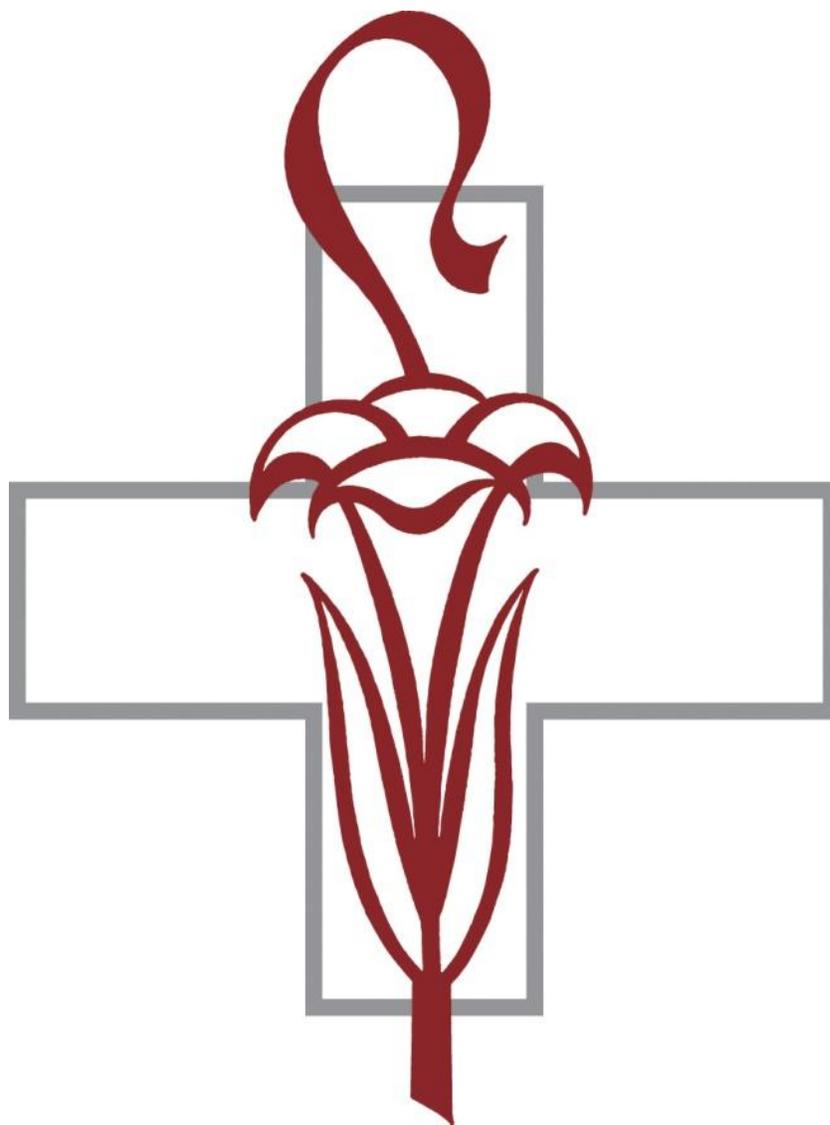


The Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 12, 2019



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church Canada

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

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:30 & 11:00 am - Divine Services

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

3:30 pm - Slovak Service

Call to Worship Bells

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn

Alleluia! Jesus is Risen *LSB #474*

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 We all, like sheep, have gone astray;

People **each of us has turned to his own way.**

Pastor But the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross,

People **so we might die to sin and live for righteousness.**

Silence for reflection and examination

Pastor Let us confess our sins to God our Father:

People **I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only 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 forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. May He who began this good work in you bring it to completion at the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Pastor Let us pray.

Blessed Good Shepherd, You speak, and we recognize Your voice. You call to us through the voice of Your Word, and we follow You. You give us eternal life, and we shall never perish. Keep us safe in the palm of Your hand, and comfort our hearts from all our fears so that we belong to You forever. For You live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

People **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

The King of Love My Shepherd Is LSB #709

First Reading: Acts 20:17-35

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹servicing the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 23

Pastor The Lord is my shepherd;

People **I shall not want.**

Pastor He makes me lie down in green pastures.

People **He leads me beside still waters.**

Pastor He restores my soul.

People **He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**

Pastor Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,
for You are with me;

People **Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.**

Pastor You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

People **You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

Pastor Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
People **and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

All **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Anthem (Church Choir)

"We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God"
by Gustav Holst

Holy Gospel: St. John 10:22-30

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

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

²⁵Jesus answered them, “I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock.

²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one.”

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

Come, Let Us Join our Cheerful Songs *LSB #812*

Sermon

Revelation 7:17

“THE SHEPHERD LAMB”

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

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

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

People

Amen.

