

September 20th, 2020

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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 (289-362-0113) [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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## **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Prayer:** Grant, merciful Lord, to Your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve You with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

9 A.M: Contemporary Scripture Service: Change My Heart, O God; Bless The Lord;  
The God of All Eternity; Jude 24-25; Precious Lord, Take My Hand;

11 A.M: Divine Service Setting 3: Praise To The Lord, The Almighty; O God Of Mercy God Of  
Might; For The Fruits of His Creation

Choir anthems for both services: "In My Life" and Medley "Marvelous Grace/Amazing Grace".

**Musician:** Louise Gondosch

**How wonderful** to see our family at Christ gather again to worship. . A quick reminder to everyone to make certain each and every week before you attend worship service that IF you can answer "YES" to any of the following Public Health questions, please stay home:

\*\*\*Do you have any of the following right now?

--Fever/chills    --New cough or a cough that is getting worse    --Difficulty breathing  
--Shortness of breath (even when sitting or walking regularly)    --Sore throat  
--A runny or congested nose (not allergies)    --Unusual level of fatigue  
--Unusual headache    --Nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite

--Feeling unwell for an unknown reason

--Have you been in close contact with someone who is either sick, has been sent for testing or has confirmed COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

--Have you returned from travel outside Canada in the past 14 days?

**Stay safe and healthy everyone and let's keep our family at Christ safe and healthy.**

**BAPTISM:** Cohen Donald McCumber, son of Kyle & Karlene, grandson to Mark & Karen McCumber, will be baptized today at a family's home in Stevensville. His sponsors are Lacey Willmott and Chris Sawatsky. We look forward to welcoming this new little one in the family of Christ Lutheran Church.

## **OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES:**

to Marge and Eric Stark, Nicole, Jessica and Valerie at the passing of their mom and grandma, Joanne Suszek. Visitation is 4 pm – 8 pm today at Darte's funeral home (585 Carlton St.), Funeral Monday, September 21, St. Dens Roman Catholic Church, 230 Lake St. May God who grants all comfort hold him in his loving arms.

Also to the family and friends of Jorma Sarkijarvi who passed away recently. Memorial service was planned privately with the family.

**FLOWERS** have been placed on the altar this morning to the glory of God by Naomi Hohnberg on the occasion of her birthday.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES** for Jennifer Hoeffs whose birthday is this coming Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. We hope this year is filled with much joy and many blessings. From Todd, Jonah, Nick & Georgia.

### **Dear Brothers and Sisters of Christ Lutheran Church**

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.

We will continue to practice the highest level of safety to protect all of our members and guests.

**GREETERS/VOLUNTEERS** - In order to maintain the health and safety measures related to COVID 19 we are going to need additional greeters and volunteers to usher, record attendance, temperature check and assist with sanitizing between services. If you can be of assistance please contact [judyling48@gmail.com](mailto:judyling48@gmail.com)

**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.

## **SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Prov. 30: 4-9

Wednesday: 1 Cor. 7: 20-24

Friday: John 4: 31-38

Tuesday: 1 Tim. 6: 6-12a

Thursday: 1 Kings 17: 1-6

Saturday: Luke 6: 20-26

## **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST READINGS:**

### **The Old Testament:** *Isaiah 55:6-9*

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

### **The Epistle:** *Philippians 1: 12-14, 19-30*

[St. Paul writes:] I want you to know, beloved, that what has happened to me has actually helped to spread the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ; and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear. For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will result in my deliverance. It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

### **The Holy Gospel:** St. Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus says: 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

**CHOIR THIS WEEK:** The choir will practise tomorrow at 7:30 so that we can prepare to sing for the Installation Service Sunday, September 27th. Although it will be very challenging singing with masks while also being physically distanced from both each other and the congregation, we still wanted to take part in the Installation, and we pray for the congregation's understanding that it won't likely be up to our usual standard, but we still sing to the glory of God and in thankfulness of His many blessings, especially the gift of a wonderful new Pastor to lead us. We will "give it a little try" at both the 9 & 11 a.m. Services this morning to see how it goes and then at the 3 p.m. Service on Sunday, September 27th.

**Choir Practice: Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.**

**INSTALLATION SERVICE:** If you plan to attend the installation service next Sunday for Pastor Todd Hoefts at 3 p.m. please call church office or email Pat at [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca) as soon as you can while a few places are still available.

**VOTER'S MEETING:** There will be a Voter's Meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup> @ 2 p.m.

**MARY MARTHA:** We are excited to start our new schedule for 2020/2021 even during these trying times. Our God is an awesome God, He reigns with power and might. Our meetings will require masks, social distancing and bring your own drink (kitchen facilities will not be available for this first meeting.)

