

THE 6TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
February 13th, 2022



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 Russell Avenue
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1
Church: 905-685-8294 Fax 905-685-7661

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

Bulletin Announcements: Please send to secretary@christlutheransc.ca.

Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor:	Pastor Todd Hoeffs	(289-362-0113)	pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com
Parish Assistant:	Louise Gondosch	(905-329-8579)	parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca
Business Manager:	Karen McCumber		business.manager@christlutheransc.ca
Secretary:	Pat Kimpel		secretary@christlutheransc.ca
Facebook:	Lisa Gall		www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC
Bulletin by email:	Judy Mason		chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca

Prayer: O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of Your people who call upon You, and grant that they may know and understand the things they ought to do and also may have grace and strength to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:

Monday: Matt. 13: 36-43	Wed.: Matt. 13: 31-35	Friday: 1 Cor. 1: 18-25
Tuesday: Matt. 13: 47-52	Thurs: Luke 12: 54-59	Saturday: Luke 13: 22-30

Children’s Message: Psalm 1: https://youtu.be/qWC_5l9jVr0

Organist: Mayumi Munoz

Readers: 9 a.m.—Paul Mason; 11 a.m.—Gloria Meyer

WORSHIP NOTE:

- A recording of Sunday’s service will be uploaded to YouTube – “Gathering the Scattered” at: (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC3a4p6prdJGEyP5S-q-cNSq>).
- A PDF version of the order of service for each Sunday will also be posted on our church website: christlutheransc.ca.
- Archived videos of Sunday’s service will be uploaded to christlutheransc.ca – “Worship” page.

Any questions or concerns, please check out our church website (<http://christlutheransc.ca/>), contact Judy Slingerland (chairman.worship@christlutheransc.ca) or Pastor Todd (pastortoddhoeffs@gmail.com). or phone the church office. May the peace of the risen Lord be with you all.

YOUTH CATECHISM CLASS: February 20th & February 27th, 10:10—10:45 AM.

NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY FOR FEBRUARY OR MARCH.

ASH WEDNESDAY: MARCH 2nd at 7 PM. Holy Communion Worship with ashes. This reverent service begins our Season of Lent in preparation for our Lord's death and resurrection. Please plan on joining us. ALL ARE WELCOME!!

MIDWEEK LENTEN BIBLE STUDY begins **MARCH 9, 7-8 pm** and continues every Wednesday until Easter. Led by Pastor Todd in the church sanctuary. Materials will be provided ahead of time. *"LIFT HIGH THE CROSS -- Jesus' Focus For Our Freedom: A Lenten Journey Through Matthew's Gospel account of the Passion."*

More information is yet to come. Please join us. ALL ARE WELCOME!!

INTERESTED in memorizing scripture? Join us as together we focus on and memorize one verse from the Psalm of the week.

Today's Verse: Psalm 1: ***"Blessed is the man...who delights in the law of the Lord."***

LUTHERAN CHURCH - CANADA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:

Lutheran Young people from across Canada will be gathering together this **July 15-19, 2022 in Winnipeg, Manitoba**. The theme for the gathering is "**IN NOT OF**" from Philippians 3:20 "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ." Information packages are available from Louise. Save the date, check out the website at <http://www.lccnyg.ca>, start following the Facebook and Instagram pages and check out this fun announcement from Pastor Glenn Worcester <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68gXVYofMY>

Last Sunday Attendance: Feb. 6th, 2022 Attn: 9 A.M. – 40; 11 A.M. – 32; Total: 72

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Weekly Need</u>	<u>Last Sunday</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>+ or - (-)</u>
Current:			2,135.00	14,348.27	
LCC Missions			260.00	1,083.50	
Property Improvement:			126.00	356.50	

2021 DONATION RECEIPTS are in your mailbox. Please help save the Church postage by picking them up before February 20th as any not picked up by that date will be mailed.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS have been given in memory of Josie Knoll to Christ Lutheran Church by Gloria Meyer; and to the Mary Martha by Don & Lois Fretz.

