

December 20th, 2020

LESSONS & CAROLS

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Pastor: Pastor Todd Hoeffs (289-362-0113) pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com

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Secretary: Pat Kimpel, secretary@christlutheransc.ca

SOUL Ministry: Trinda Rensen, Gillian Leaver

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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC

Bulletin by email: Judy Mason, chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca

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

Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Prayer: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come among us with great might; and because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let Your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Both 9 AM and 11 AM Services

Service of Lessons and Carols

Opening Hymn--“Once In Royal David’s City”

Invocation, Advent Wreath Lighting

Responses & Hymn verse

Prayer of the Day

Scripture Lesson One: *Genesis 3: 8-15*

Choir Anthem

Scripture Lesson Two: *Genesis 22: 15-18*

Carol-- “What Hope! An Eden Prophesied”

Scripture Lesson Three: *Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9*

Carol--“Behold A Branch Is Growing

Scripture Lesson Four: *Micah 5:2-4*

Carol-- “It Came Upon The Midnight Clear”

Scripture Lesson Five: *St. Luke 1:26-38*

Carol-- “The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came”

Scripture Lesson Six: *St. Luke 2:1-7*

Carol--“O How Joyfully”

Scripture Lesson Seven: *St. Luke 2:8-20*

Carol--“There’s A Star In The East”

Message

Choir Anthem

Prayers

Lord’s Prayer

Closing Blessing

Last Carol—“Saviour of The Nations, Come

Musician: Susanne Anderson

Readers: 9 a.m. – Pastor Makey, Daniel Figueroa 11 a.m. –Greg Jack, Paul Wachs

COVID 19 – PROTOCOL: Dear Brothers and Sisters of Christ Lutheran Church:

As the number of cases of Covid are rising in the Province, let us not be complacent; we cannot let our guard down. Kindly continue to follow the safety measures and protocols that are currently in place. If you have any of the symptoms outlined by Public Health, please remain at home. Sermons are available online. If attending worship please:

- Wear a mask (covering both your mouth and nose) at all times
- Sanitize your hands frequently.
- Practice social distancing – 2 metres or 6 feet apart.
- Ensure you have a temperature check before entering.
- Ensure that your attendance is noted at the entrance doors

Scripture Lesson One*Genesis 3: 8-15*

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent,

'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.'

Scripture Lesson Two*Genesis 22: 15-18*

The angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the Lord: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

Scripture Lesson Three*Isaiah 11:1-4, 6-9*

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked....The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Scripture Lesson Four*Micah 5:2-4*

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.

Scripture Lesson Five*St. Luke 1:26-38*

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.' But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will

be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.' Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.' Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Scripture Lesson Six *St. Luke 2:1-7*

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. ([And] this taxing was first made when Quirenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Scripture Lesson Seven *St. Luke 2:8-20*

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this [shall be] a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen [it], they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard [it] wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered [them] in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Sunday School: <https://youtu.be/o15d872rNGo>

Children's message: **Fourth Sunday in Advent** -- https://youtu.be/rO_z-tzYhao

Precious Moments: <https://youtu.be/mIPLF9m-rUM>

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Is. 45: 1-8

Wed.: Mar, 3: 31-35

Friday: John 19: 25b-27

Tuesday: 1 Cor. 2: 6-10

Thurs: Rom. 1: 1-7

Saturday: Hebrews 1: 1-12

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES

With the continued presence of COVID 19 we would ask that you look forward and start making plans for you and your family if you plan to join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
7 PM & 11 PM

(Please note the 7 pm service is now filled to capacity following the Niagara Regional Health restrictions for in-building gatherings.)

Please consider attending our 11 p.m. Candlelight Service and/or our Christmas Day Communion Service Dec. 25 at 10 a.m., a unique service enhanced by Christmas Carol and safe Covid communion practices.

To reserve your seat please call 905-685-8294 or email: secretary@christlutheransc.ca.

