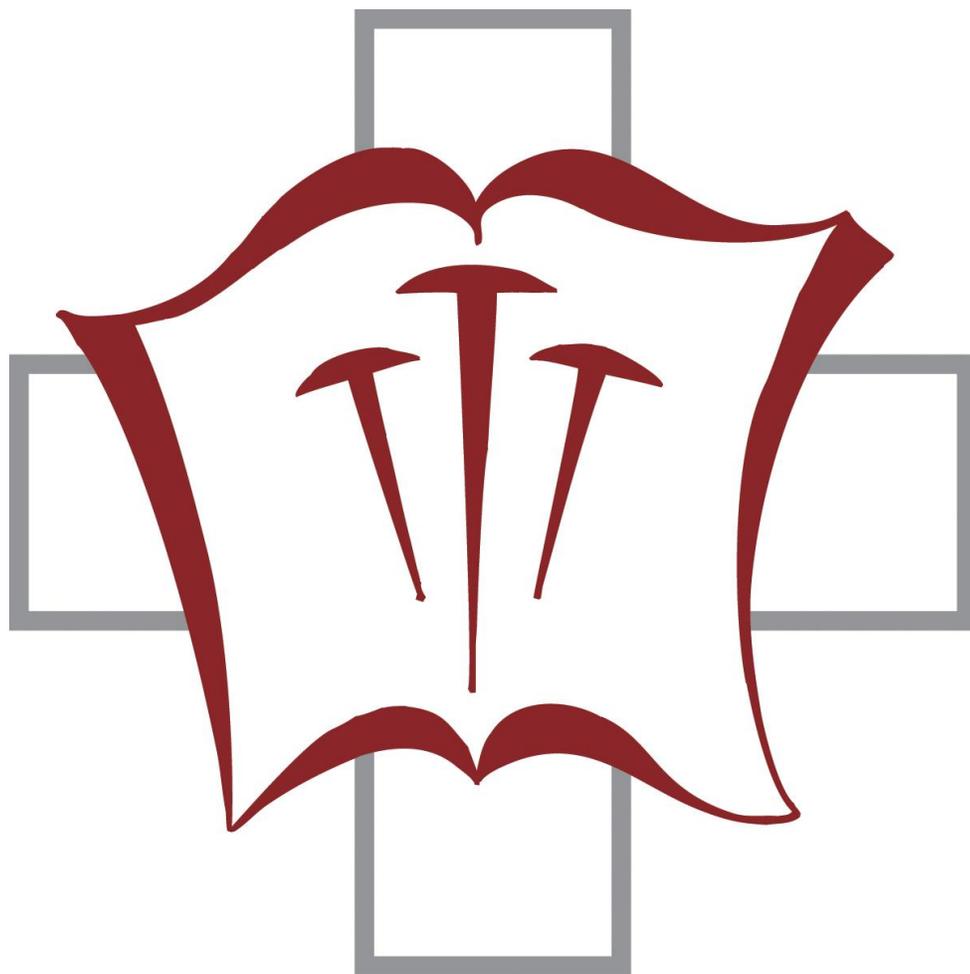


# The Third Sunday in Lent

March 24, 2019



**Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Lutheran Church Canada

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 1Z5 (519)742-5812 [www.holycrosskitchener.org](http://www.holycrosskitchener.org)

# The Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 11:00 am - Divine Services

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

2:00 pm - Nuer Language Service

Call to Worship Bells

Words of Welcome

Hymn

**O Blessed Spring**

*LSB #595*

## Invocation, Confession of Sins

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

*People* **Amen.**

*Pastor* Our help is in the name of the Lord,

*People* **who made heaven and earth.**

*Pastor* If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

*People* **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

*Pastor* Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*People* **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

*Pastor* Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

*People* **Amen.**

## Kyrie

*Pastor* In peace let us pray to the Lord



**☐** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**☐** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

*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.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

*Pastor* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Pastor* Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*People* **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-20

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

<sup>10</sup>“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

<sup>12</sup>“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins.

<sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, 'You shall surely die,' yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live. <sup>17</sup>"Yet your people say, 'The way of the Lord is not just,' when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways."

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

### Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

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

### Anthem

(11:00 - Church Choir)

*"Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)"*

*by John Newton, Edwin Excell, Louis Giglio, Chris Tomlin, John Rees*

### Holy Gospel: St. Luke 13:1-9

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

<sup>1</sup>There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

<sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

<sup>6</sup>And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

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

## 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.

## Hymn of the Day

## 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

Sermon

“EMERGENCY MEASURES”

St. Luke 13:1-9

Offertory

Create in Me *LSB #956*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence;  
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;  
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

## Parish Announcements and Gathering of Offering

### Prayer of the Church

#### 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.**

#### Benedicamus

*Pastor*        Let us bless the Lord.

*People*        **Thanks be to God.**

#### 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 to Depart

**Rock of Ages** *LSB #761*

**Preacher**.....Pastor Roland Syens

**Officiant**..... Pastor Nolan Astley

**Organist**.....Jennifer Massicotte

**Church Band**..... Jack Kahl (*Director*)

..... Justus (*11:00 piano*) & Sam Schafer (*11:00 violin*)

**Acolytes** ..... Finnley Gallacher (*8:30*), Kate Sommer (*11:00*)

**Prayer Concerns:** In our prayers today we ask God to continue to bless our observance of Lent and to draw us closer to Himself as we draw nearer to the cross. We particularly remember homes and families, asking God to bring peace and healing where it is needed and to bless parents as they raise their children in the love of the Lord. We also continue to uphold our prospective refugee families and to speed the process by which their cases will be heard.