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who donated coats/boots/underwear for the Niagara Mobile Closet. I received so many items I was able to drop off 5 times. They are very appreciative. Some people wanted to donate money instead so I am doing the Valentine Fundraiser (see below)."

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY everyone. Today is the **LAST DAY** to donate money for both ***Out of the Cold (aka Mobile Closet) and Silver Spire Showers.*** As of Sunday Feb 6, 2022 we raised \$105.25!!!!!! Judy Mason will be downstairs to receive any donation and put a sticker on the Valentine's Day board.

EXTRA HANDS & BODIES NEEDED: With COVID-19 still a concern, and now the Omicron virus, we will continually need extra people assisting in our services. With offering both 9 am and 11 am services, we are finding ourselves short staffed of volunteers. Particularly for the late service, we need your help in the following areas:

- 1) Greeting of Worshipers at entrance and Covid Protocol Preparation of our PowerPoint worship services [editing the Google Doc Slides, can be done at home]
- 2) Operation of the PowerPoint during church services [training with written instruction will be provided]
- 3) Taking a turn preparing the Altar for Communion and seasonal colour cloth changes [Altar Guild]
- 4) Ushering people to pew seats and directing people to line up for communion
- 5) Lighting and extinguishing of altar candles

Recording services using newly installed equipment [training with written instructions will be provided] We pray that you consider helping. We need participation from all ages. Should you wish more information about what is involved, please speak to Judy Slingerland, Tom Kuhl or Pastor Todd.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU from Steve Duga for your condolences and/or donations to the church in memory of Michael Duga.

A NOTE OF THANK YOU TO CHRIST LUTHERAN MEMBERS: *"Thank you so much for the gift of a lovely Christmas Hamper. It was greatly appreciated. It has been a difficult 6 months for us. We lost a Husband, Father, Grampa and Great-Grampa and we're still coming to terms with it. Receiving your gift brought a smile to our faces. Keep up the good work you do. Keep healthy and stay safe."*
Sincerely, Shawn Rougoor & family.

LWMLC/MARY MARTHA SOCIETY: According to the government's re-opening plan, we should be able to meet in person for our March meeting when we hope to have a guest speaker and make Easter cards for our shut-ins.

LWML-Canada, Ontario District, Niagara Zone, is hosting our District Convention in St. Catharines at Grace Lutheran Church (accommodation at Niagara College) on June 9 to 11th, 2022. More details will follow. If at all possible, please plan to attend. It is a wonderful time to get to know and renew friendships with our sisters in Christ from around the province! It is a time to focus on "**Joy, Patience, Prayer**" which is the theme of the Convention. (Romans 12:12) *Our Seminary Student Eduardo Farias and his wife Daniella will be our wonderful entertainment for Friday evening!*

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH DURING THE PANDEMIC: It's important for members to keep in mind that expenses for payroll, utilities, maintenance, etc. continue to accumulate even when you are not comfortable attending service.

1. THROUGH 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 at: 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: Darryl 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:

<https://lutheranchurch-canada.tng-secure.com/?pagelid=donation-edit&categoryid=10972>

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.

CREATIVE COMMUNION

THE 6TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
February 13th, 2022+ 9 AM Contemporary Worship

OPENING HYMN: *“Oh How I Love Jesus”*

Verse 1: There is a name I love to hear
I love to sing it's worth
It sounds like music in my ear
The sweetest name on earth

Oh how I love Jesus
Oh how I love Jesus
Oh how I love Jesus
Because He first loved me.

Verse 2: It tells me of a Savior's love
Who died to set me free
It tells me of His precious blood
The sinner's perfect plea

Oh how I love Jesus
Oh how I love Jesus
Oh how I love Jesus
Because He first loved me.

Verse 3: It tells of One whose loving heart
Can feel my deepest woe
Who in each sorrow bears a part
That none can bear below

Oh, how I love Jesus
Oh, how I love Jesus
Oh, how I love Jesus
Because He first loved me

CCLI Song # 4596756 -- Bob Singleton © 2002 Agnes Day Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 775293

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

You are my hiding place O Lord;

you will save me from trouble.

