

July 19th, 2020

VIRTUAL VBS ALL WEEK—MONDAY TO FRIDAY

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## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Church:** 905-685-8294, Fax 905-685-7661, [www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

**Pastor:** Pastor Todd Hoeffs (204-997-0698) [pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com)

**Parish Assistant:** Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579), [parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca)

**Business Manager:** Karen McCumber, [business.manager@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:business.manager@christlutheransc.ca)

**Secretary:** Pat Kimpel, [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC)

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Please send to [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).

Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

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## SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**LESSONS FOR THIS SUNDAY:** Isaiah 44: 6-8; Romans 8: 18-27; Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

**Prayer:** Grant, Lord, that the course of this world may be so governed by Your direction that Your Church may rejoice in serving You in godly peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

***“Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise.” Ps. 48:1***

We are delighted to announce that, after a long vacancy, God has answered our prayers for a new pastor! We are excited to welcome **Pastor Todd & Jennifer Hoeffs and their 3 children; Jonah, Nick and Georgia** to our family here at Christ. They have now arrived and taken possession of their home on 5 Brisbane. With the church remaining closed through July, many will not have the opportunity to meet them in person, however as things open up, Lord willing, we will have opportunity to worship together again in our church building yet this summer and at some point in the fall, pastor Todd will be installed and we will have a celebration to officially welcome them. If you have shared your email with our outreach chairman, Judy Mason, ([outreach.chairman@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:outreach.chairman@christlutheransc.ca)) you will receive Pastor Todd's sermons or we are happy to get you a printed copy (call Louise 905-329-8579). Please help Pastor Todd, Jennifer and the family feel welcome over this next month through a card, phone call or email. More information will be coming in the following weeks. Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they get settled.

***“Look to the Lord and His strength, seek His face always. Remember the wonders He has done.” Ps 105: 4-5a***

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

**OPENING FOR SERVICES:** As we open the doors at Christ Lutheran Church on **Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**, two blended services will be held at **9:00 am and 11:00 am**. To ensure the safety and well-being of everyone we wish to assure you that all of the guidelines and protocol provided by the Ontario Government and Public Health which allow for 70 people in our sanctuary (including the balcony) will be followed. Please maintain **Social Distancing** upon arrival and when leaving. Full information at end of bulletin for your perusal.

**CONGRATULATIONS!** to Brandon & Amy Kemp on the birth of their son, **Jacob Orvil Oscar Kemp** on Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 7lbs 15 oz. A brother for Arthur, a grandson for Bob & Starlet Kemp and great-grandchild for Frank & Ivy Parkhouse! May God bless and keep this little one in His loving care always.



***“Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise.” Ps. 48:1***

We are delighted to announce that, after a long vacancy, God has answered our prayers with a new pastor! We are excited to welcome **Pastor Todd Hoeffs, his wife Jennifer, and their 3 children; Jonah, Nick and Georgia** to our family here at Christ.

Pastor Todd is a graduate of Concordia Lutheran Seminary in St. Catharines and was ordained here at Christ Lutheran Church on May 21, 2000.

Please help Pastor Todd, Jennifer and the family feel welcome through a card, phone call or email. Please continue to keep them in your prayers as they get settled.

With the church being closed, many will not yet have had the opportunity to meet them in person, however as you will see from the enclosed letter from Pastor Todd things are beginning to open up. Pastor Todd will be installed on a date in the fall, yet to be determined, when we will have a celebration to officially welcome them.

***“Look to the Lord and His strength, seek His face always. Remember the wonders He has done.” Ps 105: 4-5a***

**SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Titus 3: 3-7

Wednesday: Gal. 3: 26-29

Friday: Matt. 3: 13-17

Tuesday: 1 Pet. 3: 18-22

Thursday: Mark 16: 4-18

Saturday: Eph. 3: 14-21

**VBS IS HERE - ROCKY RAILWAY: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through.**

If you haven't already registered go to [www.vbspro.events/p/e7ac19](http://www.vbspro.events/p/e7ac19). Please pray for the children & families involved with the VBS this week. It is very different connecting online and we are so thankful to God for His blessings in allowing us to move forward. **Special thanks to Maddy Zelichowski, Judy Slingerland, Marge Stark, Pastor Hoeffs, Pastor Makey and Louise for their dedication & willingness to serve.**

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** We are so privileged to be free to study and learn from God's Word. We will continue our study of "**Fearless over Covid**". Our next study is scheduled for **Friday, July 24th at 7 p.m.** If you would like a Zoom invite, please speak with Louise. (905-329-8579). Even if you choose not to join us with a Zoom meet, be encouraged to go on the right now website ([www.rightnowmedia.org](http://www.rightnowmedia.org)) to be enriched as you study with some impactful Christian leaders.