**Update on one of our prayers from last Sunday** – Last Sunday we prayed about the Senate hearing into the question of whether advancement of religion ought be a charitable purpose in Canada. Following this week's hearing the Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC) offered the following observation *"All agreed that the presentation appeared to be well-received by the senators. While CCCC was prepared for challenging questions, the committee members did not present any. This likely indicates they found no points to challenge in the written and oral presentations, and they did not find our request controversial. This is good news. It is apparent that the Committee is in a learning posture, genuinely wanting to hear from the charitable sector."* The CCCC did also note however, that the committee received at least 4 presentations calling for the removal of religious organizations as a charitable purpose. We continue to pray.

**Interested in the Moncton, NB Mission?** Immediately *following the late service today*, anyone interested in being a part of this Mission is welcome to attend the meeting in the Library where we will discuss and begin to plan for this exciting mission opportunity! If you can't attend the meeting but would like to be a part of our team, please contact Debbie Pritchard (519-742-5812).

**Last Day to Sign Up for Easter Plants** Posters are on bulletin boards around the building. If you want to designate yours as a memorial or thankoffering 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.

## Today's Education Hour...

**Sunday School** Today is a Sunday School Special!!!! This means that we will be in the basement for the education hour. Our Sunday School Special team will be bringing the story of Jesus calling the disciples to life!

**Adult Bible Class** will begin a four week study focussing on St. Luke's account of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. This week we will follow Jesus and his disciples to the Upper Room where he institutes the Lord's Supper, and teaches them about true greatness. We will follow Jesus and the disciples to the Mount of Olives where he prays and is arrested. While these events are at the very heart of our faith there is not enough time in a sermon to unpack what all is recorded in the Gospels. Join us as we dig deeper into Christ our crucified and risen Saviour. Grab a coffee and meet us for the discussion at 10 am in the Sanctuary.

**YABS...** Today we will be continuing with our study of Ecclesiastes. Join us at 10AM!

**Youth Bible Class...** will meet with Kevin today in the Youth Centre.

## Coming Events...

**Midweek Lenten Services** continue this week...

**Wednesday, March 27 at 1:30 and 7:00 p.m.**

**Sermon on the Mount: Do Not Worry**

So much of our lives, even in Lent, is spent worrying about what might happen or what has happened. Christ teaches us to stop being anxious, but simply to trust that He knows what is best and will take care of us to the very end.

**Prime Time Event-** This **Thursday, March 28 at 12:30 pm** come out and showcase your hidden talent or favorite hobby! Sign up in the Parlour.

**Nacho Average Sunday – Sunday March 31**, following the 11:00 service there will be a youth event! There will be nachos, games, and prizes! RSVP to Lenora.

## Last Week at Holy Cross...

<b>Wednesday Lenten II Attd:</b>	51 & 76	Total 127	('18 – 127)
<b>Sunday Attendance:</b>	83 & 168	Total 251	('18 – 292)

<b>Communion Attendance:</b>	74 & 145	Total 219	('18 – 254)
<b>Sunday School:</b>	Pupils: 18 Staff: 11	Total 29	('18 – 26)
<b>Adult Bible Class:</b>	Pupils: 43 Staff: 1	Total 44	('18 – 43)
<b>Youth Bible Class:</b>	Pupils: 3 Staff: 1	Total 4	('18 – 4)
<b>YABS:</b>	Pupils: 4 Staff: 2	Total 6	('18 – 9)

**Memorial:** In memory of **MILLIE KRAFT** to Missions from Virginia Schmidt. To the Unified Church Budget from Pastor Roger Winger. To the Refugee Family Sponsorship from Bob & Jean Schmitt. To the National Youth Gathering from Bernie & Helga Drung.

## Weekly Calendar

Monday March 25 to Sunday March 31, 2019

<b>Monday</b>	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i> .....	6:30 p.m.
	Griefshare, <i>Panel Room</i> .....	6:30 p.m.
<b>Tuesday</b>	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i> .....	10:30 a.m.
	Small Group Bible Study, <i>Church Library</i> .....	7:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday</b>	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> .....	9:00 a.m.
	<b>Lenten Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>1:30 p.m.</b>
	Junior Confirmation, <i>Panel Room</i> .....	6:00 p.m.
	Senior Confirmation, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> .....	6:00 p.m.
	<b>Lenten Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i> .....	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Church Library</i> .....	9:30 a.m.
	Prime Time, <i>Basement</i> .....	12:30 p.m.
	Stephen Ministry Training, <i>Panel Room</i> .....	3:00 p.m.
	Board of Church Properties, <i>Church Library</i> .....	8:00 p.m.
	Praise Singers, <i>Church</i> .....	7:00 p.m.
	Church Choir, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i> .....	7:30 p.m.
<b>Saturday</b>	Nuer Youth & Bible Study, <i>Gym, Panel Room</i> .....	2:00 p.m.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Fourth Sunday in Lent</b>	
	<b>Divine Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>8:30 a.m.</b>
	Sunday School, <i>Downstairs</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	Adult Bible Class, <i>Church</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	YABS, <i>Conference Room</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Church</i> .....	9:45 a.m.
	<b>Divine Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Nuer Language Service</b> , <i>Church</i> .....	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>	