

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 19/20, 2019



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church Canada

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

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

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

2:00 pm - Nuer Language Service

Monday, 7:00 pm - Evening Communion Service

Call to Worship Bells

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn

To God be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things He hath done
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin
And opened the Lifegate that all may go in.

Chorus: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. (Chorus)

Great things He hath taught us, great things he hath done,
And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (Chorus)

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 The Lord has made known His salvation;

People He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Pastor He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

People All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Pastor Come, let us kneel before the Lord and make confession of our sin,
People and call upon His mercy that we may be forgiven.

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.**

This is the Feast

Refrain



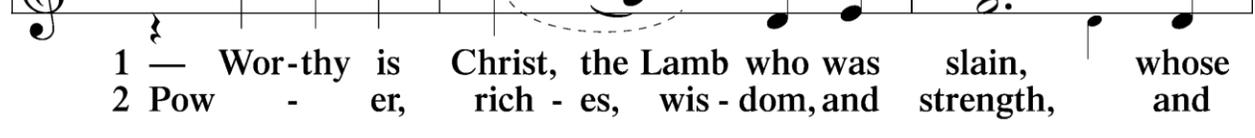
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



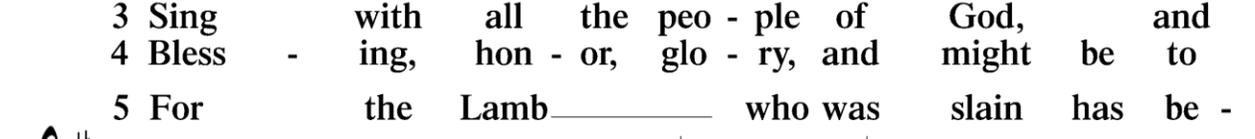
1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

First Lesson: Acts 11:1-18

¹Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³“You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” ⁴But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. ⁶Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ ⁹But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ ¹⁰This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. ¹²And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ ¹⁵As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” ¹⁸When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading: Revelation 21:1-7

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” ⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. ⁷The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem*(Claude Massicotte)**“Alpha and Omega”**by Robbie Trice***Holy Gospel: St. John 13:31-35***Pastor* The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the thirteenth chapter.*People* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³²If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, ‘Where I am going you cannot come.’ ³⁴A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.*People* **Praise to You, O Christ.****Hymn of the Day****Be Thou My Vision**

**Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art:
Thou my best thought---by day and by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.**

**Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, Thou my high tower,
Raise Thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou, and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.**

**Light of my soul, after victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.**

Sermon

Acts 11:1-18

“MAKING LOVE IN CHURCH”

Nicene Creed

All I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer 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.