**VOLUNTEERS FOR RE-OPENING:** You will see from the bulletin insert and perhaps various other sources over the next week that re-opening is scheduled for Sunday, August 2nd, 2 services one at 9 a.m. and one at 11 a.m. In order to comply with the government and public health recommendations, we will need the assistance of volunteers for both services to usher, record attendance, temperature check and assist with sanitizing between services. If you can be of assistance or have any questions, please contact Judy Slingerland at [judysling48@gmail.com](mailto:judysling48@gmail.com) or 905-688-3867. Thank you.

# VIRTUAL V.B.S.

**“ROCKY RAILWAY;  
Jesus’ power pulls us through”**



**Monday, July 20 – Friday, July 24**  
**Online Registration**



*“For I can do everything through Christ  
Who gives me strength” – Philippians 4: 13*

**\*\*\*\*\*Parents can go to this site to register\*\*\*\*\***

**[www.vbspro.events/p/e7ac19](http://www.vbspro.events/p/e7ac19)**

**(Ctrl + Click to follow Link)**

*We are excited for you to join us 😊*

**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 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!

**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.

**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](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca). Thank you!

**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 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**E** = "**EVERY GOOD** and perfect gift is from above." James 1:17 (May 17<sup>th</sup>, 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 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**G** = "**GOD IS OUR REFUGE** and strength a very present help in trouble." Ps. 46:1 (May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020)

**H** = "**HE ALONE** is my rock and my salvation." Ps 62:2 (June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**I** = "**I PRAISE YOU**, because I am fearfully & wonderfully made." Ps 139:14 (June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**J** = "**JESUS CHRIST** is the same yesterday, today and forever." Heb. 13:8 (June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020)

**K** = "**KNOW** that the Lord is God, it is He who made us." Ps. 100:3 (June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**L** = "**LOVE THE LORD** your God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind." Luke 10:27 (July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**M** = "**MY SOUL** finds rest in God alone, my salvation comes from Him." Ps. 62:1 (July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**N** = "**NOW FAITH** is being sure of what we hope for & certain of what we do not see." Heb. 11:1

### **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.



### **MARY MARTHA / LWML:**

In search of buttons for **mask mate ear savers** which are crocheted, knitted or sewn. The mask goes over the buttons, instead of the ears. Each mask mate needs 2 buttons. Button Style: FLAT Backed only Button Size: can use up to 1 ¼” but no smaller than ¾”.

*“As a former RN in the operating room, when I stood for 7 or 8 hours during surgeries, my ears took a real beating from those masks. Our front line workers have been doing this now for weeks upon weeks and their ears are raw and painful. Lorie Tokola.*

Lorraine is accepting donations of buttons (905) 371-2972 or if you have any questions, give her a call.

**SEMINARY GUILD:** The Seminary finished off the year online, with an online call service, and has plans to open both online and in person, if allowed, in the fall. Regardless of whether the students meet in person or online, they need your prayers, as does the Church itself, during this time.

You can download the Seminary Guild newsletter by clicking on the link below or opening the attached file: (Ctrl & click to open)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Be5T8a7nX27uWGL3v9VC4zfUqoW-gqoq/view>



## **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://christlutherans.ca/?page\\_id=96](http://christlutherans.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](http://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.

## **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 >>](#)

all info.—[www.lhmcanda.org](http://www.lhmcanda.org)

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

Next Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 — "**Reflexive Mercy**" -- Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler -- How do you react to the brokenness all around you? God gives His people the reflex to reflect His mercy in the world. (Exodus 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.



## Christ Lutheran Church

140 Russell Avenue,  
St. Catharines, ON  
L2R 1W1

Phone: 905-685-8294 Fax: 905-685-7661  
Church Website: [www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

July 17, 2020

The Lord be with you.

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church of St Catharines, ON.

I am Pastor Todd Hoeffs.

My family and I have just moved from Winnipeg, Manitoba where we been for 8 years. I am honoured and excited to serve as the new pastor among you. You may reach me by my office phone (905) 685-8294 and do leave a message if I am unavailable.

I share Sunday morning messages on a YouTube channel, "Gathering the Scattered", so please feel free visit these to get to know me and my preaching. Our church website also has links to a variety of resources so check those out as well. The website is [www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

I am looking forward to meeting all of you as time progresses and COVID restrictions evolve. As of August 2, Christ Lutheran will be offering in-person, in-building blended worship services at 9 AM and 11 AM. Services of Holy Communion will be postponed until further notice. Please be advised that the restrictions and recommendations from the government and the health region will be set into place for the safety and care of all our people. Sanitizing, social distancing, masks and other precautions will be observed.