I sing aloud of your salvation,

because you protect me.

Then I confessed my sins to you;

I did not conceal my wrongdoings.

Let us confess our sins together, as children of our Heavenly Father:

O Gracious God,

our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and gift us with grace to grow more into the likeness and image of Your dear Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Receive the forgiveness Christ Jesus Himself has won for you by His Passion, death and resurrection. In the place of Christ and by His holy command, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

PRAISE SONG:

"Lord I Lift Your Name"

**Lord, I lift Your name on high!
Lord I love to sing Your praises.
I'm so glad You're in my life,
I'm so glad You came to save us;
You came from Heaven to earth, to show the way;
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky –
Lord I lift Your name on high.**

*CCLI Song # 117947 -- Rick Founds © 1989 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI License # 775293*

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

We pray: Almighty and merciful Father, You sent Your Son as the Word of Life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us by Your Spirit to faithfully believe with joy what Your blessed Scriptures proclaim. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE

The Old Testament: *Jeremiah 17:5-8*

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: *1 Corinthians 15:12-20* [St. Paul writes]: Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR MEDLEY - IF CHRIST HAD NOT BEEN RAISED + FOR THIS PURPOSE

If Christ had not been raised from death our faith would be in vain,
Our preaching but a waste of breath, Our sin and guilt remain.
But now the Lord is ris'n indeed: He rules in earth and heav'n:
His Gospel meets a world of need – In Christ we are forgiv'n.

If Christ still lay within the tomb then death would be the end,
And we should face our final doom with neither guide nor friend.
But now the Saviour is raised up, so when a Christian dies
We mourn, yet look to God in hope – In Christ the saints arise!

If Christ had not been truly raised His church would live a lie;
His name should nevermore be praised, His words deserve to die.
But now our great Redeemer lives: Through Him we are restored;
His Word endures, His Church revives in Christ, our risen Lord.

INTERLUDE:

For this purpose Christ was revealed To destroy all the works of the evil one.
Christ in us has overcome, So with gladness we sing
And welcome His kingdom in.—
Over sin He has conquered, hallelujah, He has conquered over death;
Victorious, hallelujah, victorious,- over sickness he has triumphed Hallelujah,
He has triumphed! Jesus reigns over all.

LSB # 486 LSBHymnLicense.net #000010240

For This Purpose CCLI Song # 24126 Graham Kendrick © 1985 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#).

All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 775293

GOSPEL VERSE:

**This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made, that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice, we will rejoice
And be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day that the Lord has made,
We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made.**

CCLI Song # 32754 -- Les Garrett; © 1967, 1980 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com -- CCLI License # 775293

The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 6:17-26

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 'But woe to you who are rich, for you

have received your consolation. 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered, and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

GOSPEL SONG:

"I Shall Not Be Moved"

Hillsong 2005

**Chorus: I shall not be I shall not be moved
I shall not be I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's been planted by the waters
I shall not be moved.**

**Verse 2 In His love abiding I shall not be moved
And in Him confiding I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters
I shall not be moved;
I shall not be I shall not be moved
I shall not be I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's been planted by the waters
I shall not be moved**

**Verse 3 Tho all hell assail me I shall not be moved
Jesus will not fail me I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters
I shall not be moved;
I shall not be I shall not be moved
I shall not be I shall not be moved
Just like a tree that's been planted by the waters
I shall not be moved.**

CCLI Song # 3495896 --V. O. Fossett; Public Domain *For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com -- CCLI License # 775293*

MESSAGE

THE PRAYERS:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of your Son- the Word made flesh. Thank you for revealing yourself to us through Jesus, and for all that you've done to bring us forgiveness and new life. Forgive us our many sins and purify our lives. Help us to follow Christ in faith-filled repentance and devotion. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

We pray for the poor, that they may receive the kingdom of God. Feed the hungry, that they may be filled. Comfort those that mourn, that their tears may be replaced with laughter. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

