

May 17th, 2020

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church: 905-685-8294, Fax 905-685-7661, www.christlutheransc.ca

Vacancy Pastor: Pastor John Makey (905-834-0516) johnmakey@gmail.com

Parish Assistant: Louise Gondosch (905-646-1939), parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca

Business Manager: Karen McCumber, business.manager@christlutheransc.ca

Secretary: Pat Kimpel, secretary@christlutheransc.ca

SOUL Ministry: Trinda Rensen, Gillian Leaver, Joanne Guetter

Church Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca.

Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Readings for this week: Acts 17: 16-31; 1 Peter 3: 13-22; John 14: 15-21

Lord, because You have promised to give what we ask in the name of Your only-begotten Son, teach us rightly to pray and with all Your saints to offer You our adoration and praise; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer: *“Almighty God, heavenly Father, give us grace to trust You during this time of great distress. In mercy put an end to the coronavirus epidemic that is afflicting many people around the world. Grant relief to those who are suffering, and comfort to those who mourn the death of loved ones. Sustain all medical personnel who are attending to the sick, and bless the efforts of those who are working tirelessly to discover a treatment for this disease. In these times of affliction and distress, strengthen us by Your Word and Spirit to continue steadfast in the one, true, saving faith; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our suffering Lord and Saviour, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.”*

Pray also for all of our congregations and Pastors in LCC and all people in Canada and throughout the world dealing with this **Covid 19**. I have been in contact via messenger with many people throughout the world. Africa, South America, Mexico, England and the population of the whole world is dealing with it, and some governments like in Uganda are just ignoring it, there are going to be millions of people wiped out because of this. We know God is in control but also that sin and mankind has brought this upon ourselves. He is our Refuge and Strength and ever-present help in trouble. ...Pastor Makey

REJOICING AND THANKING GOD IN PRAYER: We thank God for our wonderful shepherds Pastor John Makey & Linda as they continue their work among us during our vacancy. We rejoice also with Pastor Todd and family at the purchase of their new home here in St. Catharines. Their intention is to move for July. May God continue to give each of these gifted pastors His wisdom, discernment and compassion; and may He keep them and their families safe and healthy during this time of crisis.

ANNUAL REPORT: It's that time again. Please send your annual reports as they are ready to: secretary@christlutheransc.ca. I can work on them at home.

NOTE: If you have something that you would like added to the bulletin, please send to Pat by Thursday morning as usual at, secretary@christlutheransc.ca. Thank you!

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOHN:

Dear Brothers and Sister in Christ, some thoughts for the day. I know when you read it, it may seem very Law orientated. However, God doesn't want us to sit back in our rocking chairs and leave Him to wave a magic wand. He gave us brains and bodies to do His work, and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to keep us in our faith and tell others of His AWESOME LOVE!

WHAT I WANT MY CHURCH TO BE:

My church is composed of people like me,
We make it what it is.

I want it to be a church that is a lamp to the path of others, leading them to a knowledge of Christ's love.

It will be, if I am.

It will be friendly, if I am

Its pews will be filled, if I help to fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.

It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith and a church with noble spirit, if I, who make it what it is, am filled with these.

There, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be.

May you and I be "all things that (we) want (our) church to be."

All because of God's Amazing Grace:

Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see
Through many dangers, toils and snares
We have already come
T'was Grace that brought us safe thus far
And Grace will lead us home

Love in Christ, Pastor John

SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Eph. 5: 8-14

Wednesday: Col. 3: 16-24

Friday: 11 Tim. 2: 8-13

Tuesday: John 16: 66-69

Thursday: Matt. 21: 12-17

Saturday: 1 Sam. 16: 14-23

INVITE: All youth, confirmands and those going into confirmation in the fall are welcome to join us on our **Tuesday ZOOM CHAT'S**. Just send Louise your information and she will send you out an invite. Come see what it's all about.....youth-led devotion, a game or 2, diving into a section of scripture and relating it to our lives.

