

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH - ST. CATHARINES, ON

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 <u>secretary@christlutheransc.ca</u>. Deadline for submission is Thursday at 9 a.m.

Pastor: Parish Assistant: Business Manager: Secretary: Facebook: Bulletin by email: Pastor Todd Hoeffs Louise Gondosch Karen McCumber Pat Kimpel (289-362-0113) (905-329-8579)

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A recording of Sunday's service will be uploaded to YouTube at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpING_TKTI9c_OIBbMqGwLw</u>

Seminarian Vijay Samuel, Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Student Fieldworker Rev. Noel Richard, Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Colloquy Student Fieldworker

Welcome - We're glad you've joined us for worship!

Please be aware that our Worship Services are *recorded and posted on YouTube and Facebook*. There is, although very slight, a possibility that your image might be posted. If you have any concerns, please either speak to the Elder on duty or alternatively seat yourself more towards the back of the sanctuary or along either of the outside aisles. May our gracious and loving Lord bless you as you worship Him. We pray we all remain safe and healthy.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIPPING

Resurrected Lord Jesus Christ, though I have hidden myself in a locked room and huddled down as one who builds barriers, send Your Living Word through my locked doors and into my guarded heart that I might be a witness of Your grace and a courier of Your goodness. Through Your Holy Spirit, grant me the trust to believe the Gospel not because I see it but because I have been seen by it and transformed through it. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

DAILY SCRIPTURE MEDITATIONS

Monday: Luke 21:5-19	Wed.: Luke 21:20-38	Friday: Luke 22:1-23
Tuesday: 1 Samuel 6 & 7	Thurs: 1 Samuel 8	Saturday: 1 Samuel 9

Musician – Louise Gondosch + Reader – Daniel Figueroa + Greeter – Judy Slingerland

ALSO HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN:

Today:	9:00 – 9:50 AM – Sunday School/Coffee Hour					
	10:00 AM - Worship					
Monday:	7:30 PM – Choir					
Tuesday:	9:30-11:00 AM – Precious Moments					
Wednesday:	7:00 PM - Council					
Thursday:	10:00-11:30 AM - SOUL					



PARISH EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP

Today in Sunday School we learn how Jesus joins 2 disciples Easter afternoon, discussing the events of the last week in Jerusalem. Jesus shares the Old Testament prophecies about Himself. When at Emmaus, the 2 disciples recognize Him in the Breaking of the Bread; then Jesus is no longer seen. Luke 24:31

CONFIRMAND & YOUTH CHAT the second & fourth Sundays with youth leader Dan Figueroa. We will meet in the youth room from 9 - 9:50 a.m. Hope to see you there!!

FAMILY DAY EVENT: TBD! Singing, a devotional, a pasta dinner (there will be a sign up for desserts or salads) and our organized game this time will be 'Crokinole'. If you have a board that we can borrow please let Louise know. (905-329-8579). More details to follow – sorry for any confusion!

CLTS SEMINARIAN ANDREW HAYES "Music Over Time" organ concert Sat., April 12 @ 2 PM at St. Thomas Anglican Church 99 Ontario St, St. Catharines. 17th-20th C. music selection.

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. LWML-C/MARY MARTHA EVENTS

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: Summer Pot Luck – 5:30 p.m. More details to follow.
Please feel free to join us for any or all of the LWML- **LUTHER MANOR 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:** Wednesday, April 24 at 7 PM in the Common Room at Luther Manor (128 Russell Ave.). Agenda will be:

- Review of the 2023 Audited Financial Statements
- Election of the 2024 Slate of Officers
- Director's Reports for 2023

All Members of the Corporation are invited to attend. If you would like to become a Member of the Corporation, please contact Karen McCumber (luther.manor.inc@gmail.com) or Mark McCumber (lminc.president@gmail.com).



FELLOWSHIP OUTTING: "Murder at the Speakeasy", a mystery dinner theatre set in the roaring 20's [that's 1920s!]. 6 PM Saturday, April 27th \$40 per person located at the Stanford Lions Club, 2275 Dorchester Rd, Niagara Falls. Proceeds go to Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides. Please see the poster on the red narthex bulletin board for details. Please speak with Judy Mason, Tim Reck or Marge Stark for ticket details.

