁸ She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. ²⁰ When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews ²¹ and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." ²² The crowd joined in attacking them and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. ²³ After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. ²⁴ Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. ²⁶ Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. ²⁷ When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸ But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." ²⁹ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹ They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³² They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ At the same hour of the night he

took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. ³⁴ He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 97

Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous. (Ps. 97:12)

¹ The Lord reigns; let the earth rejoice;

let the multitude of the isles be glad.

- ²Clouds and darkness surround the Lord, righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's throne.
- ³ Fire goes before the Lord, burning up enemies on every side.
- ⁴ Lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.
- ⁵ The mountains melt like wax before the Lord of all the earth.
- ⁶ The heavens declare your righteousness, O Lord, and all the peoples see your glory.
- ⁷ Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before the Lord, all you gods.
- ⁸ Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O Lord.
- ⁹ For you are the Lord, most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- ¹⁰ You who love the Lord, hate evil!

God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

- ¹¹ Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the honest of heart.
- ¹² Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name.

Second Reading: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.

¹² "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

¹⁶ "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

²⁰ The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



^{*} 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

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

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

Gospel: John 17:20-26

Jesus prays that the life of his followers will be characterized by an intimate unity of identity with God. To be so identified with God means also to share in God's mission: to proclaim the word that will bring others into this same unity.

[Jesus prayed:] ²⁰ "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

²⁵ "Righteous Father, the world does not know you, but I know you; and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW) 655 Son of God Eternal Savior

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

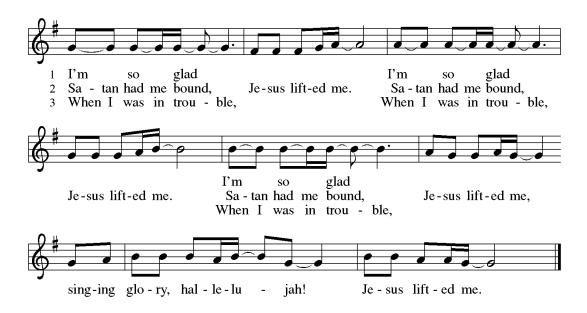
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me



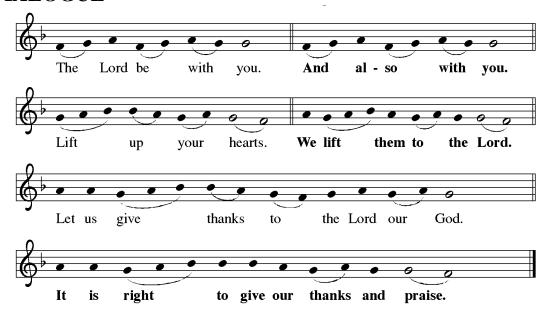
Text: African American spiritual Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

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.**

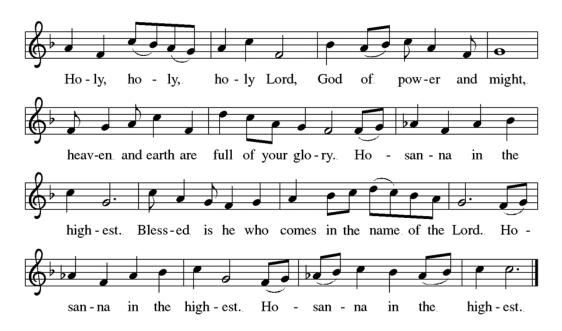
GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE



PREFACE (Pastor)

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



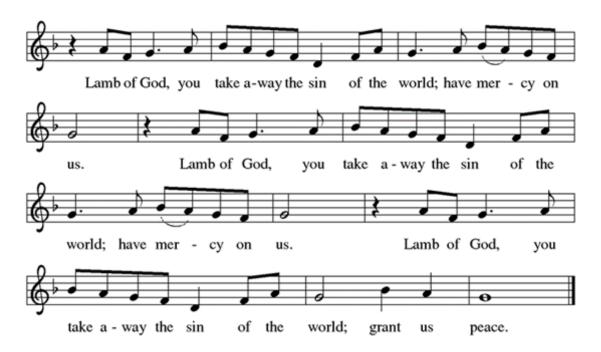
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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



COMMUNION HYMN (ELW 496) One Bread One Body

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 (ELW 650) In Christ There is No East or West

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering

For June is The Boys and Girls Club

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!

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.

Church Cleanup Day is scheduled for this Saturday, June 7, from 9:00 am til noon. Let's all pitch in and get things spiffed up! Please bring rakes, weed eaters and other garden tools if you have them.

Upcoming

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.)

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 your are adding.

This month the people of Messiah are praying for Carl and Meredith Cherland, Neil and Alice Carver, Jackie Cordill, JoAnne Fox, Nancy Knudson, Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Doug & Mary Lair, the family of Rob Loney, Paul Odegaard Guynema Terry, 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.