Pastor Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

The Lord's My Shepherd LSB #710

Officiant.....Pastor Roland Syens

Preacher..... Pastor Nolan Astley

Organists.....Jennifer Massicotte

Church Choir..... Jennifer Massicotte (*Director*),

..... Anne Forler (*Organist*), Jonathan Astley (*French horn*)

Special Music..... Katie Reed & Jennifer Massicotte (*8:30 piano duet*),

..... Heather Schein & Jennifer Massicotte (*11:00 piano duet*)

..... Christine & Jordan Fergin (*11:00 piano duet*)

Acolytes Madison Freiter (*8:30*), Alarick Hildebrand (*11:00*)

Sound Operators..... Ken Griffin (*8:30*), Mike Koch & Ben Branje (*11:00*)

Acknowledgements: Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Part 2. Copyright © 2018 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Prayer Concerns: Today in our prayers we rejoice at the **gift of family** and the **devotion of mothers** as they serve the Lord, as they work in various vocations and as they care for their families. Each of us has a mother and today we keep them in our prayers! In addition we pray for those of our congregation **who are ill** and for those **who mourn**. Today we remember the family of **Inge Traynor** who passed away recently after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Inge lived in the Orangeville area for the past several years but we remember her as the painter of the picture of Christ on the cross that adorns the church in Holy Week. May the crucified and risen Lord bring comfort to her family. .

Adult Bible Class – Beginning at 10:00 am Pastor Astley will begin a 7 week Study called “Letters From the Living Lord” which will look at the 7 letters at the beginning of the Book of Revelation. These letters were written down by St. John and delivered to 7 early churches. Each letter teaches about Christ and presents Law and Gospel to Christians in the 1st century and Christians in the 21st century. Grab a coffee and join the discussion in the sanctuary right after Sunday School opening!

Adult Information Classes begin today. Anyone is welcome to join these classes in the Library from 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. Today we will be looking examining “Who is Jesus”. If you want to become a member of Holy Cross this class is important for you to attend. If you are looking for a refresher on certain Bible teachings you are welcome to join any or all of these sessions.

Coming Events...

Monday Night services begin again **Monday, May 20 at 7:00 pm**. We offer these services for those who are not able to attend Sunday service in the summer months and you are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to hear God's Word and join with sisters and brothers in Christ. Over the past few years attendance at Monday services has declined and should this trend continue we may determine not to offer this option in the future. If you are away on Sunday, please prayerfully consider attending on Monday!

Youth/YABS Golf Tournament will take place on **Sunday, May 26** Tee-off at 1:00 p.m. at the Rockway Golf Course. If you have questions contact Alex Drung at 416-804-8521 or email drungmeister@hotmail.com Sign-up sheet is in the parlor. **The deadline to sign up is May 19th!**

Care and Protect (*formerly Abuse Prevention*) Everyone *must* take a refresher training each year. The dates available for those sessions are **Sunday, June 9 or Sunday, June 23 at 9:45 am** or **Tuesday, June 4 at 7 pm**. If you haven't taken training before you will need the *full training session* that we're now offering again on **Tuesday, June 28 at 6:30 pm**. If you have any questions please contact Janet Cumby, Jennifer Leppek or Lenora Wallden.

Please Note...

VBS volunteers needed! We are looking for those who would help us this year, as we share the love of Jesus to the children of our congregation and our community, some who don't normally ever attend church. Even if you have never volunteered, consider it this year! You will have to take the Care and Protect training, and register your desire to volunteer on our VBS website. If you have any questions or thoughts, please speak to Anita Syens, Carol Young or Lenora Wallden.

VBS Craft Supplies Needed - The JK department is in need of these items for crafts: paper towel rolls, and empty kleenex boxes in earth tones (brown, yellow, stones, gray). If you are able to help us out with these items, please place them in the box provided by the pew at the parking lot door.

Stuff the Mattress- This spring the Sunday School children invite you to join them in their spring fundraiser to buy mattresses for the South Sudanese orphans living in Gambela through the Children of Promise International (COPI). Please mark your envelopes for the Sunday School Mattress fundraiser. Each mattress is approx. \$50.

Building renovations If we are able to raise \$55,000 by mid-May it is entirely possible the sanctuary will be air conditioned in time for the heat of summer. So far we have raised **\$44,172** toward this project and we ask members to prayerfully consider making a special offering to help us achieve this goal. During summer heat many people, both young and old, stay away from church due to the heat in the building.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Sunday Attendance:	103 & 185			
Nuer Attendance:	41	Total	329	('18 – 345)
Communion Attendance:	88 & 146	Total	234	('18 – 255)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 20	Staff: 9	Total 29	('18 – 40)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 35	Staff: 1	Total 36	('18 – 50)
YABS:	Pupils: 4	Staff: 2	Total 6	('18 – 9)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 2	Staff: 1	Total 3	('18 – 8)

Memorial: In memory of **MARY KETKO** to the Refugee Family Sponsorship from Verica Ketko. In memory of **INGA TRAYNOR** to the Church Improvement Fund from Harold & Norma Blake.

Weekly Calendar

Monday May 13 to Sunday May 19, 2019

Tuesday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</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.
	Board of Elders, <i>Church Library</i>	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Church Library</i>	9:30 a.m.
Saturday	Nuer Youth & Bible Study, <i>Gym, Panel Room</i>	2:00 p.m.
Sunday	The Fifth Sunday after Easter	
	Holy Communion 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>Conference Room</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Youth Centre</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Holy Communion Service , <i>Church</i>	11:00 a.m.
	Nuer Language Service , <i>Church</i>	2:00 p.m.