<u>12th Regular Convention of Lutheran Women's Missionary League–Canada</u>: 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



50TH ANNIVERSARY! *Celebrate Lutheran Bible Translators of Canada's 50th Anniversary* **May 17-18 at our offices at Messiah Lutheran Church, 700 Glen Forrest Blvd., Waterloo**. See poster my mail slots for details or contact LBTC at 519-742-3361 or pastor.r.mohr@lbtc.ca All events are free of charge or free-will offering, but reservations are needed for the meals by May 3.. Come WORSHIP with us, FEAST with us, and CELEBRATE all that our Lord has done and is doing to bring His Word to many people

in the languages of their hearts.

STANDARD FIRST AID CERTIFICATE: To ensure the continued and on-going safety and health of our congregation, the Social and Health Committee would like to determine who in the membership currently holds an up-to-date Standard First Aid – BLS CPR (HCP) Certificate. As well, if you have previously had a certificate that information would be helpful. Please speak to Judy Slingerland or contact her at jslingerland@cogeco.ca if this request applies to you.

Holy Week:	Thurs 7PM:	28 + Fri 10 AM:	69; 7 PM: 62 + E	aster: 176 [143 con	nmuned] & 99 Easter Breakfast
Budge		Weekly Need	Last Sunday	Year To Date	+ or – ()
Current	303,899.00	5,844.21	5,351.75	50, 706.73	(25,268.02)
LCC Missions	17,500.00	336.54	336.00	5,073.50	698.50
Property Imp	rovement:		207.00	1,913.50	

100TH BIRTHDAY FOR REV. DR. HOWARD KRAMER: A former member of Christ Lutheran and President of Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary from 1984-1990. He will turn 100 on June 3, 2024. He recently celebrated 75 years since his ordination as a pastor. He is currently living in assisted living in Columbia, MO after living in Oklahoma for 11 years. He lives near family, including one of his sons and his wife, a grandson and his wife, and two great-grandchildren. To mark this special occasion, his family suggests that **those who knew him send him a birthday card** and greeting. *They ask that you mail the cards by May 15*, if possible, so that all the cards can be given to him during the celebration on May 26, Memorial Day Weekend. Please send your cards and greetings to: Howard Kramer c/o Michael Kramer 1702 Hayworth Ct Columbia, MO USA 65203-6279 It will be a wonderful surprise for him to receive a large card shower on that day.

USED STAMPS: Please save your used stamps! LWML-C Convention will donate them to a charity for purchasing spiritual resources like Bibles.



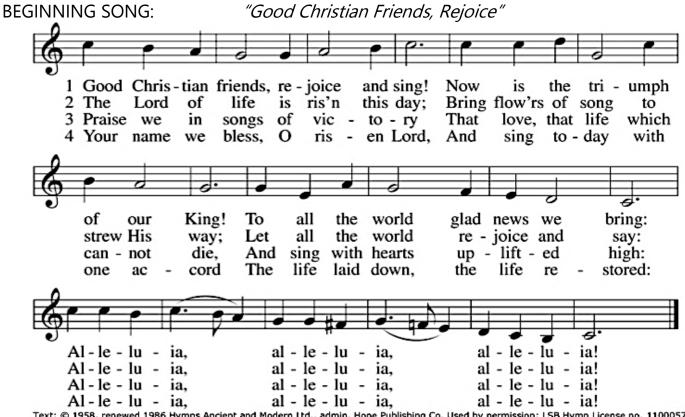
Granny Squares still needed: This is an ongoing project we will gratefully accept more completed 6 inch knitted or crocheted Granny Squares in any pattern or colour. We would also appreciate any yarn that you may have, leftover yarn or full balls of yarn. In the narthex there is a white cube with yarn 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)

Gospel Melodies Service of the Word THE 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 7, 2024 + 10 AM worship

