

The Third Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2016



THE PARABLE OF THE FRUITLESS FIG TREE

Luke 13:6-9



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church **Lutheran Church Canada**

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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*

The Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 11:00 am - Divine Services

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

6:30 pm - Adult Instruction Class

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing LSB #686

Invocation & Psalm 85

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

People **Amen.**

Pastor Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
People **for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**

Pastor LORD, You were favorable to Your land;
You restored the fortunes of Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of Your people;
You covered all their sin.

Pastor Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
People **for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**

Pastor You withdrew all Your wrath;
You turned from Your hot anger.
Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
and put away Your indignation toward us!

Pastor Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
People **for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**

Pastor Will You be angry with us forever?
Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?
Will You not revive us again,
that Your people may rejoice in You?
Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us Your salvation.

Pastor Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
People **for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**

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.**

Hymn

Rock of Ages LSB #761

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:1-9

¹“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. ⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. ⁶Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷Do 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.” ⁸We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, ¹⁰nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. ¹¹Now 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.

¹²Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. ¹³No 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, Praise Singers)

“In Your Great Mercy, Oh God” by Jerry Ulrich

Holy Gospel: St. Luke 13:1-9

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

People **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. ⁴Or 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? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.” ⁶And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. ⁷And 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?’ ⁸And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. ⁹Then 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.**

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

No guilt in life no fear in death
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me
 From life's first cry to final breath
 Jesus commands my destiny
 No pow'r of hell no scheme of man
 Can ever pluck me from His hand
 'Til He returns or calls me home
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

Sermon

St. Luke 13:6-9

“IN GOD’S GOOD TIME”

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.

Anthem (11:00, *Praise Singers*)

“Lamb of God” by Twila Paris

Parish Announcements and Gathering of Offerings

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 Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,
for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;
People **but let them not turn back to folly.**

Pastor The LORD bless you and keep you in His forgiving embrace. The LORD make His face shine on you in steadfast love and faithfulness. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People **Amen.**

Hymn **When I Survey the Wondrous Cross** LSB #425

Officiant Pastor Roland Syens
Preacher Pastor Nolan Astley
Organist Anne Forler (8:30)
Pianist Heather Schein (11:00)
Praise Singers Brian Hallman (Director)
Acolytes (8:30) Jordan Fergin, (11:00) Jeremy Das
Sound System Operators (8:30) Ken Griffin, (11:00) Claude Massicotte

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Prayer Concerns: In our prayers today we remember the many families in our parish who grieve the loss of loved ones, including the family of **Marjorie Toolsie, Ruth Luft and Skip McElhinney** who passed away this week. May God grant all who mourn a sure confidence in the resurrection to life eternal through our Lord Jesus Christ. We also remember **John Schneider and Vince Guiliani** who continue in St. Mary's Hospital.

Funeral Times:

Marjorie Toolsie: Visitation at Walsers, today 2-4 & 7-9; Service Tomorrow at 11:00 am
Skip McElhinney: Visitation at Holy Cross, Saturday March 5, 10:00 to 11:00 am, Service Saturday March 5, 11:00 am
Ruth Luft: TBA

Altar Flowers: Are placed to the glory of God and in memory of Brenda (née Wagner) Michaud by Robert Wagner & family.

Adult Information Class..tonight **6:30 pm.** All are welcome for the lesson "About a Meal Which Feeds You: What is the Lord's Supper?".

Coming Events...

It's a Leap Year! YABS Meet **Tomorrow** for Supper @ **6:00 p.m.** at Mother's Restaurant on King Street (across from Costco). Talk to Henri or Krysti ASAP so we can reserve the right # of seats!

VBS Supervisors: we will have our first VBS 2016 meeting on **Sunday March 6 after the late service (approx..12:15pm)**, in the Triple Bible classroom to discuss plans and themes. Please bring your lunch, we will have tea and coffee available.

2 Weeks Until Our Children's Clothing Exchange! Have kids? Expecting your first? Join us on **Saturday, March 12 from 9-11:30**. This is a free event for anyone to attend. Bring your items ahead of time or the morning of. All are welcome- this is a free event! Kids are welcome- a play area will be set up in the same room as the exchange.