Live streaming of the service will be available

our 7 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight service will live stream through our Christ Lutheran FaceBook page. All that is needed is a cell phone, laptop or ipad.

www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE: Thursday, December 31, 7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 413 Linwell Road with our own Pastor Todd preaching.

SHARING CHRISTMAS JOY!! Thank you to all who gathered outside Luther Manor this past Saturday at 4 p.m. for some caroling, spreading God's Peace and Blessings!!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: If you would like to buy a plant at the cost of \$10.00 each, which will be available to take home after the service on Christmas Day, please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church. We will again list the flowers as a "memorial or in thankfulness for" in the bulletin on the 27th. Thanks!

Last Sunday Attendance: Dec. 13th -- 9 a.m.- 35 11 a.m. -- 34 Total: 69

| | <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 | 2,342.00 | 180,871.59 | (248,010.43) |
| Missions | 20,000.00 | 384.62 | 667.00 | 18,640.16 | (975.22) |
| Property Improvement | | | 34.00 | 5,253.16 | |

FLOWERS have been placed on the altar this morning to the glory of God in loving memory of Ida Moskaluk by all of her family.

2019 CHURCH ENVELOPES are ready in narthex. Please pick yours up today

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

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

Sunday, December 27th: "Welcome to the Family!" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook -- The book of Galatians gives us a glimpse inside the family of God. It describes the Christian family as one that stands firm in Christ's freedom, walks united in the Spirit, and bears one another's burdens in love. (Galatians 4:4-7) The Canadian sermons are available for listening on-line on LLL website www.lll.ca/radio-tv-and-podcasts

KAREEM & FAMILY REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP UPDATE:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, FROM YOUR REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE:
Awesome good news! We had a meeting on December 2nd to review the Sponsorship forms for Canadian Lutheran World Relief and by December 8th our government in Ottawa acknowledged the receipt of the application for our refugee family and was accepted in good order. A lot of work went into this by Jennifer Ardon and Muna Al-Nidawi at Canadian Lutheran World Relief. We had to have Arabic and Greek ID and other information translated to go with the applications sent by CLWR. The documents CLWR needed us to sign were completed and submitted for the process. Our committee met on December 2nd to review the forms and discuss how we would proceed to prepare for the family when they arrive. Ottawa will now be sending the applications overseas for final processing. We have no idea how long that will be especially in this covid time. However, as of Friday, December 4th CLWR had no spots available for refugee applicants, but by Monday, December 7th they had received notice from the Canadian government that they had 4 spots for applications open. Jennifer acted quickly and got our application in on Monday and by Tuesday Ottawa acknowledge the applications were in good form and would sent on to their overseas office for processing. **This my dear brothers and sisters in Christ is because of your many prayers offered to our Almighty and gracious God through our Saviour Jesus the Christ.** Please continue to press forward in prayer that the Lord would guide the hand of our government officials to bring Kareem and his wife Haimida, and little boys Ameer and Asser to safety here among us. As of November 23rd we had raised \$3,650 towards our goal. Remember not to neglect our other ministry needs and commitments as you or your friends donate to this outreach opportunity. I am confident the Lord will provide you with the resources to help support this mission outreach to Kareem and his family. God bless, Pastor John, 289-407-7662

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 and then mail the form along with a voided cheque to:

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

2. BY MAIL: cheques can still be mailed to:

Christ Lutheran Church,
140 Russell Ave.
St.Catharines, ON L2R 1W1

or dropped in the Church mailbox at the East entrance.

3. ONLINE VIA LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA: Lutheran Church-Canada has opened a web portal that allows parishioners to donate directly to their home church. Just visit LCC's website: www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca and click on the "Support My Home Congregation with Online Donations", select "St. Catharines-Christ Lutheran-30950" from the drop down menu, enter the amount of your donations and LCC will transfer your donation to Christ. Donation is via VISA or Mastercard. Tax receipts will be issued by LCC (not Christ). This opportunity will be in effect until the COVID-19 emergency is over.