We remember that many of your children around the world are persecuted for Jesus' sake. Strengthen and protect them, that they may rejoice. Still the armaments of war, terrorism, violence and upheaval. Bless and further the causes of peace makers and peace keepers. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

Work in the hearts of those who have much, that they may seek the true reward of heaven. We pray for those who fill themselves at the expense of others, that they may learn generosity. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

Open the eyes of those who are insensitive to the suffering of the world, that they may be given compassion. Let the Holy Spirit move in the hearts of the popular and proud, that they may not trust in themselves. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

You have shown how much you care for us by feeding us with Your Word and Sacraments of grace. Uphold all who are in need of healing and hope, especially we remember [names added here...] Keep us all from anxious fears and worldly cares, that no cloud may hide from us the light of your love in Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

Father, teach us to know our needs and to see the needs of others. Hear our prayer for all humankind, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is good and right and joyful, that we should all the time and in every place give You thanks to You, O Lord, Holy God: for You sent your only Son to appear among us as a man, and through him you have fully revealed the light of your presence to us. And so, with the church on earth and the whole company of Heaven, we praise Your name and join their never-ending song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY:

[Tune: "I'll Fly Away"]

Ho -- ly Ho---ly Ho --- ly Lo—rd; God Of might;
Glo - ry fills all earth and Heav'n -- Bless - ed is He!
Sing, Ho—san--na; in the High - est-- Heav'n;
Blest the One who comes In His name; Bless - ed is He.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

LAMB OF GOD

[Tune: I Surrender All]

O Lord Je-sus Christ the True Lamb; this world's sins You take a-way;
O Lord Je-sus Christ the True Lamb; this world's sins You take a-way;
Lord, have mercy now; Christ, have mercy now.



Lord, have mer -cy; Christ, have mer -cy; Give us now Your peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

“Come To the Table, Sinner And Saint” [Have Thine Own Way tune]

**Come to the table, sinner and saint,
strong-hearted, mighty, weary and faint,
empty, repentant, seeking a place.
Christ welcomes you with joy and with
grace.**

**Come, unafraid, for here you will find
Love shows you mercy; always is kind.
Love treats as one all those who believe.
Come to the table, Christ now receive.**

**All things are ready, come and draw near.
Share in the supper -- given out here:
bread that is broken, drink the red wine,
Love's holy token--human, divine.**

**Eat, and remember, as we partake,
Jesus the Christ who died for our sake,
sharing this meal for Christ is the way,
rising to lead us to a new day.**

**Go from the table joyful in heart,
filled with thanksgiving as you depart,
graced by the Spirit, blessed by our Friend,
strengthened with Christ to serve to life's
end**

Mary Keithahn, © 2002 https://hymnary.org/text/come_to_the_table_sinner_and_saint#Author

“Revive Your Work, O Lord”

[I Love Your Kingdom tune]

- 1. Revive your work, O Lord:
create soul-thirst for you;
and hunger for the bread of life
within our hearts renew.**
- 2. Revive your work, O Lord:
exalt your precious name;
and by your Holy Spirit, love**

for you and yours inflame.

- 3. Revive your work, O Lord:
give peace-filled Spirit show'rs;
the glory shall be all your own,
the blessing, Lord, be ours.**

Albert Midlane 1825-1909, alt. public domain

SONG OF SIMEON

“Let Your Servant Depart”

[tune: Sweet By & By]

**Let your servant depart now in peace,
For Your Word from of old is fulfilled,
Your salvation my eyes now have seen,
Long-prepared as it always has been.**

**In Your light, you reveal, the world's promise and Israel's great joy!
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and always may You be adored.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, as Christ Your Son manifested as our Saviour in the streams of the Jordan and at the Wedding at Cana in Galilee, so he is manifested for us again in the bread and the wine of this blest Holy Communion feast, and for this we thank and praise You. Through us may we make Him known to all people. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

BENEDICTION:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord upon you with favour, + and give you peace. **Amen.**