GOD WELCOMES US



Text: © 1958, renewed 1986 Hymns Ancient and Modern Ltd., admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005782 Tune: Public domain https://www.gracelutheranracine.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/475-Good-Christian-Friends-Rejoice-and-Sing.pdf

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

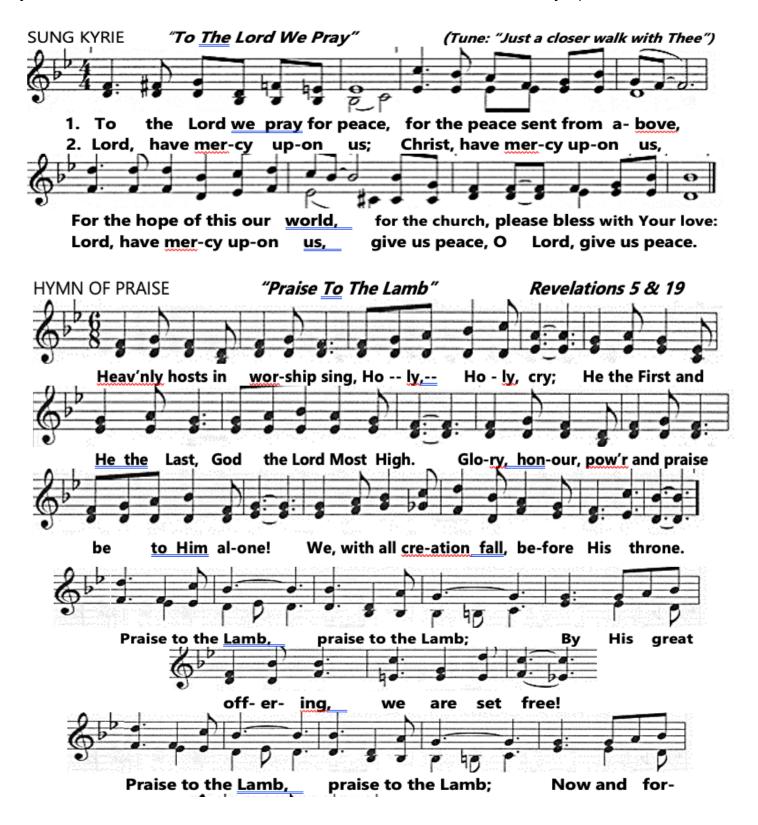
Amen.

Our God expresses graciously in His Word: whoever hides their sins will not do well;

But all who confess and turn away from them will experience mercy. [Prov. 28:13] [Brief silence for prayerful reflection]

God of grace, love and communion:

We confess that we have failed to love You with our whole heart, soul and mind, and to love our neighbours as ourselves. We ignore Your commandments, stray from Your ways, and follow other 'gods', whom we have believed will give us happiness. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sins and raise us up to new life, to a wise and good and true life full of Your grace, that we may serve You faithfully and give honour to Your holy Name. Amen. In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for You and for His sake, forgives you all of your sins. To all who believe in Christ, He comes to live in them, so that all may have life in His name. So in the place of Christ and by His Holy Word, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**





Text: NRSV, arranged by Rev. T. Hoeffs © 2012; Music www . hymnary.org LoveLiftedMe

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Loving God, Heavenly Father, Your Son Jesus Christ is the Resurrection and the Life, Who gives hope and joy to those who struggle with uncertainty and fear. Give to all of us who do not see Him, faith and life and blessing, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US

The New Testament Reading: Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

The Epistle: 1 John 1:1—2:2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life- this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our^[a] joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us....My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

"Just A Closer Walk"

I am weak but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long, as I walk, let me walk, close to Thee; Just a closer walk with Thee, Grant to, Jesus, is my plea, Daily walking close to Thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Anonymous; public domain

The Holy Gospel: St. John 20: 19-31

The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the 20th chapter:

Glory to You, O Lord.

