

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH - ST. CATHARINES, ON

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024

140 Russell Avenue St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 1W1 Church: 905-685-8294 www.christlutheransc.ca

Office Hours: Thursday 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) sr.pastor@christlutheransc.ca 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: www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchSC **Bulletin by email:** 

chairman.outreach@christlutheransc.ca

A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING TKTI9c OIBbMqGwLw

COVER ART: The Zealous or Passion Cross is an iron cross with pointed beams, reminding the viewer of the nails which entered into Jesus' hands and feet. Emblems of His zeal or passion to save the world. In the middle of the iron cross in an embedded cross with 2 buds at each end to highlight the growth of faith to all who bear the cross in this life.

**Prayer:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning, and though we have in no way deserved Your goodness, You still abundantly provide for all our wants of body and soul. Give us, we pray, Your Holy Spirit that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness toward us, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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: 1 Pet. 1: 13-21 Wed.: Luke 22: 24-30 Friday: 1 Cor. 4: 9-16 Tuesday: Mark 6: 7-13 Thurs: Luke 4: 38-44 Saturday: Isa. 49: 1-6

Musicians: Mayumi Munoz

Tom Kuhl Reader:

#### **EVENTS THIS WEEK:**

9:00 - 9:50 a.m. - Sunday School, Coffee Hour Today:

10:00 a.m. - Worship

10:00 -11:00 a.m. – Luther Manor Bible Study Monday:

7:30 p.m. – Choir

9:30-11:00 a.m. - Precious Moments Tuesday:

7:30 p.m. – Worship Committee Meeting

6:00 - 6:45 p.m. - Julie Whittard memorial dinner Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. – Lenten Study

Thursday: 10:00 -11:30 a.m. - SOUL

7:15 p.m. - Band Practice



#### 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:

#### 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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**: Today Jesus says to a deaf man as He places His fingers in the man's ears and touches his tongue, "Ephphatha.... Be opened." The man's ears open and his tongue releases, but Jesus warns the crowd not to tell anyone. The good news cannot be contained, however and those who witness the miracle share the story. "How can we share the Good News of Jesus with our friends and family?

Our Bible Verse: "Great is Your mercy O Lord". Psalm 119: 156

Note: Next Sunday, March 10th: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

<u>PLEASE JOIN</u> the Kaija and Whittard families for a meal on *Wednesday, March 6, 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.* before Lenten service. The meal will be provided for the Glory of God in memory of Julie Whittard (Kaija). Thank you to Pastor Todd for your support.

**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!!

**COUNCIL MEETING:** will be held Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.



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

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!

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. To pre-register, email Carol at carollc1952@gmail.com or text 226-668-4353.



## EASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, March 31st at 11:30 a.m.

Please join us in the Church basement.

Breakfast includes: pancakes, sausages, hot cross buns, coffee and orange juice.



#### free-will offering collected to enable the Fellowship Committee to cover costs

As it is the custom for the men of the congregation to do the cooking and serving, we are once again asking the gentlemen to sign up on forms located in the Narthex

**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

Last Sunday Attendance: 10 a.m. – 100			Wed. Feb.28: 16 SOUL:		
	<u>Budget</u>	Weekly Need	Last Sunday	Year To Date	<u>+ or – ()</u>
Current	303,899.00	5,844.21	3,300.00	31,094.98	(15,658.71)
LCC Missions 17,500.00 336.54		265.00	2,698.00	5.69	
Property Improvement:		175.00	1,153.00		

**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**: The Church Council would like to distribute an Annual Report this year. If you are in charge of a committee, group or event, please get your report for 2023 (in Word format) to Pat ASAP. Please send reports to: secretary@christlutheransc.ca

**EASTER LILIES**: If you would like to sponsor a lily for the Easter Service, please sign up in the Narthex. You can take it home after the service on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Cost is \$10.00 per plant. Please add if in memory of, or thankfulness for someone and we will add it to the Easter Sunday bulletin.

<u>TECHNOLOGY ENTHUSIASTS</u> – 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.



<u>Granny Squares still needed</u>: 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)

<u>TAPESTRY</u> 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.