While we look forward to worship together again, we also honour those who wish to refrain from public gatherings at this time. An online worship presence will continue into the foreseeable future for all who may benefit.

Please review the guideline on the reverse side provided to you by our 're-opening committee' under the direction of Christ Lutheran Church Council.

Please be advised that the restrictions and recommendations from the provincial government and Niagara Public Health will be set into place for the safety and care of all our people. I pray that our Lord richly bless you in the days ahead.

God Bless

## Dear Brothers and Sisters of Christ Lutheran Church

As we open the doors at Christ Lutheran Church on **Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**, two blended services will be held at **9:00 am and 11:00 am**. To ensure the safety and well-being of everyone we wish to assure you that all of the guidelines and protocol provided by the Ontario Government and Public Health which allow for 70 people in our sanctuary (including the balcony) will be followed.

- Please maintain **Social Distancing** upon arrival and when leaving. You will find all the signs and markings that you have likely already seen around the city. Pews and various areas of the church will be appropriately marked or taped off.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at all entry and exit points. Please sanitize your hands upon entering and exiting the church. All areas of the church have been sanitized and will be sanitized between services.
- Masks will be available and we are asking that everyone entering the church wear a mask at all times with the exception of the Pastor, organist and soloist(s). Masks will not be required if you have breathing issues as per provincial regulations
- Enter only at the South-West (double glass doors) entrance. Inside the doors you will be asked the basic questions relating to wellness and travel prior to entering and your attendance will be recorded before being ushered to a pew. We will seat you from front to back pews.
- Following the service you will be ushered out from the pews, starting at the rear of the sanctuary. Families may sit together, singles will be placed 3 to a pew. Please keep in mind that it is unlikely that you will sit in your usual pew.
- The washroom in the narthex will be available, however we would ask that it only be used if absolutely necessary. It will be sanitized after each use.
- Please do not gather in groups in the narthex or parking lot before or after the service, continue to observe social distancing of at least 2 metres or 6 feet.
- Offering baskets will be placed at entrance/exit to the sanctuary
- Bulletins and Portals of Prayer (when they become available) will be available for pick up as you leave.
- For the time being there will be no choir

We are not planning to begin Holy Communion for the time being. You will be advised when we are prepared to add that to our active church practices.

It is possible that changes to the safety guidelines and protocols may occur prior to August 2<sup>nd</sup> but we will continue to practice the highest level of safety to protect all of our members and guests.



## **Consider this your LCC Communications Cheat Sheet for 2020!**

### **LCC ANNUAL**

Directory of all LCC personnel; boards and commissions; and contact information for all LCC clergy and deacons. For a single copy or quarterly updates, email: [admin@lutheranchurch.ca](mailto:admin@lutheranchurch.ca) <<mailto:admin@lutheranchurch.ca>>.

### **INFO-DIGEST:**

**InfoDigest** is Lutheran Church-Canada's official weekly e-newsletter.

#### **Featuring:**

- \* Latest headlines from CanadianLutheran.ca
- \* Communications updates & tips
- \* Mission prayers & "Mission Minute" updates
- \* Calls/Transitions
- \* Announcements & upcoming events
- \* Prayers & lectionary summary for that week

Subscribe at <https://www.canadianlutheran.ca/> by clicking the "Subscribe" tab in the menu options on the right hand side.

### **THE CANADIAN LUTHERAN MAGAZINE**

LCC's award-winning publication, available in print and online. To subscribe to the print magazine, please contact Synod Office at: 1-800-588-4226. Read online at

<https://www.canadianlutheran.ca/> or by

clicking the "News" tab at <https://www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca/>.

Previously published magazines can be read online at

<https://issuu.com/thecanadianlutheran>. If you are looking to submit a story, please visit the following link for contact information and submission guidelines:

<https://www.canadianlutheran.ca/editors-and-submissions/>.

### **CALLS & TRANSITIONS**

Calls and transitions updates can be accessed online any time at

<https://www.canadianlutheran.ca/calls-transitions/>. These updates are also provided weekly in InfoDigest.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

LCC Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/lutheranchurchcanada>

The Canadian Lutheran Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/thecanadianlutheran>

LCC Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/canlutheran/>

LCC Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CanLutheran>

### **CONTACT:**

For all communications-related matters, including online and print resources; InfoDigest; and social media, please contact Alex Steinke, LCC Communications Director at

[communications@lutheranchurch.ca](mailto:communications@lutheranchurch.ca) <<mailto:communications@lutheranchurch.ca>> or at 1-877-770-7842.