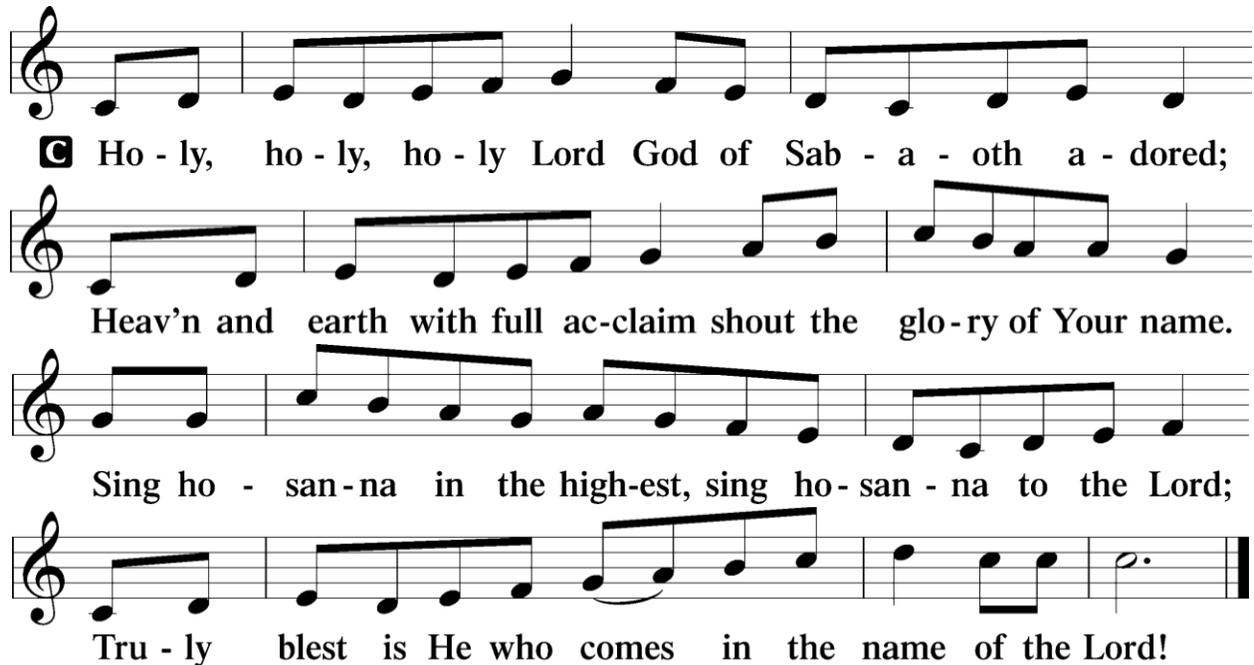
People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Pastor Holy Lord, in whose Son death has been overcome and life restored, it is truly good and right and our duty and delight to offer You thanks, praise, and worship, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whom the divisions of old have been forever bridged and Your people have been made truly one, in a unity anticipated here on earth until it is fully known in heaven. With angels and archangels, with the patriarchs and prophets, with the apostles and evangelists, and with all the saints we join in the unending hymn of praise:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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 Having remembered His mercy and rejoicing in His gifts, we pray You to grant us Your Holy Spirit, that all who come this day be united in faith and live together in holiness and righteousness all our days. Giving thanks for all that His mercy has accomplished, guide us faithfully to confess His name before men, until the new Jerusalem, when He will confess us before our Father and we will dwell in His presence forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whom we are bold to call You Father and 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.

Agnus Dei

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution Hymns

Alleluia, Sing to Jesus LSB #821

The Church's One Foundation LSB #644

Post-Communion Prayer

Pastor Let us pray.

Almighty God, Your love has reached a divided world with the unity of baptismal water and the faithful confession of Jesus Christ. We pray You to work in us through Your Spirit, that the unity we confess with words we manifest in works. Heal our divisions and, by the voice of Your Gospel, bring into Your Church all who hear this living Word, in anticipation of the day when all divisions will cease and we will know You face-to-face; 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

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart LSB #806

Officiant.....Pastor Roland Syens
Preacher..... Pastor Nolan Astley
Organists.....Jennifer Massicotte
Special Music..... Claude Massicotte (*saxophone*)
Acolytes Serena Schmidt (8:30), Rebecca Rempel (11:00)
Sound Operators Kristopher Griffin (8:30), Mike Koch & Isaiah Bridgemohan (11:00)

Prayer Concerns: In our prayers today we remember those of our congregation who are ***sick or shut-in***, asking God to bring them peace and healing according to His good and gracious will. We remember also the ***seminaries*** of our Church as they prepare to send new graduates into the church in placement services that will be held later this week. We rejoice also with ***Pastor Paul Zabel*** of our congregation who will be receiving the Servant of Christ award at the St. Catharines seminary Call Service next Saturday. We also keep in our prayers our upcoming summer mission events particularly the ***National Youth Gathering*** and our ***Vacation Bible School***.

Youth/YABS Golf Tournament is ***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 today!**

Adult Bible Class – Love goes through all kinds of stages, both in our interpersonal relationships and also in our relationship with the Lord. One of the churches to whom the Book of Revelation is addressed is the church at Ephesus where a complacency had set in and they lost their “first love.” Join the discussion as we give thought to their situation and to how we prevent this from happening in the church today.

