



**Christ Lutheran Church – St. Catharines, Ontario**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

140 Russell Avenue  
St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1  
Church: 905-685-8294  
[www.christlutheransc.ca](http://www.christlutheransc.ca)

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**Office Hours:** Thursday to Friday—9 a.m. – 12 noon  
**Bulletin Announcements:** Please send to [secretary@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransc.ca).  
Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

**Pastor:** Pastor Todd Hoeffs (289-362-0113) [sr.pastor@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:sr.pastor@christlutheransc.ca)  
**Parish Assistant:** Louise Gondosch (905-329-8579) [parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:parish.assistant@christlutheransc.ca)  
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**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC](http://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC)  
**Bulletin by email:** [chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca](mailto:chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca)

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING\\_TKT19c\\_OIBbMqGwLw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKT19c_OIBbMqGwLw)

**Cover Art:** *Disciples' Cross, Tetra Pak print with Dollar Tree ink pad, Rev. Todd Hoeffs 2024.*  
Tetra Pak is the metal lining on the inside of a Nestea Ice Tea box or apple juice box.  
Disciples' Cross is created as an outreach focus flowing from Christ in our life in the center.  
The 4 rounded points of the cross mean we are inspired to witness but leading with Gospel love.  
Originated in the 1960s Bethel Bible series.

**Prayer:** O Lord Jesus Christ, who didst walk the way of the cross as the obedient servant of God, open our ears, we beseech Thee, and teach us by Thy Spirit, that we may not rebel but walk in the obedience of disciples who have learned of Thee, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen.

**DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS:**

Monday: John 7: 14-18                      Wed.: 1 Sam. 3: 1-18                      Friday: Heb. 5: 4-10  
Tuesday: Acts 5: 17-29                      Thurs: Jer. 20: 7-13                      Saturday: Matt. 21: 33-46

**Musician:** Mayumi Munoz  
**Reader:** Fran Porteous  
**Greeter:** Judy Slingerland

**EVENTS THIS WEEK:**

Today: 9:00 – 9:50 a.m. – Sunday School, Coffee Hour  
10:00 a.m. – Worship  
Monday: 10:00 -11:00 a.m. – Luther Manor Pastor Talk  
7:30 p.m. – Choir  
Tuesday: 9:30-11:00 a.m. – Precious Moments  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m. – Lenten Study  
Thursday: 10:00-11:30 a.m. – SOUL  
7:00 p.m. – Women's Bible Study at Lia's (see note below)



**YOU ARE INVITED!! EVERY SUNDAY!!**

Hope to see you downstairs *for*

**COFFEE, TEA & TREATS !**

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.  
(during Sunday School & CHAT)

Anyone willing to help serve or bring treats, please contact:

*Judy Mason 905-641-7546*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Today, crowd of at least 5000 men, plus women and children gather to hear Jesus preach. When challenged to find a way to feed the hungry crowd, the disciples question, how is this possible. Using just 5 barley loaves and 2 fish, Jesus feeds them all, with abundant leftovers. How does God provide food for His people today?

**Our Bible Verse:** *“God ...richly provides us with everything”.* 1 Timothy 6:17

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Thursday, February 29, 7:15 pm at Lia's (22 Rampart Dr.). We will continue our study of “The Chosen”. Please bring your Bible!

**CONFIRMAND & YOUTH CHAT:** March 10 and 24 with youth leader Dan Figueroa. In the youth room from 9:00 - 9:50 a.m. Hope to see you there!!

**PLEASE JOIN** the Kaija and Whittard families for a meal on **Wednesday, March 6th at 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.** before Lenten service. The meal will be provided for the Glory of God in honour of Julie Whittard (Kaija).

