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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

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# Messiah Messenger

407 Nassau Street at Cedar Lane

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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### Missions Medical and Spiritual

Last month, I entitled this column, *Light at the End of the Tunnel*, looking forward to the lessening of the Covid threat and restrictions. This month, I'm happy to report that we're making gradual progress on that front. We're adapting to live with Covid like we do with measles, and vaccination is a key part of prevention. If you haven't receive a vaccination appointment yet and haven't already registered for one at the following websites, I encourage you to do so:

All NJ residents: NJ State website: [covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine](https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine)

If you live in Mercer, Middlesex, or Somerset County: [rwjbh.org/covid19vaccine](https://rwjbh.org/covid19vaccine)  
(Edison megasite)

If you live in southern Mercer or Burlington County: [virtua.org/vaccine](https://virtua.org/vaccine) (Moorestown megasite)

If you live in Pennsylvania: [pa.gov/guides/get-vaccinated/](https://pa.gov/guides/get-vaccinated/)

Once your phase is eligible to be vaccinated, also check the Princeton Medical Center website periodically for appointment availability: [princetonhcs.org](http://princetonhcs.org)

We're making good progress on the vaccination front at Messiah. Just about every week, more of us are getting appointments. So don't despair – make sure you are registered, and your turn will come.

As Covid vaccination progresses, we will gradually increase the number of in-person activities we offer. To make time for music rehearsal before Sunday worship services and to ease the transition to Daylight Saving Time, **Sunday worship time will change from 9:30am to 10:00am beginning Sunday, March 14.**

On **Easter Sunday (April 4) only**, we will have an outdoor service at 8:30am (weather permitting), followed by an indoor service at 11am.

Until we have all had a chance to be vaccinated, in worship services please continue to wear masks and maintain six feet of distance between you and members of other households.

Continued on next page...

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THE REV. DR.  
MARTIN K. ERHARDT  
PASTOR

THE REV. DR.  
JOHN MARK GOERSS  
PASTOR EMERITUS

JANICE HOFREITER  
ORGANIST AND  
CHOIR DIRECTOR

ALLY PEXA  
OFFICE ASSISTANT

## CHURCH CALENDAR



Pastor's column continued:

Covid plagues us all, and so does sin. This season of Lent, we focus on Christ, healer of our every ill – medical and spiritual. We belong to God and can rest secure in his capable and compassionate hands. Overcoming the challenge of Covid is laying bare the sinews and ligaments that bind us together as members of Christ's body. He has made us his ambassadors, to bear the fruit of the Spirit and to welcome our neighbors into his kingdom by the light of the gospel.

Speaking of the gospel, the apostle wrote to the Christians in Corinth:

“<sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. <sup>8</sup> We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.”  
(2 Corinthians 4:7-10)

Thank you for your patience and perseverance through our present trial of Covid. And thanks be to God for the gift of Jesus Christ, for the encouragement of his Word, and for the privilege of carrying his gospel treasure to the world he so loves.

Pastor Erhardt

### ADULT FORUM

Join us for Adult Forum on Tuesdays at 4:30pm. Our current topic is:

Feb. 23 — Mar. 30: Hymns for Lent

Please join us! To participate, contact Pastor for a more detailed schedule and online connection information

### OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

**Tuesday, March 9, 7:00 pm**

*Executive Board*



**Thursday, March 11, 7:30 pm**

*Community Book Group*



**Saturday, March 13, 10:00 am**

*Outdoor Worship Service*



**Sunday, March 14**

*DST begins*

*Worship time changes to 10am*

**Saturday, March 27, 9 am**

*Men's Forum*



**Thursday, April 1, 8 pm**

*Maundy Thursday Holy Communion*



**Friday, April 2, 8 pm**

*Good Friday Tenebrae*



**Sunday, April 4**

*Easter Sunday*

*8:30am Outdoor Service*

*11:00 am Indoor Service*

**Note the service times for Easter Sunday**



**Thursday, April 15, 7:30 pm**

*Community Book Group*



**Saturday, April 24, 9 am**

*Men's Forum*



### LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES

**Wednesdays in Lent**

**February 24 — March 24**

7:00 PM Evening Prayer (LBW p. 142)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

#### Pastor Erhardt leads a monthly community book discussion:

March 11: *A Question of Power*, by Robert Bryce

April 15: *The Wise Man from the West*, by Vincent Cronin

Discussions begin at 7:30pm via Zoom until we can resume meeting in person. Please obtain and read the book before each discussion, and email Pastor Erhardt for a Zoom invitation. Invite friends! This is a way for Messiah to serve our bookish community and for us to introduce people to Messiah who might not participate otherwise.