LWMLC / MARY MARTHA: "Please join our ladies at our *Virtual LWMLC/Mary Martha "meeting" on Tuesday, May 19th at 7 p.m.* Once again, we are meeting on Zoom. The plan is to have a very special guest, Brenda Ryan, lead our devotion/Bible study. I will send an invitation to email addresses I have. However, if you missed an invitation to last month's meeting, please call me at **905 371 3972** so I can send one to you.

"For God has not given us the Spirit of fear but of power, love and sound mind." 2 Tim. 1:7

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: **Friday, May 29th.** Please join us on **ZOOM** as we continue to study God's Precious Word through speakers from RightNowMedia. For more information and an invitation, contact Louise (905-329-8579)

V.B.S—Mark your calendars now—Monday, July 27th to Friday, July 31st!

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH DURING THE PANDEMIC

1. THROUGH EFT DONATIONS:

During these uncertain times, it's important for members to keep in mind that although the Church is closed for services, expenses continue to accumulate. Expenses for payroll, utilities, maintenance, etc. continue whether we hold services or not. We have an awesome tool available to us in the form of EFT donations. Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation continues to facilitate this service for us. To assist you in continuing your financial support to your church during these troubled times, we encourage you to fill out the form that is available for printing on Christ's website, (PDF form under "*Coming Events*" tab --> "*Bulletin Board*" tab --> [LCC-ED-EFT Authorization Form-Parishioner](#)) or follow the link: http://christlutheransc.ca/?page_id=96 and then mail the form along with a voided cheque to:

Lutheran Church - Canada, East District Corporation
275 Lawrence Ave.
Kitchener, ON N2M 1Y3
Attn: Darryll Holland

2. BY MAIL: cheques can still be mailed to:
Christ Lutheran Church
140 Russell Ave.
St.Catharines, ON
L2R 1W1

or dropped in the Church mailbox at the East entrance.

3. ONLINE VIA LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA:

Lutheran Church-Canada has opened a web portal that allows parishioners to donate directly to their home church. Just visit LCC's website: www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca and click on the "*Support My Home Congregation with Online Donations*", select "*St. Catharines-Christ Lutheran-30950*" from the drop down menu, enter the amount of your donations and LCC will transfer your donation to Christ. Donation is via VISA or Mastercard. Tax receipts will be issued by LCC (not Christ).

This opportunity will be in effect until the COVID-19 emergency is over.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGES are available on our church website (www.christlutheransc.ca) or on our Facebook page (Christ Lutheran Church in St.Catharines).

PRECIOUS MOMENTS is also on the Church website and distributed via facebook by Louise. If you or someone you know would like to receive these please text Louise (905-339-8579) or send an email.

REMINDERS: Our own **WEBSITE** (www.christlutheransc.ca) and **FACEBOOK PAGE** (*Christ Lutheran Church in St. Catharines*) are both packed with useful information for ourselves and to share with others. They include sermons from Pastor Makey and Pastor Todd, Children's Messages, the bulletin and other resources as well as important updates and upcoming events. Thank you to Karen and Lisa for your diligence in keeping both of these updated!

Right Now Media Video Picks:

During this time of self-quarantine, we have opportunity to share videos from our [Right Now Media Streaming Video Library of Bible Studies](http://www.rightnowmedia.org) (www.rightnowmedia.org). Below are some videos to check out this week for the entire family. Some suggestions are:

Children: "Veggie Tales" or "What's in the Bible"

General: "Overcoming Anxiety during Covid 19" with Jonathon Pokluda

Women: "What the Women Saw" with Sadie Robertson Huff

Men: "This is the Day" with athlete Tim Tebow

Youth: "Different" with Jonathon Evans

Couples: "Ready or Knot"

This is the perfect time to be making use of this wonderful tool-site. For more information about how to join, feel free to text Pastor or Louise (905-329-8579). May God bless you as you continue to listen to and study His Word

IMPACT: So during this time of isolation how are you making an impact on your family, on your neighbours, on those around you? Colossians 3:12, 16 & 17—As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience...Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts whatever you do, do it in the name of Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE: Have you had a chance to start this challenge?

Memorizing God's Word is ALWAYS a wonderful thing. You can do it as a family, couple or even as individuals while we are in self isolation. Some people are copying a verse and placing it on their kitchen table to read at each meal, or on their bathroom mirror. May you be blessed as you meditate and memorize God's Word and encourage others to do the same.

