

June 14th, 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

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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.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

O God, whose never-failing providence sets in order all things both in heaven and earth, put away from us, we entreat You, all hurtful things, and give us those things that are profitable for us; 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 (almost here). 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGES are available on our church website or on our Facebook page. **Precious Moments** is also online. If you or someone you know would like to receive these please text Louise (905-329-8579) 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!

SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: 1 Tim. 3: 14-17

Wednesday: Acts 8: 26-35

Friday: Ezek. 3: 22-27

Tuesday: Ezek. 2: 1-7

Thursday: Luke 10: 1-11

Saturday: Isa. 5: 1-7

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JOHN:

LESSONS FOR THIS SUNDAY: Psalm 100; Exodus 19:2-8; Romans 5:6-15;
Matthew 9:35-10:8-20

The hymn **“Now Thank We All Our God”** was written by Martin Rinckart, who was born at Eilenburg, Germany, in April 1586, forty years after Martin Luther’s death. His hymn has been called the German Te Deum and is considered by many as second only among German hymns to the Reformer’s magnificent “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”, Rinckart was minister of the Gospel in Eilenburg during the terrible Thirty Years’ War. Eilenburg was a walled town and therefore a place of refuge for thousands who had lost everything in the war. The overcrowded condition of the city brought on famine and pestilence. At the time Rinckart was the only minister in the city. To serve thousands suffering from hunger and dying from disease was a Herculean task. Often he read the burial service for from forty to fifty persons a day. At last the number of dead each day was so great that it became impossible to bury them singly, and they were interred in groups in trenches.

Altogether, 8,000 persons died in Eilenburg during this time, including Rinckart’s wife. At the same time Rinckart suffered several financial losses and failed to receive the proper consideration at the hands of the authorities of the city in spite of his unselfish and tireless efforts in behalf of the sick and dying. And yet he wrote during this time that wonderful hymn of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord.

This brings to mind one of my favourite verses from **Philippians 4:6**. I know I am repeating myself but it is important for us as Christians and our faith especially as we face a similar situation in our world and in many countries who are so much worse off than us. **“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.”**

1. Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices;
Who from our mothers’ arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
2. Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed;
And guard us through all ills in this world, till the next!
3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him Who reigns with Them in highest Heaven—
The one eternal God, Whom earth and Heav’n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

This week I have 2 hymns for you. I wanted to share the message about Thanksgiving, but also our Old Testament Lesson speaks of being raised up on Eagles Wings, so here is that hymn as well:

On Eagle's Wings

Michael Joncas, 1951

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord
Who abide in His shadow for life
Say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

**And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand**

The snare of the fowler will never capture you
And famine will bring you no fear
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield

*And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun
And hold you in the palm of His hand*

You need not fear the terror of the night
Nor the arrow that flies by day
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come

For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

***And He will raise you up on eagles' wings
Bear you on the breath of dawn
Make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of His hand.***

The words of both of these hymns composed centuries apart and reflecting God's Holy Word are complete comfort to us in all stages of life and in all circumstances in life.

*God Bless, Love in Christ,
Pastor John and Linda*

YOUTH & CONFIRMATION are invited to join us for a **Zoom chat** on **Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m.** as together we **IMPACT** those around us. *"By this everyone will know that you are My disciples if you love one another."* John 13:35

MARY MARTHA / LWML-C: This Tuesday, would have been our summer social for LWML-C. We cannot wait until the time when we are able to get back together for sharing God's love with family and friends. Stay tuned for our upcoming events. Especially when we can welcome Pastor Todd Hoeffs and his family. Please look forward to an invitation for our **Zoom get together Tuesday night at 7 p.m.** I hope that you can join us!
Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Romans 12:12

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Friday, June 26, 7:00 p.m. Right Now Media. Discover with us who Jesus is through the unique perspective of women in the Bible. For an invite contact Louise (905-329-8579)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: “ROCKY RAILWAY; Jesus’ power pulls us through”

V.B.S. is full steam ahead. Our plan is to offer a virtual experience this summer. Please continue to pray that the Lord will help us in implementing this special program to our families and those we can share God’s Great love and power with.

VBS will be held week of July 20th to 24th.

VBS ONLINE REGISTRATIONS and other pertinent information will be available in the next week or so. Please continue to keep this wonderful endeavour in your prayers.

VBS TECH SUPPORT: We continue to seek out an individual who can help us with live streaming and computer support before and during our week of VBS. If God has blessed you in this way and you are able to help or even give direction, please contact Louise. (905-329-8579), parish.assistant@christlutheransc.c

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!**

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.