Please Note...

Still Collecting Cloth Items from now until March Break Bring in your old clothes, shoes, luggage, purses, belts, bedding, towels, curtains- anything cloth! It can be in any condition but must be clean. Items are sent to the Kidney Foundation who in turn give us money for every pound collected. *Also collecting childrens and baby items for the Kid's Clothing Exchange on March 12th

Facility Use Survey: We are doing a small survey to determine the best use of specific rooms here at Holy Cross. In order to understand present activity levels, there will be a clip board place near the door of the Panel room, Confirmation room, and Triple Bible Class room. When using that room please fill in the date time and nature of the use. This will help us plan for most efficient use of our building. Please contact Jerry Golschesky with any questions. Thank You.

Lenten Devotion Booklets are available at the Welcome Centre. Please help yourself.

Sign Up for Easter Plants if you're willing to donate a hydrangea or lily to beautify our altar for Christ's Resurrection Day in March. Posters are on bulletin boards around the building lilies are \$8.00 and hydrangeas are \$12.50. 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. The deadline is **Sunday, February 28**.

Today's Education Hour...

Nursery through Grade 6/7 students will be doing some cool stuff with Krysti in the basement after opening upstairs with Curtis Wentzlaff.

Youth will continue their series on the book of Romans.

YABS will be in the Triple Bible Classroom. Today's topic: Reformed Epistemology.

Adult Bible Class...this week Lesson 4: Sharing Jesus with Muslims.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Wednesday Attendance:	40 & 81	Total 121	('15 - 137)
Sunday Attendance:	113 & 162	Total 275	('15 - 283)
Communion Attendance:	102 & 139	Total 241	('15 - 229)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 45 Staff: 1	Total 46	('15 - 44)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 7 Staff: 1	Total 8	('15 - 8)
YABS:	Pupils: 1 Staff: 1	Total 2	('15 - 9)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 22 Staff: 15	Total 37	('15 - 58)

Thankoffering: In honour of **EARL HEBNER's** 90th Birthday to the Unified Church Budget from Betty Hebner & Family.

Memorial: In memory of **ALMA GOLSCHESKY** to the Unified Church Budget from Bernie & Helga Drung, Reinhold & Anna Schmidt, Jack & Elaine Kahl. To the Church Choir from Bob & Jean Schmitt. To Canadian Lutheran World Relief from Ron & Doris Johnston. To Missions from Pastor Lloyd & Shirley Wentzlaff, Brian & Leslie Ann Webb, Ross & Sandy Dolson. To Ukraine Missions from Pastor Konny & Doris Hahn. In memory of **KEVIN LANTZ** to the Unified Church Budget from Jack & Elaine Kahl. In memory of **STEPHEN SCHOCK** to Canadian Lutheran World Relief from Lydia Weimer.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, February 29 to Sunday, March 6, 2016

Monday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i>	10:30 a.m.
	Funeral Service for Marjorie Toolsie , Church.....	11:00 a.m.
	Griefshare Seminar, <i>Confirmation classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i>	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Lenten Service , Church.....	1:30 p.m.
	LINC, <i>Everywhere</i>	5:30 p.m.
	Lenten Service , Church.....	7:00 p.m.
	Board of Missions, <i>Triple Bible classroom</i>	8:00 p.m.
	Board of Young Peoples, <i>Panel Room</i>	8:00 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Board of Evangelism, <i>Parlour</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Praise Singers, Church	7:00 p.m.
	Church Choir, Church.....	8:00 p.m.
Friday	Circuit Youth Lock-In, <i>First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wellesley</i>	6:00 p.m.
Saturday	Visitation & Funeral Service for Skip McElhinney , Church.....	10:00 a.m.
Sunday	The Fourth Sunday in Lent	
	Holy Communion Service , Church.....	8:30 a.m.
	Sunday School, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Adult Bible Class, Church.....	9:45 a.m.
	YABS, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Youth room</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Holy Communion Service , Church.....	11:00 a.m.
	VBS Supervisors, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.
Adult Instruction Class, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.	