LAST SONG:

“Because He Lives”

Verse 1

**God sent His Son they called Him Jesus
He came to love heal and forgive
He bled and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove
My Savior lives.**

Chorus

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives!**

Verse 3

**And then one day I'll cross that river
I'll fight life's final war with pain
And then as death gives way to vict'ry
I'll see the lights of glory
And I'll know He reigns;**

Chorus

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives!**

CCLI Song # 16880 -- Gloria Gaither | William J. Gaither; © 1971 Hanna Street Music (Admin. by Gaither Copyright Management) SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 775293

SERVICE NOTE: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lamb of God and Song of Simeon adapted and arranged by Rev. Todd Hoefs based on common ecumenical liturgical texts 2021.
Music notations from www.hymnary.org webs

LSB DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE

THE 6TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 13, 2022 + 11 AM Traditional Worship

OPENING HYMN:

“Christ For The World We Sing!”

[Italian hymn tune]

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Christ for the world we sing;
the world to Christ we bring
with loving zeal:
the poor and them that mourn,
the faint and overborne,
sin-sick and sorrow worn,
whom Christ does heal.</p> <p>2. Christ for the world we sing;
the world to Christ we bring
with fervent prayer:
the wayward and the lost,</p> | <p>by restless passions tossed,
redeemed at countless cost
from dark despair.</p> <p>3. Christ for the world we sing;
the world to Christ we bring
with one accord:
with us the work to share,
with us renewal to dare,
with us the cross to bear,
for Christ our Lord</p> |
|--|--|

Samuel Wolcott, 1869 public domain

INVOCATION, CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, Who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Brief silence for reflection]

Let us then confess our sin to God our Father:

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your Holy Name. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake, forgives you all of your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SPOKEN KYRIE:

O Lord, **have mercy on us;**

O Christ, **have mercy on us;**

O Lord, have mercy on us and grant us peace. Amen.

GLORIA [SUNG]:

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the holy one,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the most high,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY [Spoken]:

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Let us pray: Almighty and merciful Father, You sent Your Son as the Word of Life for our eyes to see and our ears to hear. Help us by Your Spirit to faithfully believe with joy what Your blessed Scriptures proclaim. We ask this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

The Old Testament: *Jeremiah 17:5-8*

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle: *1 Corinthians 15:12-20*

[St. Paul writes]: Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

ALLELUIA [Sung]

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia**

CHOIR MEDLEY - IF CHRIST HAD NOT BEEN RAISED + FOR THIS PURPOSE

If Christ had not been raised from death our faith would be in vain,
Our preaching but a waste of breath, Our sin and guilt remain.
But now the Lord is ris'n indeed: He rules in earth and heav'n:
His Gospel meets a world of need – In Christ we are forgiv'n.

If Christ still lay within the tomb then death would be the end,
And we should face our final doom with neither guide nor friend.
But now the Saviour is raised up, so when a Christian dies
We mourn, yet look to God in hope – In Christ the saints arise!

If Christ had not been truly raised His church would live a lie;
His name should nevermore be praised, His words deserve to die.
But now our great Redeemer lives: Through Him we are restored;
His Word endures, His Church revives in Christ, our risen Lord.

INTERLUDE:

For this purpose Christ was revealed To destroy all the works of the evil one.
Christ in us has overcome, So with gladness we sing
And welcome His kingdom in.—
Over sin He has conquered, hallelujah, He has conquered over death;
Victorious, hallelujah, victorious, - over sickness he has triumphed Hallelujah,
He has triumphed! Jesus reigns over all.

