

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2017



Reformation
500
1517-2017



Linking Water, by Simon Dewey, © Simon Dewey, courtesy Atlas Fine Art



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church Canada

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 1Z5 (519)742-5812 www.holycrosskitchener.org

The Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 11:00 am - Holy Communion Services

9:45 am - Sunday School and Bible Classes for All Ages

6:30 pm - Adult Instruction Class

Call to Worship Bells

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son,
To make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One,
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there,
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life,
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts no pow'r no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward,
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart,
His wounds have paid my ransom

Invocation & Opening Sentences

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

People Amen.

Pastor Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

People **This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.**

Pastor I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation.

People **The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.**

All **This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

Confession and Forgiveness of Sins

Pastor Almighty God, we know and admit that we are sinners. We are conceived and born sinful and we continue in that sin by our heedless thoughts, careless words, and loveless deeds. Indeed, we deserve Your punishment now and eternally. When we reflect honestly on our lives, we readily see that we are in need of repentance and renewal that come only through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Silence for self-examination

People **Almighty God, we repent of our sins in thought and in word and in deed. You know our failings and our transgressions. Be merciful to us, and for the sake of Jesus, grant us Your forgiveness so that, as Your redeemed people, we may find rest in You and with refreshed hearts serve You in time and in eternity.**

Pastor In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Pastor Almighty God, source of all power and renewer of health and life, draw us ever closer to You, and supply us with the living water that will quench our great thirst for time and for eternity. This we ask in the name of Jesus, who offered Himself as our Savior and our Redeemer.

People **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"

³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” ⁴ So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵ And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

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

Epistle Reading: Romans 5:1-8

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ² Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴ and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵ and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

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

Holy Gospel: St. John 4:5-30, 39-42

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.
People **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁵ So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

⁷ A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸ (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, “How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?” (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.”

¹¹ The woman said to him, “Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water?” ¹² Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.” ¹³ Jesus said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” ¹⁵ The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come here.” ¹⁷ The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true.” ¹⁹ The woman said to him, “Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.” ²¹ Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” ²⁵ The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things.” ²⁶ Jesus said to her, “I who speak to you am he.”

²⁷ Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, “What do you seek?” or, “Why are you talking with her?” ²⁸ So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, ²⁹ “Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?” ³⁰ They went out of the town and were coming to him.

³⁹ Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, “He told me all that I ever did.” ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, “It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world.”

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

Hymn of the Day

How Wide the Love of Christ LSB#535

Sermon

St. John 4:4-37

“IT WAS ABOUT NOON”

Apostles' Creed

All 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. 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.

Prayers of the Church

Parish Announcements and Gathering of Offering

Service of Holy Communion

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

Pastor It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And now we thank You that by the working of Your Holy Spirit through the Gospel You have called us as Your own and given us eternal promises through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. As the perfect offering, He has taken upon Himself the sins of the world and has, by His rising from the grave, opened to us the very gates of heaven. With all the company around the throne of the Lamb in His kingdom, we join the unending praises.

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Day and night we join to praise

Your love and majesty.

You alone are holy, worthy, and righteous.

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

We rejoice to join the hymns

Of earth and sky and sea.

Generations praise You, with saints and angels.

Holy and bless'd through all eternity.

Words of Our Lord

Pastor 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."

Proclamation of Christ

Pastor As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

All **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.**

Peace of the Lord

Pastor The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **Amen.**

Lamb of God

**O Lamb of God, we pray:
Take all our sins away—
Our faith increase.
Have mercy on us all,
Strengthen us when we fall,
Answer our fervent call
And grant us peace.**

Communion Anthem

(Jack Kahl, Shari & Eden Keller)

"Come, Share the Lord"

by Bryan Jeffery Leech

Distribution Hymns

When Peace, like a River LSB #763

Rock of Ages LSB # 761

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Pastor Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your great love for us is beyond comprehension. We thank You for granting us peace, pardon, and comfort at Your blessed Table, where we find satisfaction and sustenance. Strengthen us through what we have here received and keep us steadfast throughout our pilgrimage on earth, bringing us at last to that heavenly banquet in Your kingdom. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

Benediction

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People **Amen.**

Hymn

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing LSB #924

Preacher..... Pastor Nolan Astley
 Officiant..... Pastor Roland Syens
 Communion Assistants..... (8:30) Pastor Lloyd Wentzlaff,
 (11:00) Emmanuel George, Rick Hutfloetz
 Organist..... Jennifer Massicotte
 Special Music..... Jack Kahl (*trumpet*), Gabrielle George (*piano- 11:00*)
 Acolytes (11:00) Grace Radunsky
 Sound Operators..... (8:30) Jerry Golschesky, (11:00) Mike Koch

Acknowledgements: How Deep the Father's Love for Us by Stuart Townend © 1995 Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 524846 / Sanctus Text: Gregory J. Wismar. Copyright © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823-76. Public domain [Permission is granted to reproduce this text for use between March 1-June 4, 2017. / Lamb of God Text: Dorothy Schultz. © 1991 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Tune: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872. Public domain [Permission is granted to reproduce this text for use between March 1-June 4, 2017.