ALPHABET OF BIBLE VERSES (Weekly Bible Verse Challenge)

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)

F = “**FOR GOD** so loved the World that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him should not die but have everlasting life.” John 3:16 (May 24th, 2020)

G “**GOD IS OUR REFUGE** and strength a very present help in trouble.” Ps. 46:1 (May 31st, 2020)

H “**HE ALONE** is my rock and my salvation.” Ps 62:2 (June 7th, 2020)

I “**I PRAISE YOU**, because I am fearfully & wonderfully made.” Ps 139:14 (June 14th, 2020)

THE MITE BOX:

Based on the Biblical story of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4) in the King James Version (more recent versions refer to a small coin worth less than a penny) the mite box is intended for regular contribution of "mites" – offerings above and beyond, and not in competition to, the support given to the congregation and the church body.

The mite box is more than just a small cardboard box! It is a reminder

- to share blessings from God,
- to pray for mission projects,
- to thank the Lord for mission opportunities.

Mite box contributions amount to thousands of dollars. They allow the contributors, through the districts and the national body of LWML-Canada, to provide mission grants which assist others in sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to implement the LWMLC program. *"What can my little-mite do"?*

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we give these mites to You for Your glory, and pray that by Your blessing our gifts will make a difference in other's lives. We pray also that Your Holy Spirit will accompany our mites on their way, and will dwell in the hearts of those who hear Your word. In Jesus' Name. Amen. *Written by Pauline Huth, Updated by LWML-Canada © 2015*

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.



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.

(Please note: Donations will be collected during the month and deposited on the last day of the month.)

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.

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!

The Lutheran Hour

Hear God's Word at the click of a button on Lutheran Hour webpage or on their super convenient app! (*Just hold your "Ctrl" button down and click the box to follow the link*)

[LISTEN NOW >>](#)

[DOWNLOAD THE APP >>](#)

Special Canadian Lutheran Hour – Sunday, June 28th!

"O Canada, Canada: A Love/Hate Relationship"

Special Guest Speaker: Pastor Scott Gamble from

Grace Lutheran Church, Drumheller, Alberta

In the message based on Matthew 23:37- 39, Pastor Scott points out that generation after generation, the Lord provides for His people and watches over them with loving care, despite constant rejection.

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES INFORMATION: www.lhmcanda.org

LISTEN TO THE LUTHERAN HOUR, Sundays at **8:00 a.m.** on **CHAM 820**

Next Sunday, June 21st — "**Powered by Touch**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler -- The human body can produce enough energy to power a tiny light bulb. Christ gives His follower's power to light the entire world. Dr. Michael Zeigler reflects on the nature of that light and the power behind it. (Matthew 5:21-32)

DAILY DEVOTIONS FROM LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

will help strengthen and encourage your faith as you do the same for others.

Have them, podcast the audio devotional, access them on your mobile

device through the FREE app, or listen with Spotify, iHeart Radio, Alexa, or

Google Home. Seasonal Devotions for Advent and Lent are also available in both English and Spanish. Perfect for personal reflection or to share with family and friends.



Reflection on *"There is a Balm in Gilead"*



Concordia Publishing House
June 9, 2020

The past several months in this country have made many weary, worn out, and tired. From fighting a pandemic to fighting racial injustice, there have been difficulties in neighborhoods from coast to coast. During these times of struggle and injustice, the meaningful message of hymns continues to provide comfort and point people to Christ.

In today's post, read [Dr. Joseph Herl's](#) commentary on one well-known African American Spiritual hymn, ***"There is a Balm in Gilead"*** (LSB 749), from *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns*.

Hymn Text:

Refrain: "There is a balm in Gilead To make the wounded whole; There is a balm in Gilead To heal the sin-sick soul."

Stanza 1: "Sometimes I feel discouraged And think my work's in vain, But then the Holy Spirit Revives my soul again."

Stanza 2: "If you cannot preach like Peter, If you cannot pray like Paul, You can tell the love of Jesus And say He died for all."

Stanza 3: "Don't ever feel discouraged, For Jesus is your friend; And if you lack for knowledge, He'll ne'er refuse to lend."

Hymn Commentary:

The theme of *rest* from a wearisome life is prominent in spirituals. The Gilead of this spiritual is the region east of the Jordan River bordering the southern part of ancient Canaan (see Genesis 31:21–22). Crossing the Jordan is a metaphor in both black and white folk traditions for dying and arriving in heaven. But the direction of crossing is westward from Gilead into Canaan, the Promised Land (Genesis 15:18–21). What sense does it make to cross eastward into Gilead, which would mean leaving the Promised Land?

The answer is that this spiritual refers not to heaven, but to a healing from sin that enables one to continue serving God. In the days of ancient Israel, Gilead was famous for a balsamic resin believed to have healing properties ("Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there?" [Jeremiah 8:22; see also Jeremiah 46:11]). Today, it is Christ who heals through His Holy Spirit, and He is our Gilead.