*LSB # 486 LSBHymnLicense.net #000010240 For This Purpose CCLI Song # 24126 Graham Kendrick © 1985
Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights
reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 775293*

The Holy Gospel: St. Luke 6:17-26

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the 6th chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord. [SUNG]

Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. 'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. 'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. 'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ. [SUNG]

HYMN OF THE DAY:

“Blest The Children Of Our God”

[Voller Wunder tune]

1. **Blest the children of our God,
they are bought with Christ's own
blood;
they are ransomed from the grave,
life eternal they shall have:**

Refrain:

**With them numbered may we be,
here and in eternity.**

2. **They are justified by grace,
they enjoy the Savior's peace;
all their sins are washed away,
they shall stand in God's great day:**

Refrain:

**With them numbered may we be,
here and in eternity.**

3. **They are lights upon the earth,
children of a heav'nly birth;
one with God, with Jesus one,
glory is in them begun:**

Refrain:

**With them numbered may we be,
here and in eternity.**

Joseph Humphries, 1743; public domain: © 1982 Lutheran worship trans.

MESSAGE

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Heavenly Father, thank you for the precious gift of your Son- the Word made flesh. Thank you for revealing yourself to us through Jesus, and for all that you've done to bring us forgiveness and new life. Forgive us our many sins and purify our lives. Help us to follow Christ in faith-filled repentance and devotion. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

We pray for the poor, that they may receive the kingdom of God. Feed the hungry, that they may be filled. Comfort those that mourn, that their tears may be replaced with laughter. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

We remember that many of your children around the world are persecuted for Jesus' sake. Strengthen and protect them, that they may rejoice. Still the armaments of war, terrorism, violence and upheaval. Bless and further the causes of peace makers and peace keepers. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

Work in the hearts of those who have much, that they may seek the true reward of heaven. We pray for those who fill themselves at the expense of others, that they may learn generosity. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

Open the eyes of those who are insensitive to the suffering of the world, that they may be given compassion. Let the Holy Spirit move in the hearts of the popular and proud, that they may not trust in themselves. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

You have shown how much you care for us by feeding us with Your Word and Sacraments of grace. Uphold all who are in need of healing and hope, especially we remember [names added here...] Keep us all from anxious fears and worldly cares, that no cloud may hide from us the light of your love in Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your compassion;

hear our humble prayer.

Father, teach us to know our needs and to see the needs of others. Hear our prayer for all humankind, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you:

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is good and right and joyful, that we should all the time and in every place give You thanks to You, O Lord, Holy God: for You sent your only Son to appear among us as a man, and through him you have fully revealed the light of your presence to us. And so, with the church on earth and the whole company of Heaven, we praise Your name and join their never-ending song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

(LSB Page 161)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

WORDS OF OUR LORD:

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, on the night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying: "Take, eat; This is My + Body which is given for you, this do, in remembrance of Me. In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying "Drink of it all of you, this cup is the New Testament in My + Blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LAMB OF GOD

LSB tune # 163

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

"Be Known To Us"

[Almighty God Your Word is Cast tune]

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Be known to us in breaking bread,
but do not then depart;
Savior, abide with us, and spread
your table in our heart.</p> <p>2. We come, believing Your blest word,
to feast on heavenly food;
to eat the body of the Lord,
and drink his precious blood.</p> | <p>3. living Bread, enduring Vine,
please fill us full today;
we go, renewed with strength divine,
rejoicing on our way.</p> <p>4. Here share with us, in love divine,
your body and your blood,
that living bread, that heavenly wine
be our immortal food.</p> |
|--|--|

James Montgomery, 1825 public domain

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of Heav'n to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.</p> | <p>2. Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without
ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.</p> |
|--|--|

C. Wesley, 1747, public domain

POST COMMUNION HYMN: *"Thank The Lord"*

(LSB Page 164)



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

Let us pray: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BENEDICTION: [Spoken]

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, + and give you peace.

Amen. [Spoken]

CLOSING HYMN:

"Children of the Heav'nly Father"

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.</p> | <p>3. Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.</p> |
| <p>2. God his own doth tend and nourish;
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them;
in his mighty arms he bears them.</p> | <p>4. Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy</p> |

REV. TODD HOEFFS

EPIPHANY 6

Scripture: Jeremiah 17:5-10

February 13, 2022

“FINDING WATER WHEN LIFE IS DRY”

Trust can take years to build - seconds to destroy – forever to rebuild.

