



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

13th Sunday after Pentecost – September 7, 2025

Pastor Ben Cherland

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
13th Sunday after Pentecost | September 7, 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

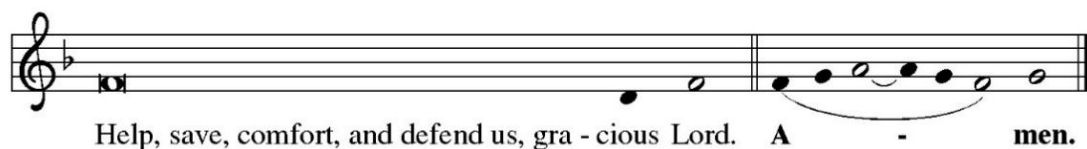
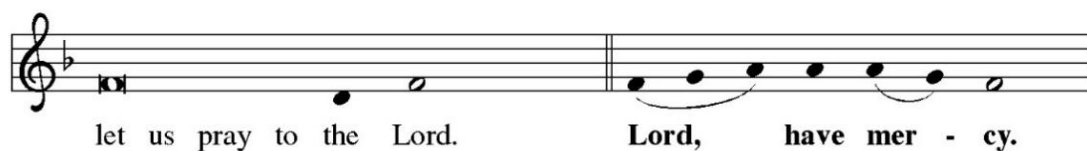
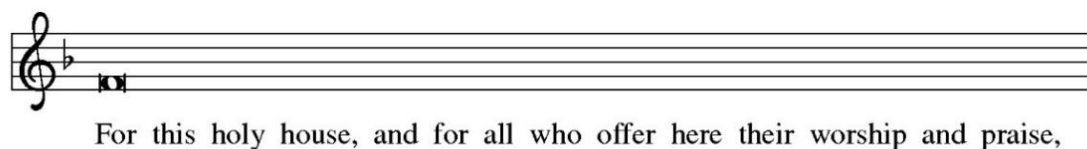
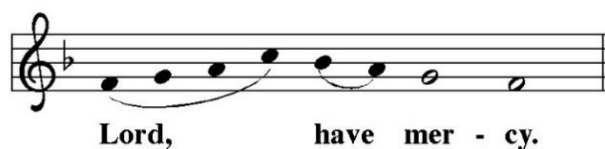
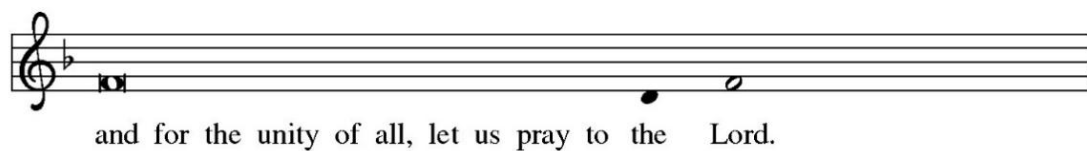
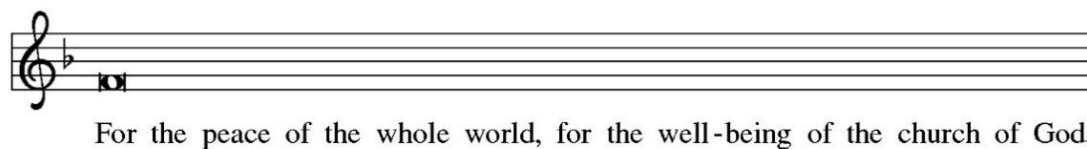
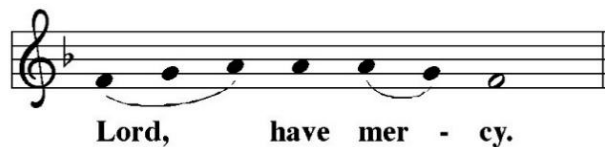
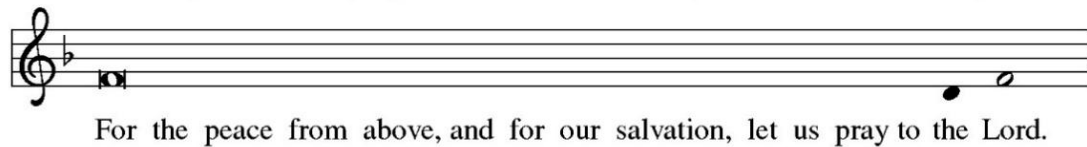
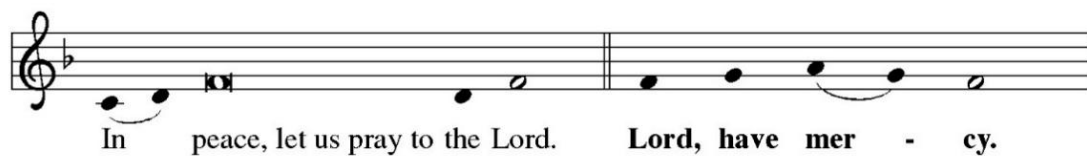
GATHERING HYMN *ELW 335 Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross*