**PLEASE NOTE:** The next Council Meeting will be on Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.



**LWML-C/MARY MARTHA EVENTS:**

**Tuesday, February 20, 7:00 p.m.:** Bible study with Pastor Todd and/or Fieldworker Vijay. Making Easter cards.

**Tuesday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.:** Cooking Demonstration.

**“How to make Phyllo Pastry Hor d'Oeuvres” by Derrick Smith.**

**Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m.:** Mission Service night – Quilt Tying and cutting stamps.

**Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m.:** Speaker / TBA.

**Tuesday, June 18, 5:30 pm:** Summer Pot Luck. More details to follow!

**NOTE:** Daylight Savings Time starts March 10th, 2024 when clocks are turned forward one hour.

**COUNCIL MEETING:** Monday, March 11, 7:00 p.m.

**CONCORDIA ROCKS BONSPIEL:** Calling all curlers (and the curling curious)! Register for the first ever **Concordia Rocks Bonspiel** on **Saturday, March 23, 2024** at the **Williamsford Community Center** (close to Owen Sound, ON). 2 games, 2 draws, lunch, refreshments, prizes, and a whole pile of fun. Draw 1 @ 8:30 and Draw 2 @ 10:00. All proceeds go to the Student Aid Fund of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Catharines. Registration \$50.00. Limited to the first 32 curlers. For more info visit: [www.concordia-seminary.ca](http://www.concordia-seminary.ca). To pre-register, email Carol at [carol1952@gmail.com](mailto:carol1952@gmail.com) or text 226-668-4353.

**CLTS CALL SERVICE:** Saturday, May 25, 3:00 pm here at Christ followed by a reception.

**12th Regular Convention of Lutheran Women's Missionary League-Canada:** July 11-14, 2024, at the Four Points by Sheraton in London, ON.

**The convention theme is based on Psalm 149:1 ‘Sing to the Lord a new song’**

Keynote Speaker will be Deb Burma who is a Christian author and LWML seminar leader. Special Interest Speakers will also tell of their cross-cultural ministry with the use of singing and music. The mites gathered throughout the past three years provided such great blessings to people around the world, from local support for a Bethlehem Walk in BC to International support of deaconesses in Nicaragua and Cambodia. Rev. Mark Smith will bring news of the work that is happening through those missions. Mission Grants for the next triennium will be voted on.

*If you would be interested in attending, either in person or online, speak to Lorraine Kaija.*

*Registration forms will be available in the coming months. You can also check out the LWML web site [lutheranwomen.ca](http://lutheranwomen.ca)*

<b><u>Last Sunday Attendance:</u></b> 10 a.m. – 78		<b>Wed. Feb.21:</b> 32	<b>SOUL:</b>		
	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Weekly Need</u></b>	<b><u>Last Sunday</u></b>	<b><u>Year To Date</u></b>	<b><u>+ or – (--)</u></b>
Current	303,899.00	5,844.21	1,122.00	27,624.98	(13,284.50)
LCC Missions	17,500.00	336.54	259.00	2,433.00	77.23
Property Improvement:			154.00	978.00	

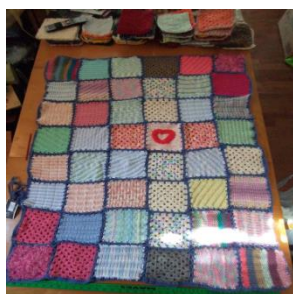
**2023 DONATION TAX RECEIPTS:** Are available for pick up in your mailbox. Please save the Church some postage expense and pick yours up!

**2023 ANNUAL REPORT:** The Church Council would like to make an Annual Report this year. If you are in charge of a committee, group or event, please get your report for last year in to Pat by Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> so that it can be done by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send reports to: [secretary@christlutheransca](mailto:secretary@christlutheransca)

**LENTEN DEVOTIONALS:** In narthex. Please help yourself.

**USED STAMPS:** Start saving and collecting your used stamps now! They will be gathered at the LWML-C Convention and donated to a charity who will in turn use them to purchase spiritual resources like Bibles.

**TECHNOLOGY ENTHUSIASTS** – The Worship Committee is seeking individuals who would be interested in learning how to operate the recording equipment used for our worship services. Training will be provided. Should you have any questions or require more information please speak to either Tom Kuhl, Theresa Mason or Pastor Todd.