Prayer Concerns: In our prayers we remember those of our congregation who are *in hospital* including **Dora Dreisinger** who recovers from a broken leg. We also remember those undergoing **treatment for cancer and other ailments**. Our prayers are requested also for **President Bugbee** who fell and broke his ankle while visiting family in Connecticut. As we move further into the Lenten season we also ask God to **deepen our faith** and to **focus our lives** ever more on our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Astley will be in Winnipeg tomorrow attending a meeting on behalf of President Bugbee.

Adult Information Class continues this evening **from 6:30-8:30 pm** as we focus upon a devotional life which blesses you. We begin at 6:30 and everyone is welcome!

Youth! Forms are due today for 30 Hour Famine & Lock In. Sign up on the youth board and place signed forms in Krysti's mailbox by the office. Transportation is available.

Today's Education Hour

Time Together Families will meet with Beth downstairs at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School students... we have learned about many of Jesus' Healing Miracles in the past months. Today we wrap up this theme with "Jesus Healing a Blind Man" and next week we'll have a Sunday School Special led by the YOUTH & Krysti.

Youth Bible Class will learn about Early Protestants: Anglicans with Marjorie.

YABS will be looking into the life of St. Augustine. Come by at 9:45 am to the Triple Bible classroom. See you there!



Adult Bible Class Today we will continue our Reformation 500 study of the Book of Romans. It was while teaching on the Book of Romans that Martin Luther came to discover a the joy of the Gospel. Today we will focus on Paul's account of his personal struggle with sin (chapter 7) and upon the work of the Holy Spirit bringing us the victory won by Christ in His death and resurrection.

Coming Events...

Midweek Lenten Services continue this week...

Wednesday, March 22 at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m.

"STANDING IN SUFFERING"

God sent His Son, the innocent Lamb, to be the sacrifice for our sins. Through His suffering and death we have the gifts of forgiveness and eternal life. Jesus paid the price of our salvation and by His wounds we are healed.

Sign Up for Easter Plants if you're willing to donate a hydrangea or lily to beautify our altar for Christ's Resurrection Day in April. Posters are on bulletin boards around the building. Lilies are \$8.00 and hydrangeas are \$12.50. If you want to designate yours as a memorial or thank offering you still need to sign up on the posted lists, but pick up a form at the Welcome Centre, fill it in, and drop it off in the box outside the church office. The deadline is next **Sunday, March 26.**

Library Birthday Days - Next Sunday, March 26 & Sunday, April 2 come and celebrate our church libraries with us in the church parlour between the two services. We will display new books, DVDs and CDs that we hope to have in our libraries. Take time to browse and sponsor something new. Enjoy refreshments and your children can pick a small toy out of the "treat box". If you are not able to join us on these Sundays, you can make a donation to the "Libraries" on your church offering envelope. Thank you for your support and God bless you and your family.

Loving our Neighbours! Our Sunday School mission project continues thru **Sunday, April 9.** The BIG box in the narthex is where we will collect any size/shape BALL to distribute to refugee families.

Women's Renewal Weekend Teens, Young Adults and Women of All Ages!

Confused, feeling down and need a break? Our weekend will help you as we discover that "God is closer than you think!" Join us **April 21 & April 22** at the Guelph Bible Conference Centre where our guest speaker, Lori Schultz, will present and guide us as we study and discuss our theme with each other. Enjoy the fellowship, fun, good food and relax with friends. Bring a friend with you. For more information and registration forms, please see our display on the welcome desk. *Registration Deadline is April 16*, please try to register early. We look forward to seeing you there.

St. John's Kitchen Large Coffee Mugs, Fork and Knife Drive: Please go through your cupboards and see what you can spare. Wrap the mugs in paper to avoid breakage, put them in a bag, include some forks and knives and bring them to the collection box at the back entrance of the church. We will collect these items until **April 30**. On behalf of St. John's Kitchen and the Board of Evangelism, we thank you for your support.

Concordia Lutheran Mission Society "Project 1708": The Board of Missions would like to challenge the members of Holy Cross to match their donation of \$1,500 to help CLMS raise funds for the **Rancheria Earthquake Relief in Nicaragua**. This is one of the new 2017 CLMS Mission Projects requiring \$10,000 to provide relief for the people of Rancheria. To make a donation simply mark your envelope with "**CLMS 1708**" and make any cheques out to Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Let's see if as a congregation we can raise \$1,500 **by April 30**. Will you accept the challenge?