GREETING

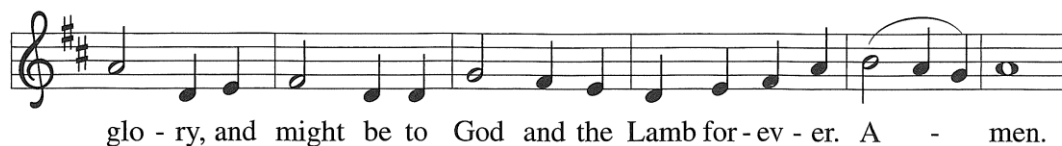
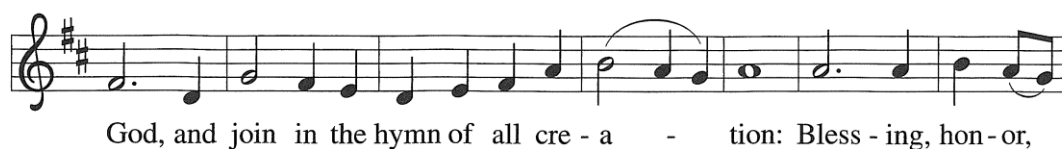
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

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

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON – BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the Lord; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵ “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with
leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

⁶ **For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Second Reading: Philemon 1-21

Onesimus, a new Christian and a man enslaved by Philemon, has helped Paul, who is in prison. Paul writes this letter to his friend Philemon to encourage him to receive Onesimus, upon his return, as a sibling in Christ.

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

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.

Lent: O praise the Lord,

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

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *ELW 802 Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus*

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**

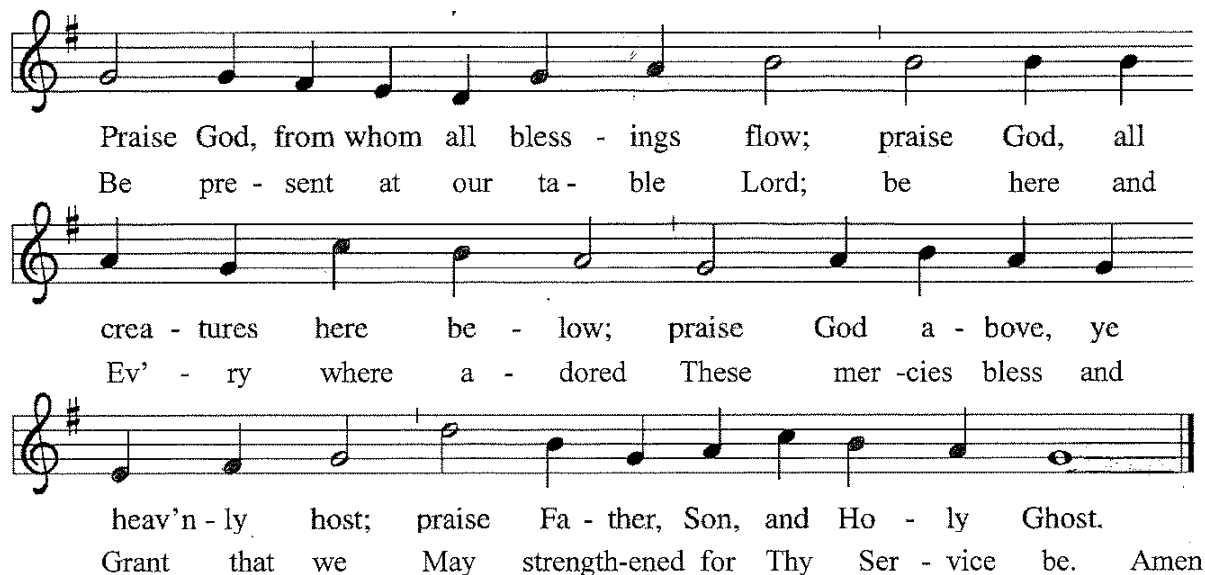
PEACE

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

MEAL

OFFERING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



The musical notation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written 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.