**Granny Squares still needed:** This is an ongoing project we will gratefully accept more completed 6 inch knitted or crocheted Granny Squares in any pattern or colour. We would also appreciate any yarn that you may have, leftover yarn or full balls of yarn. In the narthex there is a white cube with yarn and hooks that you are welcome to take (or donate). There is another basket for completed squares. It has been about 6 months that we have been able to show Christ's love in our Caring Squares blankets. (23 blankets to date!) Thank you for donating yarn or completed squares as we continue with this project! Praise

God! If you have any questions, call Lorraine at 905 964 5837)

**TAPESTRY** is an **LWML-C Publication** available to anyone. For 2024 it will publish (3) three times a year with the possibility of a digital issue in the summer. The cost for a paper copy is \$18 for the 24/25 subscription year. Deadline for renewal has been moved up to March 15 this year. Please contact Wendy Hyatt for more information or to start or renew your paper subscription. A sample issue is available.



## **MARCH 2024 Worship Schedule**



- March 3 - Lent 3 - Baptismal Remembrance Service**
- March 10 - Lent 4 - LSB Setting 1 Holy Communion**
- March 17 - Lent 5 - Scripture & Song Worship [Praise Band]**
- March 24 - Palm Sunday - LSB Setting 3 with Palms & Communion**
- March 28 - 7 PM Maundy Thurs Communion & Stripping of the altar**
- March 29 - 10 AM Good Friday Stations of the Cross**
- March 29 - 7 PM Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Darkness**
- March 31 - Festive Easter Holy Communion**

HOLY COMMUNION  
LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK SETTING ONE  
THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT  
February 25, 2024 + 10 AM Worship

FIRST HYMN:

*"In The Cross Of Christ I Glory"*

**In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time;  
all the light of sacred story, gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o'ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me. Lo! it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way,  
from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified;  
peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.**

*Words: John Bowring (1825); Music: Ithamar Conkey (1849)*

*<https://3gigglygirlsathome.wordpress.com/2019/10/13/in-the-cross-of-christ-i-glory-hymn/>*

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]*

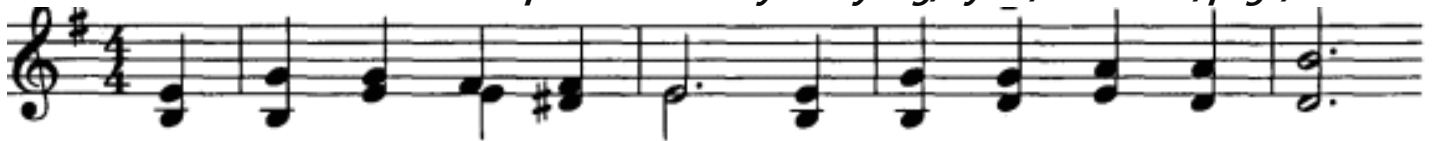
Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:

**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 sin. 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.**

## KYRIE HYMN:

Reprinted: [www.hymnary.org/hymn/WAR2003/page/419](http://www.hymnary.org/hymn/WAR2003/page/419)



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, with care and woe op - pressed;



from earth-born pas - sions set me free, and make me pure with - in.  
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be, and taste your prom - ised rest.

WORDS: Synesius of Cyrene (ca. 375-430); tr. Allen W. Chatfield (1808-1896)  
MUSIC: William Damon's Psalms, 1579

SOUTHWELL  
S.M.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

We pray: Merciful God and Father, we thank You for sending Your Son to suffer death on a cross and give his life as an offering for all people. Teach us, who have been born anew by water and the Spirit, to forget ourselves and die to sin so that we may truly rely on Christ as our Saviour and Lord. For He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## THE WORD

### The Old Testament *Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, 'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you....And God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