Please Note...

Last Week for Mason Jars We have a LINC activity this week that needs Large Mason Jars (1 quart/32 oz) No lids required. Please place them in the collection box at the back entrance. Thank you!

Please save your old Electronics and Clothing: The Board of Missions is excited for some potential mission projects coming soon and we need your help! Don't get rid of your old electronics or clothing. Save your stuff as we plan for another Green Tech bin at the church and potential clothing collection to raise funds for our 2017 Mission projects. Stay tuned for announcements about the collection dates.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

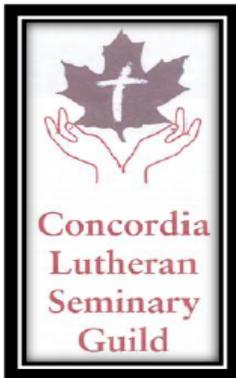
Wednesday Lent II Attendance:	42 & 99	Total 141	('16 – 121)
Sunday Attendance:	81 & 194	Total 275	('16 – 253)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 28 Staff: 20	Total 48	('16 – 37)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 53 Staff: 1	Total 54	('16 – 29)
YABS:	Pupils: 5 Staff: 2	Total 7	('16 – 9)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 7 Staff: 2	Total 9	('16 – 6)

Memorials: In memory of **LLOYD ALLENSEN** to the Organ Fund from Reinhold & Anna Schmidt, Doreen Groff, Bruce & Norene Brubacher, David & Wilma Reist, Harold & Norma Blake. To Missions from Pastor Lloyd & Shirley Wentzlaff. To the Unified Church Budget from Jack & Elaine Kahl. In memory of **RUTH SWARTZ** to the Unified Church Budget from Joyce Geng, Dorothy Gueguen, Tony III. To the Organ Fund from Reinhold & Anna Schmidt, Norine Fielding, David & Wilma Reist, Bernie & Helga Drung. In memory of **ALVIN SARARAS** to the Lutheran Hour from Pastor Lloyd & Shirley Wentzlaff.

Weekly Calendar

Monday March 20 to Sunday March 26, 2017

Monday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Pauls</i>	10:30 a.m.
	Griefshare, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Pauls</i>	6:30 p.m.
	Board of Parish Education, <i>Panel Room</i>	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Lenten Service , <i>Church</i>	1:30 p.m.
	Lenten Service , <i>Church</i>	7:00 p.m.
	LINC, <i>Everywhere</i>	5:30 p.m.
	Junior Confirmation, <i>Panel Room</i>	6:15 p.m.
	Senior Confirmation, <i>Panel Room</i>	6:15 p.m.
	Board of Church Property, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Praise Singers, <i>Church</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Church Choir, <i>Church</i>	8:00 p.m.
Friday	Circuit Youth Event, <i>First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wellesley</i>	6:00 p.m.
	Small Group Bible Study, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	The Fourth Sunday in Lent	
	Divine Service , <i>Church</i>	8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Adult Bible Class, <i>Church</i>	9:45 a.m.
	YABS, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Youth room</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Divine Service , <i>Church</i>	11:00 a.m.
Adult Instruction Class, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.	



Concordia Lutheran Seminary Guild

St. Catharines, Ontario

Devoted to Service through the use of Talents and Resources to
Support the Seminary and its Students, our Future Pastors

Annual Membership Drive

In one of the recent Seminary newsletters, Professor John Stephenson appeals to congregations to keep the seminary in our prayers, as they continue to prepare the next generation of pastors.

God has blessed Holy Cross with faithful pastors throughout its history without any prolonged vacancies, as some churches have endured.

Never has the need been greater to prepare workers to spread the Gospel of Christ in our District congregations and Mission stations.

How can we help?

Besides our prayers, we can support the Concordia Seminary Guild with an annual gift of \$5.00 (or more).



You place your gift in an envelope marked "Seminary Guild", sign your name and place it on the offering place in the next two weeks.

Cheques can be **made payable to:**

'Concordia Lutheran Seminary, St. Catharines, ON' and
Mark it "for Seminary Guild"

What is the money used for?

This money, gathered from all the district churches is then used by the Seminary Guild to help the seminarians in various ways. Such as a food and clothing bank they can draw on, books and gifts at birthday and Christmas. Some enter seminary with a family to support while studying, and this too is where the Guild can be of help.

I thank all who have so faithfully and generously given their support to the Seminary Guild in the past. We welcome many new members to join us as we help our future Pastors.

Seminary Guild Membership Convenor
Shirley Wentzlaff

"By God's grace, the members of Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church will be a caring, vibrant diverse community of blessed believers, lovingly reaching out with the message of Jesus Christ." - *Vision Statement 2010*