Trust that is based in loyalty and promises kept.

Usually, a lie or a betrayal makes a person regret trusting.

When trust breaks down, we give up on people; then we give up on God.

Often our “gut reactions” to life informs before our head figures it out. We all tend to trust in what we know, see, feel. With people it takes time. Trying to find a fool proof method to trust and be trusted is not the answer. If the 2 years of pandemic life hasn’t taught us anything, It’s that all the institutions we could usually rely upon are not accurate or consistent. Either people have learned to live without, Or focus on buying, hoarding and stockpiling. Living for only the self.

Truth be told, none of this is news. These issues have plagued humanity for countless decades.

What’s new about it is it’s far more difficult to fight against the urges To seek out guaranteed security Or better trust Or perfect safety In all the many things we see or can acquire.

The simple Gospel message that trust begins with God is as ancient as it is relevant. Prophet Jeremiah’s message today contrasts trust with curse. When looking at trust in our world,

Most often it’s about – believing what we’re told and what someone will do to help.

What’s so troublesome in our culture now with polar opposite views on everything is a sad trail of broken promises, lies and misinformation. We automatically judge the motives when trust is broken.

Sometimes this is valid, but not always. Mistakes and bad choices can happen with good or bad motives. Nevertheless, when this becomes a way of life, it makes living a heavy burden.

Which no one wants to feel, so therein lies the desire for earthly guarantees. Now, when considering the meaning of “cursed” in our world, That’s more of a bygone era superstitious understanding. Like an evil curse, dark magic, maybe even a bit of Karma?

From the prophet Jeremiah’s persecutive, which the Holy Spirit awakened in him to write, Good, Godly Trust is pure, honest vulnerability. In the Hebrew understanding it’s literally

THROWING YOUR CARES ONTO ANOTHER PERSON BECAUSE YOU BELIEVE THEY WILL HELP YOU. This is exactly what God calls us all to do with Him in prayer. Its not naïve, or childish, it’s what married couples are supposed to be. It’s what our Lord Jesus did by allowing evil men to lay his body down on the cross As they nailed down His hands and feet leaving Him totally vulnerable and unprotected. Open for nothing but brutality So that we can be freed from the curse of all brutality And live exposed and vulnerable to God So we can be confident and protected when we go out into the world. This vulnerable form of trust is not surface help. It’s not oh, poor you.

It’s --I’m sorry. This must hurt you. I will help you. Comfort and help we are called as a church to give.

Sadly, one reason why we see a speedy decline in our church pews across all denominations

Is that churches are no longer viewed by anyone as places of help. The very fact that our own Lutheran Church leaders had to beg and push the government to see clergy as essential in pandemic times proves the great divide and the idea that clergy and churches only help themselves. We see empty pews as think people just don’t caring about Christianity;

Outsiders view empty pews and think no one sees the church as a place for help.

And that’s not simply a PR problem, that is a global Christian concern. A lack of trust in people always stems from a lack of trust in God. A lack of trust in the Gospel, Maybe not even really knowing the Gospel. Because grace is loving and forgiving, which doesn’t feel secure.

“God will provide” has become the lazy tag line for NOT trusting Him, Passing the buck from any Christian witness or responsibility to anyone else. The Christians faith can be hard work.

And not hard because the big bad nasty world is out to get me either.

Hard work is the daily emptying of our selfishness that only the Holy Spirit can haul away;

And being vulnerable enough to trust that Christ Who we receive In never ending supply --

IS enough to sustain us. That Christ is our only option. His substance is far better than style.

And the Spirit will constantly move our feet to action, not obliviousness. We are still God's people able to make choices And yet be strong in faith enough to be vulnerable to His will and secure enough to

share this gift without thinking we're losing something. When you trust in God,

You trust what you believe, You trust He has your back no matter how rough the ride.

And so with a rough ride in life, we tend to think God is cursing us. Not so.

Cursed in God's mind means YOU ARE TIED TO YOUR BAD LIFE OUTCOME

BECAUSE YOU DID NOT CONSULT HIM IN PRAYER OR IGNORED HIM TOTALLY.