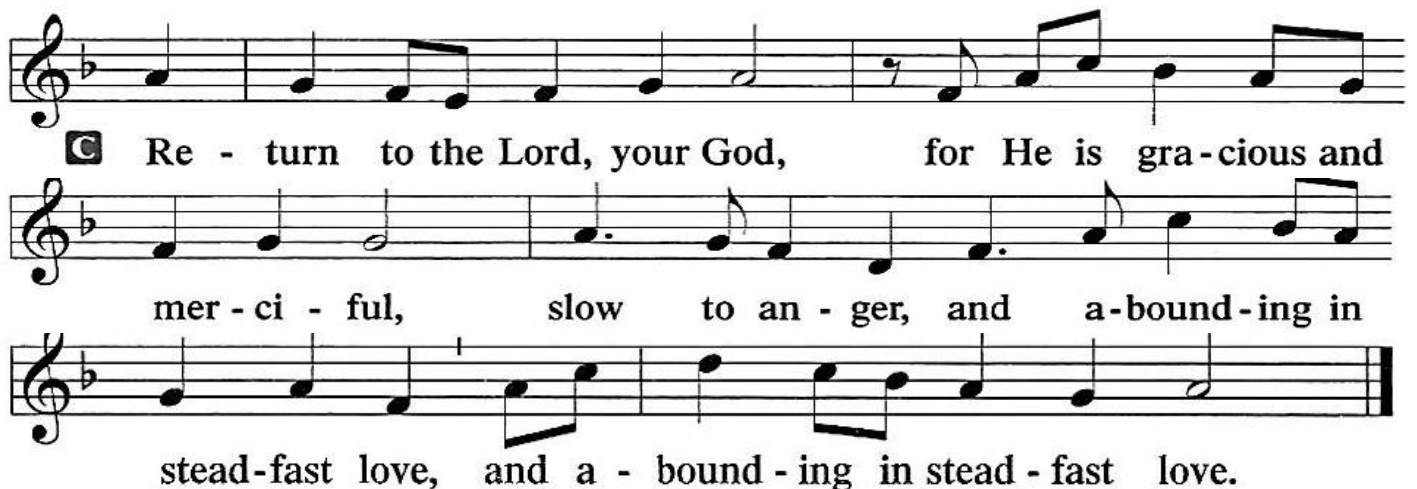
**The Epistle:** *Romans 4:13-25*

[St. Paul writes:] For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**SUNG LENTEN GOSPEL VERSE**

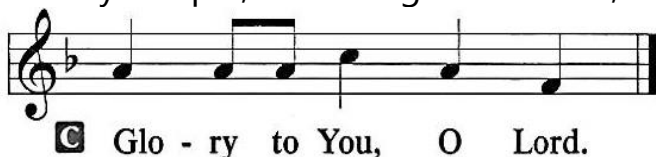
*LSB tune # 157*



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

**The Holy Gospel:** *St. Mark 8: 31-38*

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Mark, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter:



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.



Then [Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

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 the 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 worshipped 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.**

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**GOSPEL SONG:**

*"Low, The Way Is Low"*

♩ = 102

G Em C D<sup>SUS</sup>

1. Low, — the way is low with the Man the an - gels praise.  
 2. See — the glo - ry road, He was temp - ted by it too.  
 3. When — our time is gone we will see the great new day.

5 G Em C D<sup>SUS</sup> D

He — who spoke the sky was a ba - by dressed in hay. We are com -  
 But — He set HIS course with Je - ru - sa - lem in view.  
 Till — that day ap - pears, all we know is Je - sus' way.

9 G<sup>SUS</sup> G E<sup>2sus</sup> Em C<sup>6</sup>

-pan - ions of — the One whose name is love, — we share His life as we

12 D<sup>SUS</sup> D G<sup>SUS</sup> G E<sup>SUS</sup> Em

grow. We car - ry Je - sus' death — with each and ev - 'ry breath, — our hope is

15 Cm<sup>6</sup> D<sup>SUS</sup> D G Em

high, the way is low.

CCLI Song # 1272094 -- Robin Mann © 1980 Mann, Robin -- For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](#). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](http://www.ccli.com) -- CCLI License # 775293

**MESSAGE**

**OFFERING HYMN:**

*"What Shall I Render?"*



☐ What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all his ben - e - fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all his peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERINGS** *are gathered*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:**

Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth, thank you for your selfless love expressed in creation, and thank you for your ongoing commitment to this sinful world. Help us use the freedom we have to serve you well, as stewards of your good world. Bring to an end all abuse of your world and of the people you have made.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Help us to care for the earth so that it will be a healthier place for our children and the generations to come. And give us the faith and wisdom to do our duty well, as we participate with you in creating the future. Preserve the earth from natural and man-made disaster, and bless it with good seasonable weather.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Be with all your people in times of trouble and temptation, and remind us that our real life is with Christ. Give courage and hope to those who want to give up on life or who are afraid of the future. Help us provide for hungry or homeless, for lost and lonely, and all who cry out for help.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Support all technologies, progressions and places of learning. Protect all who are in places of danger or distress, especially where war or disaster threatens life and property. Instill mercy in the hearts and conversations of all world leaders. Bless our own land and her governing body. Defend all Christians who are persecuted and harassed for the faith. May we in our lives overcome all evil through the gift of Christ Who endured suffering for the life of this world.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

Watch over us in this Lenten season O God, and draw us closer to our suffering Saviour. Strengthen those who are weak in the faith, who struggle through doubts, and guide those who are preparing for baptism and confirmation.