#### Protect Messiah from Covid-19!

If you haven't already, add yourself to the Covid vaccine waitlist now. You can register on the State of NJ website:

[covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine](https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine)

In addition to protecting you, vaccines can protect vulnerable people around you for whom infection could cause serious illness.

#### Volunteers Needed: Vaccine Navigators

The Princeton Senior Resource Center is seeking volunteers to assist in navigating the complex online scheduling process to secure vaccine appointments. In addition, volunteers are needed to support county vaccination efforts by working the registration table at the CURE Arena mega-site in Trenton. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Carla Servin at (609) 751-9699, ext. 118 or email [vaccine@princeton senior.org](mailto:vaccine@princeton senior.org). All volunteers with PSRC are asked to complete a streamlined application and criminal background check.



If you can't come to church, the church will come to you!

Pastor Erhardt and David Steinnagel after an outdoor Holy Communion service at Acorn Glen (now called Brandywine Serenade)

## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MARCH

LENT YEAR A	FIRST LESSON	PSALM	SECOND LESSON	GOSPEL LESSON
The Third Sunday in Lent March 7, 2021	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalms 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
The Fourth Sunday in Lent March 14, 2021	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
The Fifth Sunday in Lent March 21, 2021	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalms 51:1-12	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
Palm Sunday March 28, 2021	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 11:1-11



## LECTIONARY READINGS FOR APRIL

LENT				
HOLY WEEK	FIRST LESSON	PSALM	SECOND LESSON	GOSPEL LESSON
EASTER				
YEAR A				
Maundy Thursday April 1, 2021	Exodus 12:1-14	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-17, 31b-35
Good Friday April 2, 2021	Tenebrae Readings The Passion According to Mark			
Easter Sunday April 4, 2021	Isaiah 25:6-9		Acts 10:34-43	Mark 16: 1-8
The Second Sunday of Easter April 11, 2021	Acts 4:32-35	Psalm 133	1 John 1:1—2:2	John 20:19-31
The Third Sunday of Easter April 18, 2021	Acts 3:12-19	Psalm 4	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b—48
The Fourth Sunday of Easter April 25, 2021	Acts 4:5-12	Psalm 23	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18



# March 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 <i>4:30pm Adult Forum</i>	3 <i>7pm Evening Prayer</i>	4	5	6
7 <i>9:30am Holy Communion</i>	8	9 <i>7pm Executive Board 4:30pm Adult Forum</i>	10 <i>7pm Evening Prayer</i>	11 <i>7:30pm Book Group</i>	12	13 <i>10am Outdoor Worship Service</i>
14 <i>DST begins Worship time changes 10am Holy Communion</i>	15	16 <i>4:30pm Adult Forum</i>	17 <i>7pm Evening Prayer</i>	18	19	20
21 <i>10am Holy Communion</i>	22	23 <i>4:30pm Adult Forum</i>	24 <i>7pm Evening Prayer</i>	25	26	27 <i>9am Men's Forum</i>
28 <i>Palm Sunday 10am Holy Communion</i>	29	30 <i>4:30pm Adult Forum</i>	31			

# April 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1  <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 8pm Holy Communion	2  <i>Good Friday</i> 8pm Tenebrae	3
4 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 8:30am Outdoor Service 11:00am Indoor Service	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 10am Holy Communion	12	13  4:30pm Adult Forum	14	15  7:30pm Book Group	16	17
18 10am Holy Communion	19	20  4:30pm Adult Forum	21	22	23	24 9am Men's Forum
25 10am Holy Communion	26	27  4:30pm Adult Forum	28	29	30	



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RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

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Visit our website to listen to audio recordings of Sunday Sermons.  
<http://www.princetonlutheranchurch.org/services.html>



If we missed your birthday, we're sorry, but it means it's not on file. Help update our data... Call (609) 924-3642 or email the church office at [lcmherald@gmail.com](mailto:lcmherald@gmail.com)