A = "Ask and it will be given to you, Seek and you shall find, Knock and the door will be open to you." Matthew 7: 7 (April 19, 2020)

B = "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe". John 20:29 (April 26, 2020)

C = "CAST your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you." 1 Pet. 5:7 (May 3, 2020)

D = "DO NOT BE ANXIOUS about anything, (but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God.) Phil 4:6 (May 10th, 2020)

E = "EVERY GOOD and perfect gift is from above." James 1:17 (May 17th, 2020)

ART ENTHUSIASTS: We are asking members to share a favourite Bible Verse. You may choose to make a Bible Verse poster, you may choose to display it in the window of your home, write it on your bathroom mirror, get out some chalk and write it on your sidewalk or driveway; however you choose to display your Bible Verse, please take a picture and share it with us, and we will put it on our Facebook page. This is a great opportunity to get the entire family involved and a wonderful way to impact our community. May God continue to help us **GROW IN HIM!**

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES INFORMATION:

Lutheran Hour Ministries—all info.—www.lhmcanda.org
LISTEN TO THE LUTHERAN HOUR, Sundays on **CHAM 820 at 8:00 a.m.** Next Sunday, May 17th —
"Words Matter": Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler – Words matter. People matter. You matter to God, and He will stop at nothing to get your attention. (Exodus 19)



Call Service 2020 Online

As we recently announced, the seminary's annual Call Service will not take place as a public gathering in the usual way. In its place, we will hold a brief online event on **Friday, 29 May 2020, at 7.00 p.m. EDT**. Note that this is a change in time from our usual Saturday afternoon service. In this way, both LCC seminaries will be able to release news of placements by Friday night.

Restrictions still in place in Ontario limit such gatherings to five or fewer people, meaning that it is impossible even to have the faculty and students together in one place. Therefore we have decided that President Winger will lead Vespers from the seminary chapel while the faculty, students, and their families connect through an online meeting. In the course of the service, the placements will be announced. The event will be live streamed so that church members—particularly those waiting to hear whom they will receive as pastor or vicar—can watch.

We encourage viewers to have their LSB hymnals on hand so they can join in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. You will find the live stream event on our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/concordiallutherantheologicalseminarystcatharines>

Here again are the details of this year's Call Service:

We are pleased to announce the students who are ready for their placements in May. **Vishal Paul**, who is ready to be certified for the holy ministry, will be given his first congregational placement. **David Zakel** will receive his vicarage placement.



The spring Call Service is also the occasion when other students are recognised for their academic achievements, and honorary awards are given. We intend to delay presenting these awards until such a time as the recipients can be present in person, most likely at the seminary's opening service in September. We are pleased, however, to announce and recognise these recipients now.

The faculty and Board of Regents have chosen

Mr Carl Wathke (Faith Lutheran Church, Desboro) to receive the Delta Chi (Servant of Christ) award, the seminary's highest honour.

Mrs Mary Silver (Christ Lutheran Church, St. Catharines)

will be given the **Friend of the Seminary** award. Both have a long CV of

service to the church, which will be shared when the awards are given.

While we regret deeply that these placements and awards cannot be properly celebrated in the usual way, we ask you to pray for the students and to watch the live stream to learn of their placements. God be praised for His gracious gifts!

Feeding Program in Nicaragua Continues Service Amid Pandemic

“Whoever has a good eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.” Proverbs 22:9

NICARAGUA – As a result of the pandemic, the Church in Nicaragua has taken precautionary measures to keep their members and communities as safe as possible. Even before the government issued any statements or mandates, the leaders of the Church began to encourage social distancing, suspending normal Church activities and projects, while also looking for ways for pastors and deaconesses to stay connected with the members of the Church. Although large Church gatherings have been put on hold for the time being, pastors are finding ways to continue to provide for the spiritual needs of their people by ministering the Means of Grace to small numbers of people at a time, providing Services and messages online, as well as sharing printed sermons and devotions.