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

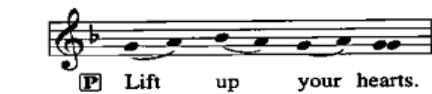
Relieve all who are coping with sickness, pain, and any who are suffering in mind, body and spirit. Give your peace and patience to those awaiting surgery or to hear the results of medical tests. Support all those we know personally.....

Let us pray to the Lord; **Lord, have mercy.**

O God our Father, by the cross of Your Son You reconciled the world to Yourself, enabling us to live in love and harmony. We thank and praise You for the forgiveness of sins and the precious gift of peace. Help us forgive each other and all others and to establish truth and harmony throughout the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT

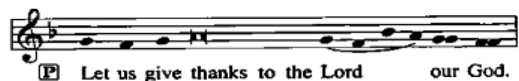




Lift up your hearts.



We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right and joyful that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord; You bid Your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Paschal Feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so with the Church on earth and with all the company of Heaven, we praise Your name and join their un-ending hymn:

### 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER: *Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name....*

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

**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.

**HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

**For those who have need, please feel free to stand at the rail if kneeling is difficult. The common cup and trays of individual glasses are available. Gluten free wafers are also available. Light purple glasses of Communion wine mixed with water are in the centre of the trays**

**COMMUNION HYMNS:**

*"Shepherd Of Souls"*

*[Tune: O Jesus King, Most Wonderful]*

1. Shep-herd of souls, re - fresh and bless  
 2. We would not live by bread a - lone,  
 3. Be known to us in break - ing bread,  
 4. Lord, sup with us in love di - vine;

Your cho - sen pil - grim flock      With man - na in the  
 But by your word of grace,      In strength of which we  
 But do not then de - part;      Sav - ior, a - bide with  
 Your Bod - y and your Blood,      That liv - ing bread, that





wil - der - ness,                      With wa - ter    from    the    rock.  
 trav - el    on                      To    our    a - bid - ing    place.  
 us,    and    spread                      Your    ta - ble    in    our    heart.  
 heav'n - ly    wine,                      Be    our    im - mor - tal    food.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.

Tune: ST. AGNES, CM; John B. Dykes, 1823-1876; harm. by Richard Proulx, b.1937, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

**"Grant, Lord Jesus"**

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/CWH2021/page/367>

1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing    in your ho - ly  
 2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion    fas - ci - nate my  
 3 If    the world my heart    en - tic - es    with the broad and  
 4 Ev - 'ry wound that    pains or grieves me    by your wounds, Lord,

wounds I find,    ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing pains of  
 sin - ful mind,    let me think a - bout your pas - sion, and new  
 eas - y road,    with se - duc - tive, sin - ful vic - es, let me  
 is    made whole; when I'm weak, your cross re - vives me, grant - ing

bod - y and of mind.    Should some e - vil thought with - in  
 cour - age I shall find.    Or should Sa - tan press me hard,  
 weigh the aw - ful load    you were will - ing to en - dure.  
 new life to my soul.    Yes, your com - fort ren - ders sweet

tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin,    show the per - il,  
 let me then be on my guard,    say - ing, "Christ for  
 Help me flee all thoughts im - pure,    mas - ter - ing each  
 ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet;    for your all - a -

and from sin - ning keep me ere its first be - gin - ning.  
 me was wound - ed," that the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.  
 wild temp - ta - tion, calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.  
 ton - ing pas - sion has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.

## “Sing My Tongue”

[Picardy tune – *Let All Mortal Flesh*]



1. Sing, my tongue, the song of tri - umph,  
2. He en - dured the nails, the spit - ting,  
3. Faith - ful Cross, a - bove all oth - er,  
4. Bend your boughs, O Tree of glo - ry!



