

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 23/24, 2017



Reformation
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1517-2017



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church Canada

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

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 am - Divine Service

Monday, 7:00 pm - Evening Divine Service

Opening Hymn

There is a Redeemer *LSB #971*

There is a Redeemer —
Jesus, God's own Son;
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, Holy One.

Refrain

Thank You, O my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit,
Till the work on earth is done.

Jesus, my Redeemer,
Name above all names;
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Hope for sinners slain....*Refrain*

When I stand in glory,
I will see His face;
There I'll serve my King forever
In that holy place....*Refrain*

Invocation, Confession and Forgiveness of Sins

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

People Amen.

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

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

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Pastor Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People 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 neighbors 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.

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

People **Amen.**

Kyrie

Pastor In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

In Holy Conversation *LSB #772*

**In holy conversation
We speak to God in prayer,
And at His invitation
Our deepest thoughts we share.
We come, His will obeying,
As children bringing needs;
And to support our praying,
His Spirit intercedes.**

**These holy conversations
Begin in childlike ways;
We bring our supplications
And words of thanks and praise.
With care our Father listens
To ev'ry thought expressed,
Then answers our petitions
In ways He knows are best.**

**As holy conversation,
In silence or by word,
In ev'ry situation
Through Jesus, we are heard.
So let us pray securely,
Expressing hopes and fears
With confidence that surely
Our Father ever hears.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. ⁸Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

St. Matthew 13:24-30

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’

²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

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

Hymn of the Day

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less *LSB #575*

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil...Refrain**

**His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay...Refrain**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne!...Refrain**

Sermon

Romans 8:18-27, Matthew 13:24-30

“THE GROANS AND THE GLORY”

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.

Parish Announcements and Gathering of Offering

Prayer of the Church and 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.

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 favour and give you peace.
People Amen.

Closing Hymn

Rock of Ages LSB #761

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure:
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands
Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,

When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

Officiant..... Pastor Nolan Astley
Special Music..... Jonathan Astley (*French horn*)
Organist..... Jennifer Massicotte
Sound Operator Chris Bohl

Prayer Concerns: In our prayers today we rejoice with **Tom and Amy Nasiopoulos** as their son Jonas, who was in hospital earlier this week, is now able to continue his recovery at home; we pray for others struggling with illness, especially **Barry McCorkindale**, close friend of Mirko Teich's, who is in hospital after suffering a stroke last week. We also ask the Lord of the church to raise-up a new generation of leaders for **Lutheran Church – Canada** and bless the ongoing efforts to prepare major changes in structure for the 2017 convention. We also remember **Pastor and Anita Syens** on vacation until mid-August.

Staff Holidays...Pastor Roland and Anita Syens began their holidays this past week and Pastor will return to the office on Wednesday, August 16. **Jennifer Massicotte** will begin holidays this Saturday and return Monday, August 14. Please keep our staff in your prayers as they enjoy some time away to relax and be refreshed.

Renovations begin ... our building has been filled with the sounds of hammers and saws as work has begun to renovate the balcony in preparation for the installation of the new Casavant Pipe Organ. So far, the old flooring has been removed and additional 2 x 12 floor joists have been inserted. Work will continue this coming week and will, God willing, be completed by early August, at which time installation of the organ will commence. Also this week renovations began in the Triple Bible Class room so that the children's library and adult library can be combined into one resource centre. The libraries are closed during renovations and will reopen in August after the work is completed. Please keep all of this in your prayers as work continues!

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Sunday/Monday Attendance:	228 & 43	Total 271	('16 – 264)
Sunday/Monday Communion:	196 & 37	Total 233	('16 – 242)
Nuer Service Attendance:	73		

Thankoffering: In honour of **GRANDCHILDREN** to Vacation Bible School from Bob & Jean Schmitt, Rob & Kit Sonoda.

Memorials: In memory of **MURRAY SCHMIDT** to the Organ Fund from Grant & Joanne Schaefer. To the Unified Church Budget from Ross & Sandy Dolson. To Vacation Bible School from Doreen Groff.

Weekly Calendar

Monday July 24 to Sunday July 30, 2017

Monday	Evening Divine Service, Church	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Board of Young Peoples, Confirmation Classroom	7:30 p.m.
Sunday	The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Service, Church	9:30 a.m.

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“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*