**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.

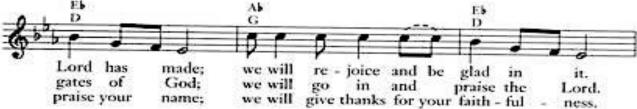
## SERVICE OF BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

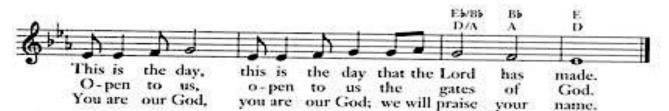
"All God's People Sing" Children's hymnal CPH 1992 © St Louis, MO

## THE 3rd SUNDAY IN LENT

March 3, 2024 + 10 AM worship







Words: Psalm 118:19, 24, 28 Music: Fijian folk melody

Words: public domain Music: public domain

#### **INVOCATION:**

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

Amen.

There is one body and one Spirit.

There is one hope in God's call to us.

One Lord, one faith, one baptism.

One God and Father of us all.

As Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father,

Even so we should walk in the newness of life.

### FROM LUTHER'S CATECHISM – Benefits of Baptism

What is baptism?

Baptism is water used according to God's command and connected with God's promise.

What does baptizing with water show us?

that the old Adam in us should, by daily sorrow and renewal, be drowned and die with all sins, and,

a new person daily rises up, living before God in righteousness for all times.

*Psalm 51: 1-12 [in unison]* 

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

For I know my transgressions and my sin is ever before me.

Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,
Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me.

Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be truly clean.

Let me hear joy and gladness; Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with Your free spirit.

#### **BAPTISMAL HYMN**: "All Who Believe And Are Baptized"

All who believe and are baptized
Shall see the Lord's salvation;
Baptized into the death of Christ,
They are a new creation.
Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
Among the glorious, heavenly band
Of every tribe and nation.

With one accord, O God, we pray:
Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
Help us in our infirmity
Through Jesus' blood and merit.
Grant us to grow in grace each day
That by this sacrament we may
Eternal life inherit.

Thomas Kingo, 1689; public domain

#### **GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Hear my prayer, O Lord;

#### As our heart-felt concerns come before Your throne:

Let us pray: Holy God, through Your Son You have called us to live faithfully and act with loving courage. Keep us firm in Your promises of grace and teach us the wisdom that comes only in the saving work of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, know and forever. **Amen.** 

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### The Old Testament Numbers 22:22-41

Balaam got up in the morning. He put a saddle on his donkey. Then he went with the Moabite leaders. But God became angry because Balaam went. So the angel of the Lord stood in the road to stop Balaam. Balaam was riding his donkey. And he had two servants with him. The donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road. The angel had a sword in his hand. So the donkey left the road and went into the field. Balaam hit the donkey to force her back on the road. Later, the angel of the Lord stood on a narrow path between two vineyards. There were walls on both sides. Again the donkey saw the angel of the Lord. So the donkey walked close to one wall. This crushed Balaam's foot against the wall. So he hit her again. The angel of the Lord went ahead again. The angel stood at a narrow place. It was too narrow to turn left or right. The donkey saw the angel of the Lord. So she lay down under Balaam. Balaam was very angry and hit her with his stick. Then the Lord made the donkey talk. She said to Balaam,

"What have I done to make you hit me three times?" Balaam answered the donkey, "You have made me look foolish! I wish I had a sword in my hand! I would kill you right now!" But the donkey said to Balaam, "I am your very own donkey. You have ridden me for years. Have I ever done this to you before?" "No," Balaam said. Then the Lord let Balaam see the angel. The angel of the Lord was standing in the road with his sword drawn. Then Balaam bowed face-down on the ground. The angel of the Lord asked Balaam, "Why have you hit your donkey three times? I have stood here to stop you. What you are doing is wrong. The donkey saw me. She turned away from me three times. If she had not turned away, I would have killed you by now. But I would let her live." Then Balaam said to the angel of the Lord, "I have sinned. I did not know you were standing in the road to stop me. If I am wrong, I will go back." The angel of the Lord said to Balaam, "Go with these men. But say only what I tell you." So Balaam went with Balak's leaders. Balak heard that Balaam was coming. So he went out to meet him at Ar in Moab. It was beside the Arnon, at the edge of his country. Balak said to Balaam, "I had asked you before to come quickly. Why didn't you come to me? I am able to reward you well." But Balaam answered, "I have come to you now. But I can't say just anything. I can only say what God tells me to say." Then Balaam went with Balak to Kiriath Huzoth. Balak offered cattle and sheep as a sacrifice. He gave some meat to Balaam and the leaders with him. The next morning Balak took Balaam to Bamoth Baal. From there he could see the edge of the Israelite camp. This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

#### The Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

[St. Paul writes:] For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SPOKEN GOSPEL VERSE: Ps. 19:7

The Lord's teachings are perfect. They give new strength.