Tell the sto - ry far and wide;  
Vin - e - gar and spear and reed;  
One and on - ly no - ble tree,  
All you rig - id branch - es, bend!



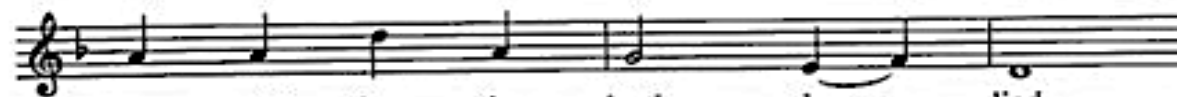
Tell of dread and fi - nal bat - tle,  
From that ho - ly bod - y bro - ken  
None in fo - liage, none in blos - som,  
For a while the an - cient tem - per



Sing of Sav - ior cru - ci - fied;  
Blood and wa - ter forth pro - ceed:  
None in fruit your peer may be;  
That your birth be - stowed, sus - pend;



How up - on the cross a vic - tim  
Earth and stars and sky and o - cean  
Sweet the wood and sweet the i - ron  
And the King of earth and heav - en



Van - quish - ing in death he died.  
By that flood from stain are freed.  
And your load, most sweet is he.  
Gent - ly on your bos - om tend.

# "Lord Jesus Christ, My Life"

Luke 23 : 33

O Jesu Christ, mein's Lebens Licht

Martin Behm, 1610, cento

Tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1858, 1863, alt.

L. M.

O Jesu Christ, mein's

"Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch," 1676

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, my Life, my Light, My Strength by  
2 Far off I see my fa - ther - land, Where thro' Thy  
3 My heart sinks at the jour - ney's length, My wast - ed  
4 Oh, let Thy suf - f'rings give me pow'r To meet the

day, my Trust by night, On earth I'm but a pass - ing  
blood I hope to stand. But ere I reach that Par - a -  
flesh has lit - tle strength; My soul a - lone still cries in  
last and dark - est hour! Thy blood re - fresh and com - fort

guest And sore - ly with my sins op - prest.  
dise, A wea - ry way be - fore me lies.  
me: "Lord, take me home, take me to Thee!"  
me; Thy bonds and fet - ters make me free. A - men.

5 Oh, let Thy holy wounds for me  
Clefs in the rock forever be  
Where as a dove my soul can hide  
And safe from Satan's rage abide.

6 And when my spirit flies away,  
Thy dying words shall be my stay.  
Thy cross shall be my staff in life,  
Thy holy grave my rest from strife.

7 Lord, in Thy nail-prints let me read  
That Thou to save me hast decreed  
And grant that in Thine opened side  
My troubled soul may ever hide.

<https://hymnary.org/hymn/LH1941/148>

POST COMMUNION HYMN: *"Lord, Now You Let Your Servant"* LSB Page 164



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -  
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -  
veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER:**

Let us pray: Almighty God, Who has given Your Son, Jesus Christ, as a Sacrifice for sin and the True Example of a godly life, give us grace that as we have received Him in the Holy Communion Feast we may daily abide in Him, hearing and believing His Holy Word and living out our days in peace and joy; 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 to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, + and give you peace.

**Amen.**

## LAST HYMN:

### *"Near The Cross"*



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;  
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;  
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
there the bright and Morn - ing Star sheds its beams a - round me.  
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ows o'er me.  
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

#### *Refrain*



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832-1915

*This Far By Faith*, African-American Lutheran Hymnal, © 1999 //hymnary.org/hymn/TFBF1999/page/226



## REV. TODD HOEFFS

Lent 2

Genesis 8 & 17

Even Storms Run Outta Rain

February 25, 2024

By the end of the week, we have Feb 29, our leap year.

This means we have an extra day this year, so everyone's birthday this year leap a day.

If your birthday should be on a Monday, it'll be on a Tuesday. There is a science to this.

Our calendar year is 365 days long. Defining the number of days it takes the Earth to complete one orbit around the Sun. But 365 is actually a rounded number. It takes Earth 365.242190 days to orbit the Sun, or 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes and 56 seconds.

