



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Canada

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Volume 73 No. 4

January 26, 2020

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

8:30 & 11:00 am - Divine Services

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

12:30 pm - Voters' Assembly

2:00 pm - Nuer Language Service

Call to Worship Bells

Words of Welcome

Hymn

Christ the Eternal Lord *LSB #829*

Invocation

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

People **Amen.**

Pastor Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.

People **The heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge!**

Pastor Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,
People **and call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor Let us now make confession of our sins to our gracious heavenly Father.

People **Eternal God, we confess that by nature we are sinful people. We have transgressed Your Law in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not always been good friends, faithful neighbours, or caring family members. Our motives and thoughts have not always been pure. We deserve Your punishment now and for eternity. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and restore us to a full and joyful relationship with You through the merits of Jesus, our Lord. Direct our days by Your Holy Spirit, that we joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments as Your redeemed people.**

Pastor In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Be at peace.

People **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

There Is a Redeemer



1 There is a Re - deem - er— Je - sus, God's own Son;
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;
 3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;



Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.
 Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.
 There I'll serve my King for-ev - er In that ho - ly place.

Refrain



Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,



And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4

¹ There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.

³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 27:1-9

Pastor The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
People **The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Pastor When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

People **Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

Pastor One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple.

People **For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.**

Pastor And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

People **Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! You have said, "Seek My face." My heart says to You, "Your face, Lord, do I seek."**

Pastor Hide not Your face from me. Turn not Your servant away in anger, O You who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

People **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: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Pastor ¹⁰I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. ¹¹For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. ¹²What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." ¹³Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? ¹⁴I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, ¹⁵so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. ¹⁶(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) ¹⁷For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

¹⁸For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem (11:00)

Martha Schaus (Solo), Jennifer Massicotte (Accompanist).

"I See the Love of God in Every River"

Words and Music by David Ouchterlony

Holy Gospel: St. Matthew 4:12-25*Pastor* The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.*People* **Glory to You, O Lord.***Pastor* ¹²When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. ¹³And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:¹⁵"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—¹⁶the people dwelling in darkness
have seen a great light,and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned."¹⁷From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."¹⁸While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. ²²Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.²³And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. ²⁴So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. ²⁵And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.*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

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone, my hope is found,
 He is my light, my strength, my song.
 This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
 Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
 What heights of love, what depths of peace,
 When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
 My comforter, my all in all,
 Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
 Fullness of God in helpless Babe.
 This gift of love and righteousness,
 Scorned by the ones He came to save.
 'Til on that cross, as Jesus died,
 The wrath of God was satisfied.
 For ev'ry sin on Him was laid,
 Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground, His body lay,
 Light of the world by darkness slain.
 Then bursting forth, in glorious day,
 Up from the grave He rose again.
 And as He stands in victory,
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
 For I am His and He is mine,
 Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

Sermon

"WALK THE TALK"

St. Matthew 4:12-25

Offertory

Create in Me *LSB #956*


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
 a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
 from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
 and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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 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

Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying *LSB #826*

Preacher.....Pastor Roland Syens
Officiant.....Pastor Nolan Astley
Organist.....Jennifer Massicotte
AcolytesMacKenzie Szasz (8:30), Hope Bindseil (11:00)
Sound Operators.....Erik Reed (8:30), Ben Branje, Mike Koch (11:00)

Serving in God's House Today: Pastor Roland Syens (*Preacher*), Pastor Nolan Astley (*Officiant*), Jennifer Massicotte (8:30 *Organist*), MacKenzie Szasz (8:30 *Acolyte*), Hope Bindseil (11:00 *Acolyte*), Erik Reed (8:30 *Sound Operator*), Ben Branje, Mike Koch (11:00 *Sound Operators*).

Prayer Concerns:In our prayers today ***we rejoice*** with ***Cameron Simpson*** and ***Lenora Wallden*** who were united in Holy Marriage here yesterday. May God bless them richly as they live in faith toward Him and service to one another. ***We also remember Ken Frank*** and ***Judy Hebner*** who are both in palliative care, asking God to grant them peace and to comfort their families at this difficult time. ***We also continue to uphold our brothers and sisters in Christ in Costa Rica.*** For the last 10 years, LCC has been supporting ministry in Cartago, Costa Rica where a congregation meets weekly under the care of Pastor Edmundo Retana. We pray God to continue to bless this work.