This isn't payback. When any person grows away from the source of life, they dry up and die.

This is the same belief Jesus conveys to His disciples in the upper room Easter night.

They will forgive sins – release people from them; Or not forgive sins – which means people will be

tied to them. This isn't the same of buyer's remorse or depressed regret; This isn't the fate of a

doubting Thomas or a burned-out person hanging on by a thread. Christians are cursed when they

stop believing or trusting in God. Not even forgetting to pray – God knows your heart anyway.

It's making something else replace God. No matter how big or small.

When Jeremiah shared this message to the people of Israel [700 years before Jesus]

Half of them already had been conquered and captured by Assyria, and Babylon was rising like a storm cloud over the other half. Faced with certain destruction, though, God's people did *not* run back

to Him, but only to human strength. Israel expected Egypt to save them?! Really? The same ones

who enslaved you 1st! Despite just how many times God came to the rescue, delivered, and

prevailed they forgot and ran to find people with faster horses and stronger chariots.

A heart that turns to earthly help ALONE cannot also turn to God. By trusting in God,

The heart and mind can use earthly help wisely and for the good of all. Don't be like a shrub in the

desert. They can only live so long in dry land, Without any connection to the water source;

If you only live unto yourself, in the end that's all you get. It's easy seeing God is there to help;

A relationship with Him takes away the isolation and loneliness. It's a life always turned toward the

face of God, Who sees God as a help, Like a tree planted by streams of living water.

With a constant water source The tree gets bigger and stronger with deep roots embedded into the

wet soil. A source of life greater than themselves. God is that source. God makes that life Blessed.

Blessed in the Hebrew belief here is "BENDING THE KNEE"— That's worship and trust in God.

It's not about acting nice and good Not even doing good. It's where our head and heart lead us to

always BEND THE KNEE Come to God through Christ in praise, prayer, worship and trust.

Bending the knee shows humility – that you NEED God.

Bending the knee shows reverence – that God is wonderful and compassionate.

Bending the knee shows identity and adoption into grace– If sin keeps us all away from God,

Bending the knee shows we belong to Him,

Baptismal water is our life source, and Jesus is our life.

By baptismal water all people from every time and place Become His own child.

So when Jesus comes along and says blessed are you when who are poor, hungry, sad, and

attacked and hurt. Why? Because you have every strength from the Lord to receive and look forward

to. This blessing is God's Heavenly Kingdom and its all yours. Because of Jeremiah's words

becomes Jesus the living Word Who comes filling the empty with good things.

With His good things you know true joy and real peace Which helps us also see our life struggles in a whole new way.

Life isn't always a liability.

While our talents and our work can be burdens, Those can also be avenues for blessing

For we constantly by faith are drawn to bend the knee before God In heart and life.

And by being drawn to God through Jesus Christ, We are pushed out into the communities to be
Jesus' nail scarred hands and feet.
This is where the trust flourishes and grows and inspires others.
You're not giving 100 percent of what you have, You're giving 100 percent of Jesus.
It's not your strength, your motive, your will, your water, your life source,
It's Christ Who is in you and is Your amazing powerhouse.
When the world says, 'Mind your own business,'
Jesus says, 'There is no such thing as your own business.'
The world says "Once bitten, twice as shy",
Jesus says "forgive, repay no one evil for evil".
The world says, 'plot your own course, take what you can get,'
and Jesus says, 'Follow me and be crucified.'
The world says, 'Drive carefully — the life you save may be your own' —
and Jesus says, 'Whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will
find it.'
The world says, 'Law and order,' and Jesus says, 'Love.'
The world says, 'Get' and Jesus says, 'Give.'
A life of trusting God Means we re-enter into His heart Bending the knee to Jesus' cross-shaped way
of living renewed and reshaped.
We don't follow a dream or a delusion,
But trust in God's guarantee —
He makes us secure
He gives us a never-ending life source.
A reason to rejoice.
A reason to trust.
Amen.