If we didn't account for this extra time, the seasons would begin to drift. This would be annoying if not devastating, because eventually our summers would begin to occur in

December! Why? Because even the earth's orbit is affected by imperfection. And yet, all

Heaven and nature sing because of Jesus Christ! By the time our Old Testament reading from Genesis comes to life, The earth is overgrown with a corrupted, evil, people turning their backs on God. He let the earth get flooded after much warning to embrace salvation

And join Noah in the ark. As depicted in the sermon slide. Noah trusts God and builds an ark when the countryside is desert dry. He preaches about this for 120 years.

And no coverts. Yet he keeps building the ark. Noah is confident. He is hopeful. He is faithful.

He takes 2 of every kind of creature of the earth [up to 6800 creatures with him!]

His wife, 3 sons and their 3 wives. Once the devastating flood waters subside after 40 days and nights, God brings a covenant. God speaks an oath to Noah and his family:

"...the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you...for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds...and whenever it appears...

I will remember my covenant. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life."

God's great covenant. This is important. Prior to this, God promised to save the entire world with the seed of a woman Who will crush the Satanic serpent's head. God speaks directly to Cain after killing his brother Abel And gives Cain a mark to spare the rest of his earthly life.

Know, God speaks a much broader, all-encompassing promise. Covenant in the ancient Hebrew is beriyth. A cut. Like the cut of circumcision. God is cutting a promise.

Noah is grateful to the Lord for saving him and his family. After the flood, he builds an altar to God (Gen. 8:20) and makes an animal sacrifice. God loves it, and Noah says "the Lord smelled a soothing aroma" (Gen. 8:21). Later covenants will be made as the spoken Word of God passes through 2 cut pieces of animal flesh on the Temple altar just like Noah.

Covenants are binding spiritually and legally. Covenants are God's good Word to the earth.

He keeps His Word. Always. All are included, none are left out. All will be blanketed and protected under God's universal promise. 422 years pass. God speaks to Abraham.

His covenant identifies the family that God uses to bring the Messiah into the world. Abraham has heard for many years he's going to have a son and his descendants would be as

numerous as the stars in the sky. Through the family history of Abraham, all the families of the earth will be blessed. Not just a child, a son; But the saving of the world and people will

come to be through this promise. God's covenants form the unifying thread of His saving action through Scripture. This is laying the groundwork for the sacred nature of Israel

As they carry the promised Saviour. And in the life of God's Son, true blessing will be given to

all. Without a child, without a nation, yet Abraham moved on in trust Believing God would keep His Word. Doesn't mean he wasn't scared or filled with trepidation.



He and Sarah are well into their 80s. They get hasty and have a child by another woman. An adopted slave. Very common then. Yet a child will come from their seed. Wait. Hope. Trust. Words you and I hear or read or speak or think. Our ways are not God's Ways. We do not know what lies ahead. Even our best efforts can't save a pinky's worth of our lives. Someone else is coming who will. Someone else will do the work. Someone else will not try, but completely fulfill and make good On all of God's covenants. Because – That sweet smelling aroma of burnt offerings had always been The promised Saviour passing through the flames on the altar. God's living Word of Love in action wafting up to Heaven Building the aroma of grace and mercy. In all of our trying, failing, and trying again, hope echoes in all our hearts and minds: *Jesus is here.* Everything that happened in the Old Testament has a purpose. Every event, every promise God makes, and every important figure all point to the time when Jesus comes. So when He comes, 2,000 years have passed by since Abraham. 400 years before had been silent. No prophet, no audible word from God. The Covenant beriyth is now understood as inheritance. A treasure stored up in Heaven for all who believe. A cut promise becomes a free reward. A gift. Pure grace. You don't lift one finger to get an inheritance. Someone dies and you cash in. Someone will die. The long-awaited Saviour will die. Jesus' death ushers in the new covenant in His Blood. In Him we are made right before God. The total and complete forgiveness of all sins. Jesus Himself is the Mediator of this better covenant between God and man (Heb. 9:15). Jesus' death on a cross is a message, an oath, a promised pledge, And this seals our inheritance of eternal life in His Kingdom. Jesus lifts up the 3<sup>rd</sup> cup of the Passover with His disciples, And that is the cup of Redemption. The cup of God's Exodus deliverance from the Red Sea waters. The new covenant in Jesus' Blood. The cup of salvation we get to drink when we share Holy Communion. Jesus drinks this cup, empties it when His own Body is drained of Blood on the cross. He endures an endless universe-size weight of sin And we breathe a new life sigh of relief as His Holy Spirit is never taken from us. Jesus' cross removes our sin. It transforms our entire lives. We are made new. Christ empties Himself and fills up His Body with us – redeemed and cleansed, And know we dwell in Him and He in us, By rising up from the dead, He fills all as He is in all. Like Noah, we are saved. Like Abraham, we are saved for a purpose. We have an identity in crucified One. An inheritance, a hope and a way of peace. Christ is our life. He is God's promise come to life. We are His new covenants, living, breathing promises of help to a helpless world. Year in, year out. Leap year and every other year. We are the Lord's for 365 calendar days plus. Amen.

