

September 27th, 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 Hoefs (289-362-0113) [pastortoddoeoffs@gmail.com](mailto:pastortoddoeoffs@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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## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

**Prayer:** O God, without whose blessing we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and govern our hearts; 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. -- Service of the Word with Gospel Tunes: Come, Now Is the Time To Worship; To The Lord We Pray & Glory To God In Highest; The Servant King; Create In Me; Oh How I Love Jesus.

11 A.M. -- Hymnal Supplement '98 LCMS Divine Service: From All That Dwell Below The Skies; Go, Labour On [Rockingham Old tune]; O Savior, Precious Savior **Musician:** Mayumi Munoz

3 P.M.: Installation Service for Pastor Todd Hoefs with meal to follow outside

**Musician:** Susanne Anderson

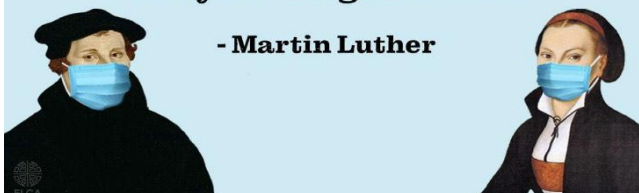
**How wonderful** to see our family at Christ gather again to worship. . A quick reminder to everyone to make certain each and every week before you attend worship service that IF you can answer “YES” to any of the following Public Health questions, please stay home:

- 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.**

**God does not need your good works,  
but your neighbor does.**

**- Martin Luther**



## 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 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) to confirm when your availability. The goal is to set up a schedule a month in advance.

## **SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: Lam. 3: 22-33

Wednesday: Job 2: 1-10

Friday: Heb. 10: 35-39

Tuesday: Heb. 12: 4-11

Thursday: Eph. 6: 18-20

Saturday: Luke 21: 10-19

## **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST READINGS:**

**The Old Testament: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32** The Word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is unfair.' O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

**The Epistle: Philippians 2: 1-18** [St. Paul writes:] If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in likeness as a man. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain. But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you—and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

### **The Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 21:23-32**

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?' Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us, "Why then did you not believe him?" But if we say, "Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.' So they answered Jesus, 'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. 'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not"; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax-collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.'

**This is the Day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.** What a wonderful day in the life of our congregation, to welcome through Installation our new Pastor Tod Hoeffs. The service is today, September 27 at 3:00 p.m. If you did not pre-register, the service will be made available and put up on the Christ church website. We thank our Heavenly Father, that He has answered our prayers. May we be a blessing to you Pastor Todd, Jennifer, Jonah, Nick and Georgia as you live and serve among us. Praise Be to God!

**Sunday School:** <https://youtu.be/TAXVC5Gx8os> Although we might not be meeting yet, Mrs Louise is doing a bi-monthly online Sunday school series (geared for readers) on "**Fruits of the Spirit**". This link will also be available on the churches website.

**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. This week: <https://youtu.be/Naauv6UbKfk>

**FLOWERS** have been placed on the altar this morning to the glory of God by Kathy DeKouchay in honour of her mom and dad's anniversary, September 25<sup>th</sup>.

**VOTER'S MEETING:** There will be a Voter's Meeting on **Sunday, 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)

**Sunday, October 4:** **LWML-C Sunday**—We will be collecting "mites" for Missions. (There will be a collection basket in the narthex)

**Tues, October 20, 7 p.m.:** Bible Study

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

**Tuesday, November 17:** Bible Study -& Assemble Warm Feet for the street socks. Details to follow

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

*\*\*\*Please note that all activities are subject to change to adhere to Provincial restrictions.*

### **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!

**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.

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

**CAN WE MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY?** Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ I come to you again this week to ask you to pray and think about sponsoring an Iraq refugee family presently living in one room in a hotel in Greece. I have had a positive response from 4 members to form a committee to plan and guide this mission outreach. I have also had response from some other members who are willing to pitch in and help wherever the need may be once we can bring them to Canada. As I said last week we would receive help in the process of bringing them to Canada through Canadian Lutheran World Relief. I have spoken and been in communication with Jenn from the Waterloo office. She has been in contact with Kareem who is the husband and father of the family, his wife is Hamida and the children are Ameer soon to be 3 yrs old and Asser who is about 9 months old. Kareem is very appreciative of the fact that we would consider bringing his family to safety in Canada. We will be able to talk more about the process at our October 4<sup>th</sup> voters meeting. Getting through government red tape is not easy and CLWR has the experience needed for such an adventure as this. They are highly respected by the government and have often had the government match donations made by us members for special disasters like the recent one in Lebanon. All refugees have come from tragic situations and Kareem and his family are no different. I ask you to please pray about this opportunity to reach out with God's love in a very special way and a way in which we can make a difference in the life of a family. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call me at 289-407-7662, Sincerely. and in God's Love, Pastor John

**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 clickbox to follow the link)*

[LISTEN NOW >>](#)

[DOWNLOAD THE APP >>](#)

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

**LISTEN TO THE LUTHERAN HOUR:** You will hear The Lutheran Hour by tuning in to **WDCX 99.5FM or 970AM**. This Buffalo station covers our friends in Buffalo and Niagara Falls New York, but the catchment is actually focused on us up North of the border. We now are able to reach our friends along Lake Erie (which was not previously covered by a Canadian station) -going from Port Colborne, over to Fisherville, up to Cambridge, past Barrie- over to Peterborough and including everything in between."

**Next Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>** " Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michel Zeigler" -- "Victory in Defeat" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler The thing about God is, He's winning-even when it doesn't look like He's winning. Maybe, especially when it doesn't look like He's winning. Dr. Michael Zeigler begins a series of messages based on the book of Daniel that tells how God uses history as a vehicle to bring about His eternal kingdom. (Daniel: 1)

**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)*

**X** “**MAY** I never boast **eXcept** in the cross of our Lord Jesus Chri “*Gal. 6:14 (Sept. 27, 2020)*

## 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.