The hymn is in the category of "Hope and Comfort," but it is just as relevant for the "Vocation" section, inasmuch as the stanzas refer to Christians who see little fruit from their attempts to live their lives in service to God and neighbor. The stanzas combine comforting words with cheerleading. There is hope for one who is discouraged, for the Holy Spirit never ceases to work, sanctifying and preparing lives for service. It does not matter whether our jobs are the ones society at large, in its superficial understanding, values most; it matters only whether we do the work of Christ in whatever task presents itself, whether overtly "spiritual" or not. And if we believe ourselves incapable of something God has given us to do, the Holy Spirit will supply whatever we need (the "knowledge" referred to in stanza 3).

Post adapted from *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns* copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.



When you are feeling
overwhelmed

REMEMBER

how BIG God is.



May your week be
full of blessings, love,
new opportunities, good
health and happiness.

Lessons
LEARNED
Life



Kids Lectionary Learning HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

Holy Trinity Sunday, which comes on the Sunday after Pentecost, is the day that celebrates and honours the Holy Trinity- God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. We celebrate God every Sunday, but today we pay really special attention to our God who is three-in-one.



*"Go therefore and make disciples
of all nations,.*

**BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME
OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT,
TEACHING THEM TO OBSERVE ALL
THAT I HAVE COMMANDED YOU."**

-Matthew 28:19-20

*There are many symbols used to help learn about the
Trinity. Do you recognize some of the symbols above?
Colour them and ask your Pastor for more information*

Trinity Sunday Readings:

Gen. 1:1—2:4a;
Psalm 8;
Acts 2:14a, 22-36;
Matt. 28:16-20



Did you know that many Lutheran Churches recite the Athanasian Creed on Trinity Sunday. Open up the LSB Hymnal to page 319 to learn more about the Creed and read through it.



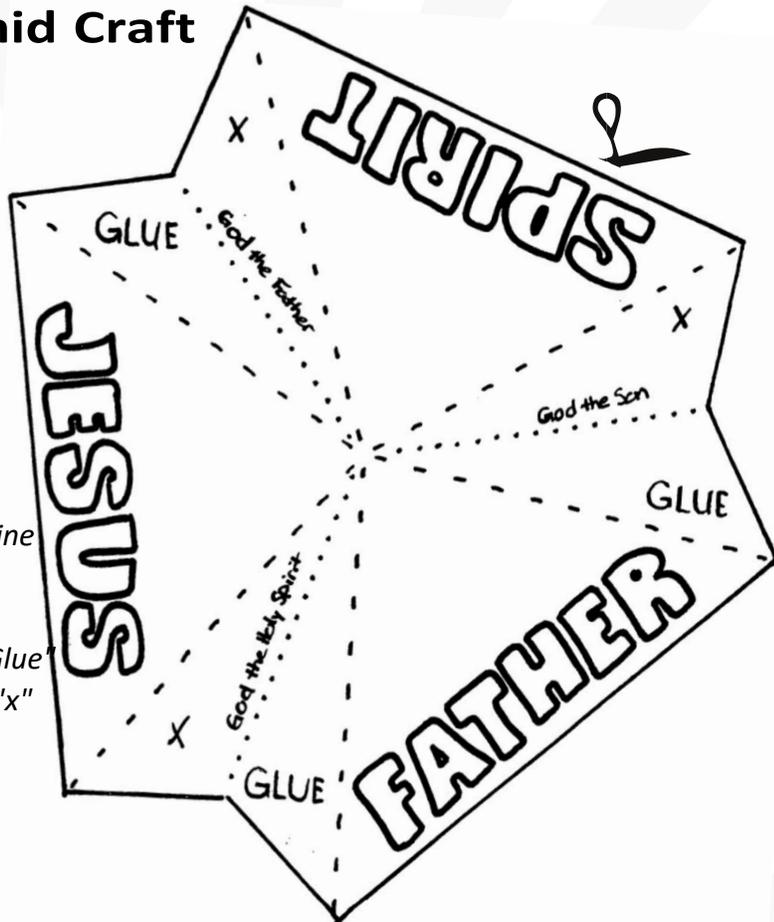
Kids Lectionary Learning
Holy Trinity Sunday



GRAB YOUR BIBLES AND READ THROUGH THE BIBLE PASSAGES THAT ARE PICKED OUT FOR TODAY THEN TRY DISCUSSING WITH YOUR FAMILY OR PASTOR WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT GOD WHO IS THREE IN ONE

The Holy Trinity Pyramid Craft

1. Colour and decorate
2. Cut out on solid line
3. Fold on the dashed line
4. INSIDE fold on the dotted line
5. Glue where it says "Glue" and match with the "x"



The Trinity, God being three-in-one, is difficult to fully understand, but we believe by faith in our God who loves us and forgives us.

Verse to remember:
"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

(Genesis 1:1)