# Lenten Word Search

G	Y	P	R	E	P	A	R	E	F	E	S	V	E
R	K	S	F	E	C	I	F	I	R	C	A	S	F
I	D	C	S	I	H	O	L	Y	W	E	E	K	G
C	Y	N	N	E	P	U	R	P	L	E	S	T	O
C	P	P	S	I	N	T	E	S	N	N	S	N	O
P	E	N	A	N	C	E	E	O	O	F	F	R	D
N	R	L	P	O	I	H	V	I	N	I	E	R	F
O	F	L	G	R	S	I	T	I	I	S	G	I	R
E	O	F	S	A	A	A	R	G	G	H	I	O	I
R	U	C	H	I	T	Y	E	Y	I	R	R	G	D
E	G	T	I	S	S	I	E	R	R	V	O	N	A
C	R	O	S	S	D	S	G	R	I	A	I	F	Y
A	H	S	E	A	S	O	N	R	R	E	C	N	S
G	N	I	T	S	A	F	F	O	R	T	Y	S	G

ASHES  
 PENANCE  
 GOOD FRIDAY  
 GIVING  
 CROSS  
 FORTY  
 PREPARE  
 HOLY WEEK  
 FORGIVENESS  
 FISH  
 PRAYER  
 PURPLE  
 SACRIFICE  
 SEASON  
 FASTING  
 STATIONS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1883690/>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Jesus feeds 5,000 people plus with 2 Fish & 5 Loaves of Bread !

R V M N S L T C G Y H N H I K P W O P A N E Y T  
I U G J E X P I F T A Q K Z G J O S F E I A A G  
K P L S E Z E K N C R T L K E C W J Q D S E Q H  
N Z K E S W D H R Y P V S W M Q J E B R B B P H  
E V G V Q U C B Y S I O X C G J L K M E A Z S P  
R D A A C S S U J P O Q J I R P S H V D E R E M  
D E J O O T B E R A T G X K Z O U W W B X J U L  
L D E L H P B T J R P L G F E S W I Y V X H N L  
I U P E R S H Y T V M C L S L M S D I Q W O L B  
H L U V H M B E X U E G S O D A H Z S L S H P F  
C C K I O C P U S E N U L I I L K E A Q T T E K  
G E V F O J V K F G M R F Z B L Y G T S E P A A  
J S D N A S U O H T V J J G P B J E H P K R V Z  
L U X P P G E K R X W Y L B K O A Q S H S L R O  
C I Z A R R P W G Z B W L T I Y O E I K A L J K  
L O N M T F U S Q A K D U W V Y L V S U B P N M  
B S R E V O T F E L V M U Q P P Y X J O L Z J W  
S T M Y G P J D Z B S E F U I H I X X C M R Y O  
T E F H O A Y D K V V V F C S O F K K A K N F M  
X M P Z N F U O O I B O S I T O P S K C T A L E  
C E R Q M B O Z F K V I F C U Z L Y M O L Q O N  
U A P W G W W H U C D O L I B W U R G W G L Q A  
Y V A C A Q Y V V L W K A V U Y P S Z K X B N L  
O S B S Z O B J X T W T R B J L Z Q V F E H G C

spot	secluded	crowds	thousand
Five	children	women	men
leftovers	baskets	five loaves	two fish
small boy	Disciples	Jesus	