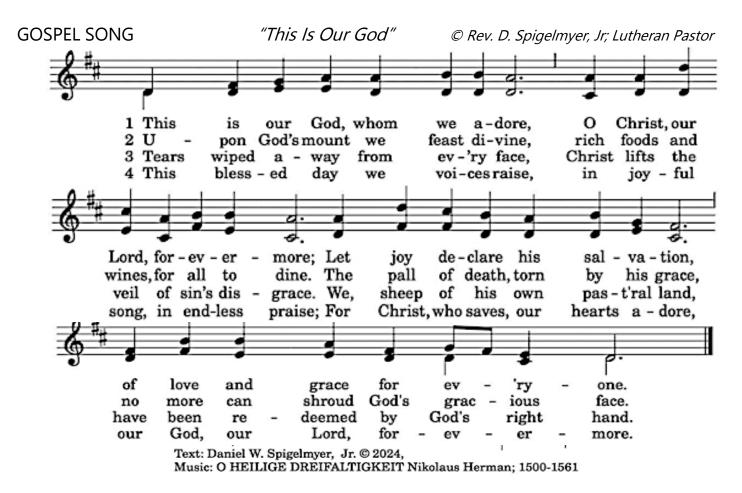
When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.' But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.' Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

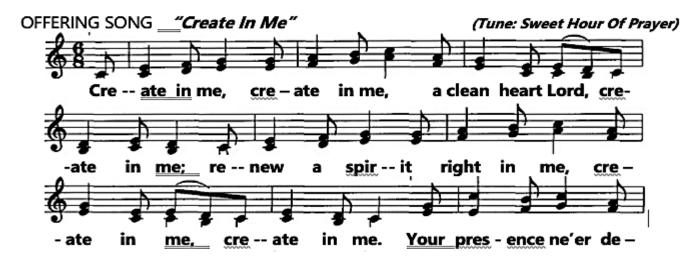
THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On 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. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



MESSAGE





Words: Ps. 51, adapted & arranged by Rev. T. Hoeffs, 2017. Music: William Bradbury, 1861, Sweet Hour, LMD – reprinted: www.hymnary.org/hymn/CGH2010/page/386

SHARING OF THE PEACE

THE OFFERINGS are gathered.

GOD RECEIVES OUR GIFTS & HEARS OUR PRAYERS

Lord God, Heavenly Father, we thank and praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Your Son, our Passover Lamb, for He has taken away the sin of the world. Forgive us and all people. Praying for mercy;

Hear us, O God, Alleluia!

Your Son said, 'Peace be with you'. Bring your peace to the world, to warring nations, to places of cruel persecution, and within our own country. Praying for mercy;

Hear us, O God, Alleluia!

Your Son met the women and asked them to tell the disciples about his resurrection. Guide Christians everywhere to witness to the resurrection in their lives. Praying for mercy;

Hear us, O God, Alleluia!

Your Son strengthened the faith of Thomas by telling him to touch his hands and side. Reassure those who are troubled by doubts, and strengthen their faith in your goodness. Praying for mercy;

Hear us, O God, Alleluia!

Your Son conquered death by his death and won the victory by his resurrection. Be the consolation for those in need of health, strength and restoration, remembering before you..... Be with those who are dying, and lead them to life with you forever. Praying for mercy;

Hear us, O God, Alleluia!

Heavenly Father, help all who now celebrate these joyful holy days here on earth to finally praise you forever, with all the angels and saints in heaven. We ask this through your risen Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come...

CLOSING EASTER PRAYER

O Lord Jesus Christ the Son of the living God, set Your cross and empty grave in our hearts and minds, now, and in the hour of our death and promise to safely give us grace and mercy: that we may have forgiveness and holy pardon, and for Your Church, instill peace and unity, and unto all redeemed children life and glory everlasting, Who lives and rules as one God, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.

GREETING & BLESSING

Let us praise the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, Son + and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always. Amen.



Music: Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949 ັອສະ © 1993 Nigel Weaver ສະສະເດ © Oxford University Press



PASTOR TODD'S SERMON STILL IN PROGRESS...

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." John 20:25

Based on John 20:19-31 (NIV)



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JESUS	TOGETHER	DOUBTING	RECORDED
MIRACLES	SIGNS	SHOWED	BELIEVED
DOORS	LIFE	HANDS	DISCIPLES
TOUCHED	THOMAS	SIDE	LOCKED

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