Membership Class: We continue with our Adult Information Class in the Library as we conclude session one: “Who is God and Who is Jesus.” If you are wanting to become a member of Holy Cross or just wanting a refresher on what we teach, confess and believe we welcome you to these classes ***each Sunday from 9:45 – 10:45 a.m.***

Pastor Astley will be out of the office from Tuesday to Friday this week. He will be participating in meetings in Edmonton aimed at restoring the relationship of a congregation to our Synod. This was a congregation Pastor Astley spent considerable time assisting in his tenure as Pastoral Leader a few years back.

Coming Events...

Monday Night services begin again *tomorrow evening 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!

Saturday Family Fun Social: This is a family friendly time for all ages to join in on *Saturday, May 25 from 4:30 – 7:00 pm* in the green basement. There will be food, socializing, and lots of fun for everyone. Please bring \$10 for your family as a donation towards the meal. For more information call Michelle Palmer at 519-588-9869, or email at: mapalmer1208@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

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 25 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.

Building Renovations: We rejoice to announce that we have, as a congregation, raised just over \$65,000 toward goal of \$100,000.00 for renovations of our church building. This means that in the weeks ahead work will begin toward installation of air conditioning in the Sanctuary! Also our anonymous donor has added the first installment of the 2 for 1 matching gift with a cheque for \$100,000.00, bringing our total to \$165,000.00. This means that before too long work will begin toward other necessary renovations such as upgrading washroom facilities here at Holy Cross. We continue to work to raise the remaining \$45,000.00 for this project! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!!

Last Week at Holy Cross...

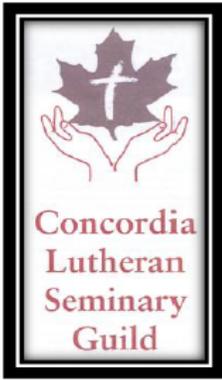
Sunday Attendance:	114 & 200	Total 314	('18 – 321)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 23 Staff: 9	Total 32	('18 – 42)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 39 Staff: 1	Total 40	('18 – 46)
Adult Instruction Class:	Pupils: 14 Staff: 1	Total 15	
YABS:	Pupils: 4 Staff: 2	Total 6	('18 – 7)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 2 Staff: 1	Total 3	('18 – 5)

Memorial: In memory of **RODNEY SWARTZ** to the Church Improvement Fund from Cliff & Sherry Swartz-Hill.

Weekly Calendar

Monday May 13 to Sunday May 19, 2019

Monday	Victoria Day, <i>Church Office closed</i>	
Wednesday	Board of Church Properties, <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.
	Stephen Ministry, <i>Panel Room</i>	3:00 p.m.
	Youth Outing, <i>Ceramics & Glass melting, Breslau</i>	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	Nuer Youth & Bible Study, <i>Gym, Panel Room</i>	2:00 p.m.
	Family Fun Night, <i>Basement</i>	4:30 p.m.
Sunday	The Sixth Sunday after Easter	
	Divine Service, Church	8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Adult Bible Class, <i>Church</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Adult Information Class, <i>Church Library</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.
	Divine Service, Church	11:00 a.m.
	Moncton Mission Team Meeting, <i>Church Library</i>	12:15 a.m.
	Golf Tournament, <i>Rockway Golf Course</i>	1:00 p.m.
	Nuer Language Service, Church	2:00 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

Members are devoted to service through the use of Talents & Resources to support the Seminary and its future Pastors.

Who are the Members?

All members of the Ontario District Lutheran Church can become members.

How can we join?



You become a member by placing \$5.00 (or more)
in an envelope marked "Seminary Guild"

sign your name and place it on the offering place for 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?

The Guild provides for the needs of the seminarians and his family by encouragement and prayers. It provides food for the seminarians with a gift at Christmas and Graduation. The Guild is there to help in time of need for the whole family.

Often special projects are undertaken. Such as purchasing new cassocks, communion visitation sets or upgrades to student areas at the seminary.

With the combined memberships of all the churches in the District they hope to make these types of projects a reality.

Thank you to 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.