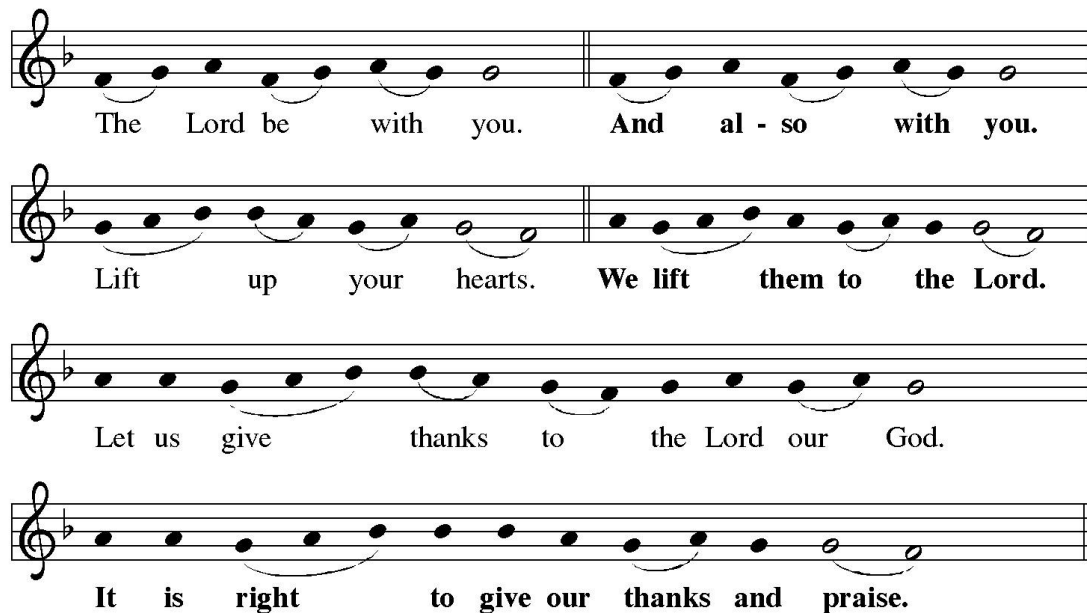
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

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.

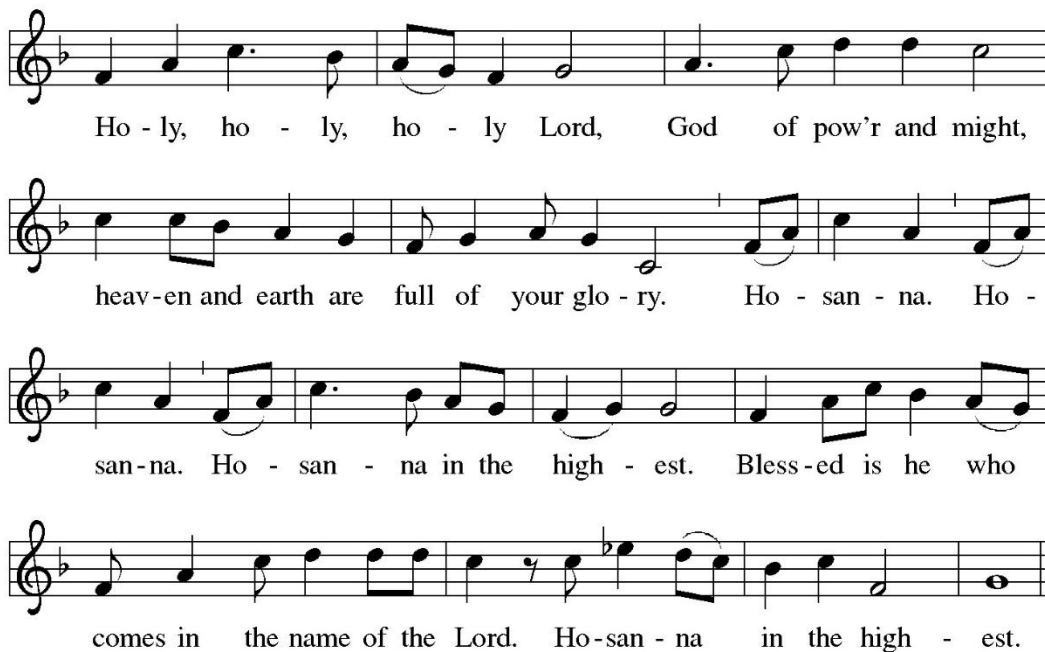
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 measure. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first measure. The third and fourth staves end with double 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 rhythmic and includes some 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 staff ends with a double bar line. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

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 810 O Jesus, I Have Promised*

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 768 Lead Me, Guide Me*

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Offering for August 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

Beginning today and lasting 6 weeks, Small Group Discussions on the book “The Road to Wisdom” led by Patrick Keifert and Pastor Ben. Sunday mornings, 8:30 am – 9:30 am. All are encouraged to attend.

Today following worship, we will be having a **parents meeting**. Thank you, parents, for attending!

See the bulletin board for details on the St. Agnes Annual Craft Fair. All are welcome to participate.

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, the family of JoAnne Fox, Hannah Gonzales, Nancy Knudson,
Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Doug & Mary Lair, 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 sundaysInIdseasons.com. Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.