Although the Children’s Education Program and many other activities have been suspended, the deaconesses and their assistants continue to provide for their communities through the Children’s Feeding Program. The communities where we have the Feeding Program are some of the poorest in the country, and the 3 or 4 meals a week that are offered may be the only source of a nutritious meal that many of the children in these communities will receive during the week. Because of the vital nature of this service and how essential these meals are to the children of their communities, the deaconesses and numerous volunteers that make this program possible have taken measures to ensure that this program can continue to operate safely.

Their faith has opened their eyes to the needs of the people and has inspired and led them to find ways to address those needs, even in the face of a daunting pandemic. As a result, countless families have been and continue to be blessed.

Although the children are no longer able to gather together in the church halls for a meal, the meals are instead prepared by a couple of volunteers, boxed up and placed in a designated area where one family at a time can pick them up.

Proverbs 13: 21 reminds us, *“Blessed is he who is generous to the poor.”* We see how blessed our deaconesses in Nicaragua are in their dedication and service to the poor in their communities. Their faith has opened their eyes to the needs of the people and has inspired and led them to find ways to address those needs, even in the face of a daunting pandemic. As a result, countless families have been and continue to be blessed. We give thanks to God for these blessings and for the faithful service of our sisters in the faith, and as members of Lutheran Church–Canada we can also give thanks to God for allowing us to be a part of this program. Thanks to the generous gifts of our members and partner societies and organizations we have been able to fund this vital and blessed program for many years.

May our gracious Lord lead us to continue to share our blessings with those in need, and to shine the Light of Christ before others, so that they may see these good works and give glory to our heavenly Father.

The Children’s Feeding Program provides several meals each week to over 700 children throughout Nicaragua, in some of the poorest communities in the country. For many of these children, it is their only source for a nutritious meal. LCC Missions is grateful for the generous donations that make this feeding program possible. Donations can be made out to Lutheran Church–Canada and designated to the Children’s Feeding Program.

(Some Bible Learning Puzzles and Colouring Pages for
the Children (and the Adults ☺)



Kids Lectionary Learning FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Today we read and hear Jesus proclaim
that He is the way, the truth, and the life.
We read about rocks, milk, stones, and
God's house with many rooms.
Grab your Bibles and join with *Gumps*,
BB the Bible Bot, *Tabbs*, and *The Grubs* as we
discover God's love and grace for you.

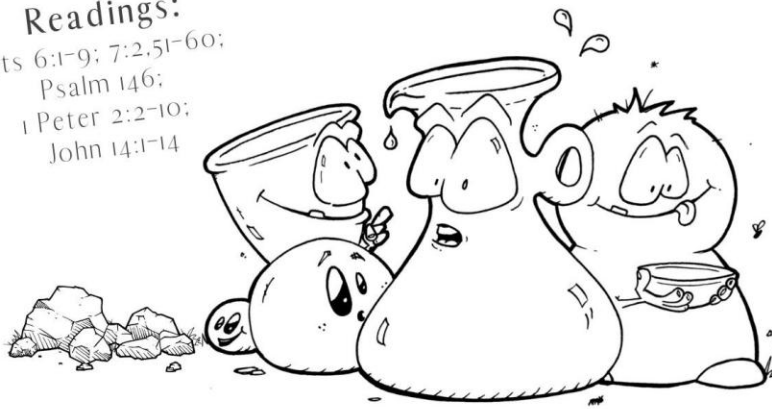
*"[Jesus said:]
Let not your hearts
be troubled.*

*BELIEVE IN GOD;
BELIEVE ALSO IN ME."*

- John 14:1

Lectionary Readings:

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2,51-60;
Psalm 146;
1 Peter 2:2-10;
John 14:1-14



Family Time This Week

This week try and go for a walk as a family. Even in these times of concern and social distancing, getting into God's creation can be a great blessing. As you walk, talk together about how it is that God has blessed us. How is it that Jesus, like the path or sidewalk you are on, is the way?



Kids Lectionary Learning
Fifth Sunday of Easter



IN ACTS 6 WE READ OF THE WORK OF THE DISCIPLES AND EARLY CHRISTIANS. WHAT WORK DID THEY DO?
 WE ALSO HEAR OF THE DEATH OF THE MARTYR STEPHEN. GOD WAS FAITHFUL TO STEPHEN, AS WE READ OF STEPHEN LOOKING UP AND SEEING "JESUS STANDING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD" (ACTS 6:56). EVEN WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN, GOD IS WITH US AND HE HAS GIVEN US SALVATION AND ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST.