The Lord's ways can be trusted. They make plain people wise.

The Holy Gospel: St. John 2:13-25

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter: **Glory to You, O Lord.** 

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me. The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.** 

#### **BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE:**

In Holy Baptism our sins are forgiven, and we are granted a new life in Christ, our Lord. We solemnly renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways; we confess the gift of faith in God the Father, The Son, and the Holy Spirit.

So today I ask you anew. Do you renounce the forces of evil, the devil and all of his empty promises?

Yes, I do renounce them.

Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin May, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, and the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection of the body, and the + life everlasting. Amen.

#### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **GOSPEL HYMN:**

#### "O God of Font & Altar"

O God of font and altar, of music, grandeur, light; toward Whom the soaring arches aspire beyond their height: as beauty draws us unto you -- within this house of prayer, let worship form and feed us to help us show Your care.

O life-bestowing Spirit, inspire this hallowed space; breathe through us with new fervor and fill us with Your grace. Arouse our lagging spirits, enflame our hearts with joy: here let a love be kindled that death cannot destroy.

O Christ, who cleansed the Temple, baptize us with your zeal, and teach us your compassion to love, forgive, and heal. Be in our midst to claim us and mark us as your own, then send us forth in witness to make your mercy known.

Words © 1990 Hope Publishing Company – Tune ELLACOMBE [O Day of Rest & Gladness] You may download a copy of this hymn for your own personal use. permissions@hopepublishing.com.

**THE MESSAGE:** *Num. 22 – Seminarian Vijay Samuel* 

**OFFERING SONG:** 

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

www. Hymnary.org



6 And we believe thy Word Though dim our faith may be: Whate'er for thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97 Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89 ENERGY SM

Alternate setting: 555

#### **SHARING OF THE PEACE:**

Please greet each other only in your closest pew area with "peace be with you". You may shake hands, fist-bump, or nod to the worshiper near you.

**THE OFFERINGS** are *gathered*.

#### **PRAYERS**

Thank you, Father, for your dear Son. Thank you for making him your living Temple. Thank you for making him our "house of prayer." Help us to pray together with him, "Thy Will be done."

Hear us, O God; Your mercy is great.

Cleanse and purify your Church. Make her a house of prayer for all people. Inspire pastors in their faithful preaching and teaching, and whose lives adorn the Gospel with holiness. Use the message of the cross to draw all people to yourself.

Hear us, O God; Your mercy is great.

Bless your suffering Church. Let her never be overcome by bitterness or despair. Make every church a beacon of your saving love in a hurting, traumatized world.

Hear us, O God; Your mercy is great.

Give the members of this congregation Jesus' own zeal for your house. We pray for all parents, guardians, and everyone who cares for the young. Fill them with your Spirit. Equip them to teach their children your commandments and Gospel promises, bring them to your House, where together, we all receive your life-giving Word and Sacraments.

Hear us, O God; Your mercy is great.

Guide the rulers of all nations to seek your will, and give them the strength to do it. Give them wisdom, compassion, and integrity. Help us be examples of living peaceful temples among all citizens of our communities.

Hear us, O God; Your mercy is great.

You are the strength of all who suffer and the joy of all who grieve. Be present with your merciful care to all whose need is great, including: {names given here}. Give them, and all who love them, grace to trust in Jesus. He alone is their life, health, hope, and salvation.

Hear us, O God; Your mercy is great.

Into Your hands, Heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, which we have come to know in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Amen.

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

#### **CLOSING BAPTISMAL PRAYER:**

Almighty God, we give thanks that Your Son Jesus Christ suffered and died for our sins. We celebrate with joy His resurrection from the dead and ascension into Heaven. We are grateful for the work of Your Holy Spirit in us. Which brought us to faith by Baptism. We know that You are faithful in Your covenant with us. Keep

us faithful as well. Show us the way You would have us live. In Jesus Christ our blessed Saviour we pray. Amen.

#### **CLOSING GREETING & BLESSING:**

By baptism we have been made members of the church, the Body of Christ.

As we live in Him and with His people, we grow in faith, love and walk in newness of life.

Let us now praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Almighty and merciful God, the Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, bless and keep you now and always. **Amen.** 

LAST HYMN: "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the death of Christ my God! All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down! Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts, Hymns and Spiritual Songs 1707; Music: Hamburg Lowell Mason, 1824 -- www.hymntime.com