Altar Flowers were given to the glory of God by Cameron Simpson and Lenora Wallden who were joined together in Holy Marriage yesterday here at Holy Cross.

Voters' Assembly will gather in the basement after the ***11:00 a.m. Service today.*** A light lunch will be provided.

2018 Contribution Statements and Tax Receipts are in the pigeon holes today! If you don't have a pigeonhole, your statement and receipt have been mailed to you. If you have questions, please contact Harry Drews (519-576-3239).

Today's Education Hour...

Sunday School – This week we will be looking at Jesus' first miracle, "The Wine Sign". At the wedding in Cana, Jesus turns water into wine at the behest of his mother.

Youth Bible Class meets with Kevin in the Youth Centre.

Adult Bible Class – God created people to be "crowned with glory and honour" yet often, even for Christians, we do not experience that sort of victorious living. Sin has thoroughly corrupted the world in which we live and has also corrupted our own hearts. In Christ, God has sent us a Brother, a Captain and a King to guide us through this world. He is like us in every way and has come to free us from our slavery. Grab a coffee and join us in the sanctuary as we dig into Hebrews 2 to see "Christ, Our Treasure" – Brother, Captain and King.

Coming Events...

Youth Games Night – Messiah invites all Circuit Youth to a Games Night this **Friday, January 31 at 7:00 p.m.** No RSVP is required.

Youth Gr. 8-12 – **Friday, February 7 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm**, we'll be baking up a storm in preparation for our annual Bake Sale. If you cannot join us on Friday night, please consider baking something at home and bringing it in on **Sunday, February 9**.

Men's Retreat registration forms are now available for the **February 28-29, 2020** Men's Retreat on the Holy Cross website (www.holycrosskitchener.org) and at the Welcome Centre. This year's topic is "Jesus and Archaeology" by Dr. Stephen Chambers.

Please Note...

The Church Library continues to be closed due to renovations. If your group usually meets in the Library, please check the church bulletin boards for re-assigned locations.

Voicemail Issues – For the past several weeks we have been experiencing various issues with the congregational phone system, particularly with voicemail. This has resulted in staff being regularly locked out of their own mailboxes. Should you leave a message at the church that is not returned, it may well be that we have not been able to access the message. Please call again during office hours and/or send an email and we will get back to you. We apologize for the inconvenience as we work to resolve these issues.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Sunday / Nuer Attendance:	74 & 140 & 15	Total 229	('19 – 229)
Communion Attendance:	67 & 115	Total 182	('19 – 215)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 19 Staff: 11	Total 30	('19 – 37)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 53 Staff: 1	Total 54	('19 – 55)
YABS:	Pupils: 2 Staff: 2	Total 4	('19 – 6)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 10 Staff: 1	Total 11	('19 – 7)

Memorial: In memory of **GARY LEMON** to *GriefShare* from Marlene Lemon. In memory of **DON POLL** to the *Unified Church Budget* from Virginia Schmidt and Ray & Marg West; and the *Refugee Family Sponsorship* from Bob & Jean Schmitt.

Weekly Calendar

Monday January 27 to Sunday February 2, 2020

Monday	ESL Conversation Circle, <i>Church Basement</i>	10:30 a.m.
	Griefshare, <i>Panel Room</i>	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Daniel Bible Study, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom, Panel Room, Kitchen</i>	9:00 a.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Church Library</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Praise Singers, <i>Church Sanctuary</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Church Choir, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	7:45 p.m.
Saturday	Nuer Youth & Bible Study, <i>Gym</i>	2:00 p.m.
Sunday	The Presentation of Our Lord	
	Holy Communion 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.
	YABS, <i>Conference Room</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Church</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Holy Communion Service, Church	11:00 a.m.
	Nuer Language Service, Church	2:00 p.m.

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