ACTS 6 WORDSEARCH

DAILY
 WIDOWS
 SPIRIT
 WISDOM
 PRAYED
 STEPHEN
 PROPHETS
 JESUS
 RECEIVE
 SIN
 HEAVEN
 DEVOTE
 JERUSALEM
 PERSECUTE

D J F M L Q H Z W S V N I Z S
 P G Y D P K D E C M U K M O P
 R K L A R S Z J A Z N F W S E
 A M L I O N T R J V X W I J R
 Y O N L P U N E E E E M S Q S
 E L D Y H S K T P C Z N D H E
 D S E G E R P J J H E O O B C
 D S V S T J M I E E E I M G U
 J P O I S E R Z R Y B N V E T
 R W T N E S J M U I S H B E E
 M I E E Z U Q P S K T X G E G
 B D N V L S C O A V F N A G B
 H O D O H A W G L W N Z H A U
 V W C Y U F L U E W Y T H I T
 I S H C G V I V M D V F A A A



BB the Bible Bot is considering the ways in which God feeds and provides for us. He has given us His Word, the Bible, and He feeds us with spiritual food in the Sacrament. In our next reading we are going to hear more about "spiritual food".

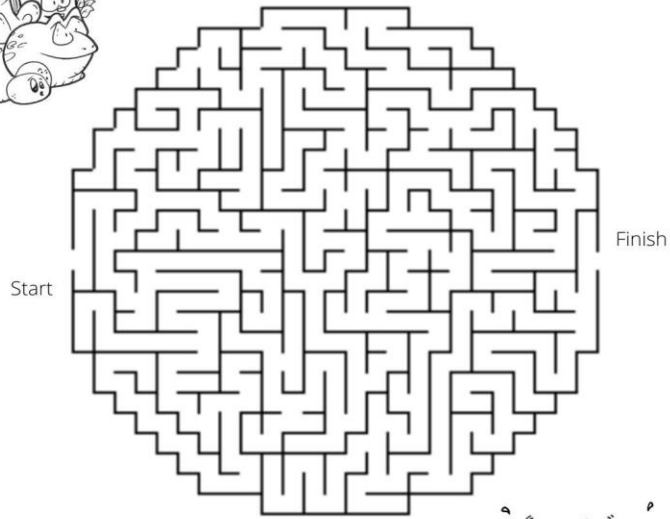
Colour BB, find the words in the WordSearch and then turn to our next reading.



Kids Lectionary Learning
 Fifth Sunday of Easter



OUR SECOND READING FROM 1 PETER 2:2-10 HAS PETER THE APOSTLE TELLING US OF SPIRITUAL FOOD AND ABOUT CHRIST THE CORNERSTONE.
JESUS IS THE ROCK OF OUR SALVATION,
AND OUR SURE FOUNDATION.



Verse to remember:
"you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual" house,
(1 Pet. 2:5)

Gumps is trying to lift a heavy rock.
Jesus is our rock and salvation and He is the one who is our strength and who builds us up.



Kids Lectionary Learning
Fifth Sunday of Easter

IN OUR GOSPEL READING FROM JOHN 14:1-14, JESUS TELLS HIS DISCIPLES THAT HE GOES TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR THEM. JESUS ALSO PROCLAIMS THAT HE IS "THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE". JESUS IS OUR WAY, AND TRUTH, AND LIFE. THANK YOU JESUS FOR THE GIFT OF FAITH AND THAT YOU GO TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR US.

Tabs is thinking of Jesus and heaven. Jesus says that "in my Father's house are many rooms" (John 14:2). Imagine what that will be like.

Can you draw a picture of a house with many rooms or something that reminds you of heaven and God's love in the box beside?



Kids Lectionary Learning
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Dear Jesus, You are the way, the truth, and the life. We thank You for being our Savior. Help us always to trust in You and may we remain faithful until the very end. In Jesus precious name we pray, amen.