**Sunday, October 4th** - LWML-C Sunday

**Tues, October 20th -7 p.m.** Bible Study

**Saturday, November 14th** - Ontario District Retreat - Grace Lutheran Church - Kitchener

**Tuesday, November 17th** - Bible Study -& Assemble Warm Feet for the street socks.

Details to follow

**Tuesday, December 15th - 6 pm** - Advent /Christmas social, Prayer sisters. Mites

**\*\*\*Please note that all of the above activities are subject to change. God willing, we will continue with our schedule.\*\*\*** Blessings, Lorraine

## **LWML-C National Convention News - 2021**

### **Theme Song/Hymn(s):**

Time is counting down – **October 31, 2020, is the deadline for submissions for theme songs or hymns for the convention.** The theme is "*Galatians 2:20 - Christ Lives in Me*". Thank you to those who have already sent in submissions—it is exciting to see the immense talent of our members. Send to Becky Wandio, VP Communication at [vpcommunication@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:vpcommunication@lutheranwomen.ca)

### **Mission Grant Proposals:**

Have you been sleeping for four months? Well, it's time to wake up. We have been experiencing challenging times. Now we can return to worship in the Lord's House. How we have thirsted for that. Convention 2021 is less than a year away. We have deadlines looming. We challenge every society to think about submitting a Mission Grant proposal. This is how our mites are spent. Start now, so the process is not rushed. Go to the LWMLC website and read the Mission Grant Submission Guide. If you need an idea, contact [vpchristianmission@lutheranwomen.ca](mailto:vpchristianmission@lutheranwomen.ca). **The deadline for submissions is November 15, 2020.** That's less than four months away. Let's get cracking!

**AWESOME OPPORTUNITY!** The Lord has placed in our life as a congregation of Brothers and Sisters in Christ the privilege to sponsor an Iraq Refugee family presently in Greece awaiting movement to a safe country. Canadian Lutheran World Relief would assist us in bringing a husband and wife with 2 little boys: 9 months and 3 years old to safety in Canada. The Sponsorship would be for only 1 year. I took this to the council meeting of September 9<sup>th</sup> and they have given approval to take it to our Voters Meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>. We need to form a committee and I would be willing to chair and work with the committee to accomplish this. I have 2 people already who have volunteered to be on the committee and another member has pledged help as we would need it. We should have at least 5 on the committee so if you would like to be involved with this hands on out-reach please let me know. The family would live in St. Catharines and they would socialize with them and support them with **God's love** and the resources He has blessed us with. It would necessitate the setting up of a Refugee Settlement Fund so that all donors would receive tax donation receipts. I am excited about this opportunity. Please watch for further information and please call me with any questions. Your servant in Christ, Pastor John, 289-407-7662

<b>Last Sunday Attendance: Sept. 13th -- 9 a.m.- 36 11 a.m. –28 Total: 64</b>					
	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ / (-)</u>
Current:	272,115.00	5,232.98	7,555.00	125,213.86	(68,406.43)
Missions	20,000.00	384.62	633.00	13,402.66	( 828.11)
Property Improvement			72.00	3,337.66	
<i>(new figures not available at printing)</i>					

**A MEMORIAL DONATION** has been given to Christ Lutheran Church from June Baker in memory of Irene Boyle.

**POWERPOINT** -Presently Kathy Kuhl and Valerie Stark share the task of preparing the wonderful weekly overhead PowerPoint service presentation. It would be extremely helpful if we had a third person, or even a fourth, to assist, particularly during the Christmas and Easter seasons. If you would be interested in assisting please speak to Pastor, Kathy, Valerie or any member of the Worship Committee.

**FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR:** If you would like to place a flower on the altar for a coming Sunday, please sign your name and special occasion or reason if you have one on the bulletin board at the back of the church, or you could email Pat.

### **SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH DURING THE PANDEMIC**

#### **1. THROUGH EFT DONATIONS:**

Some members are hesitant to return to in-person worship during these uncertain times, it's important for members to keep in mind that expenses for payroll, utilities, maintenance, etc. continue to accumulate. 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, 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](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](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!

[LISTEN NOW >>](#)

[DOWNLOAD THE APP >>](#)

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

**LISTEN TO THE LUTHERAN HOUR:** **WDCX 99.5FM or 970AM.**

**Sunday, Sept 27<sup>th</sup>** " Guest Speaker: **Rev. Dr. Jason Broge** " -- Open doors and loud tables—places where God does His quiet work of changing lives, one dinner invitation at a time. God made room at His table for us so that we can make room at our tables for others. New Series "Households of Faith" (1 Peter 4)

**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.

**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>)

**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 (July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**O** "O GOD, You are my God, earnestly I seek you." Ps 63:1 (July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**P** "PRAISE THE LORD all my soul, all my inmost being, praise His holy name." Ps 103:1 Aug. 2)

**Q** "A QUIET and gentle Spirit is of great worth in God's sight." 1 Pet 3:4 (Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**R** "REJOICE in the Lord Always and I will say it again rejoice." Phil 4:4 (Aug. 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**S** "SALVATION belongs to our God. He is my mighty rock, my refuge." Ps. 62:7 (Aug. 23, 2020)

**T** "THE LORD is my light and my salvation - whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life - of whom shall I be afraid." Ps. 27:1 (Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020)

**U** "UNDER HIS WINGS you will find refuge, His faithfulness will be your shield." Ps. 91:4 (Sept. 6)

**V** "VERILY, verily I say to you, he who believes has eternal life." John 6:47 (Sept. 13, 2020)

**W** "WE ARE MORE than conquerors through Him who loved us." Rom. 8: 37 (Sept. 20, 2020)