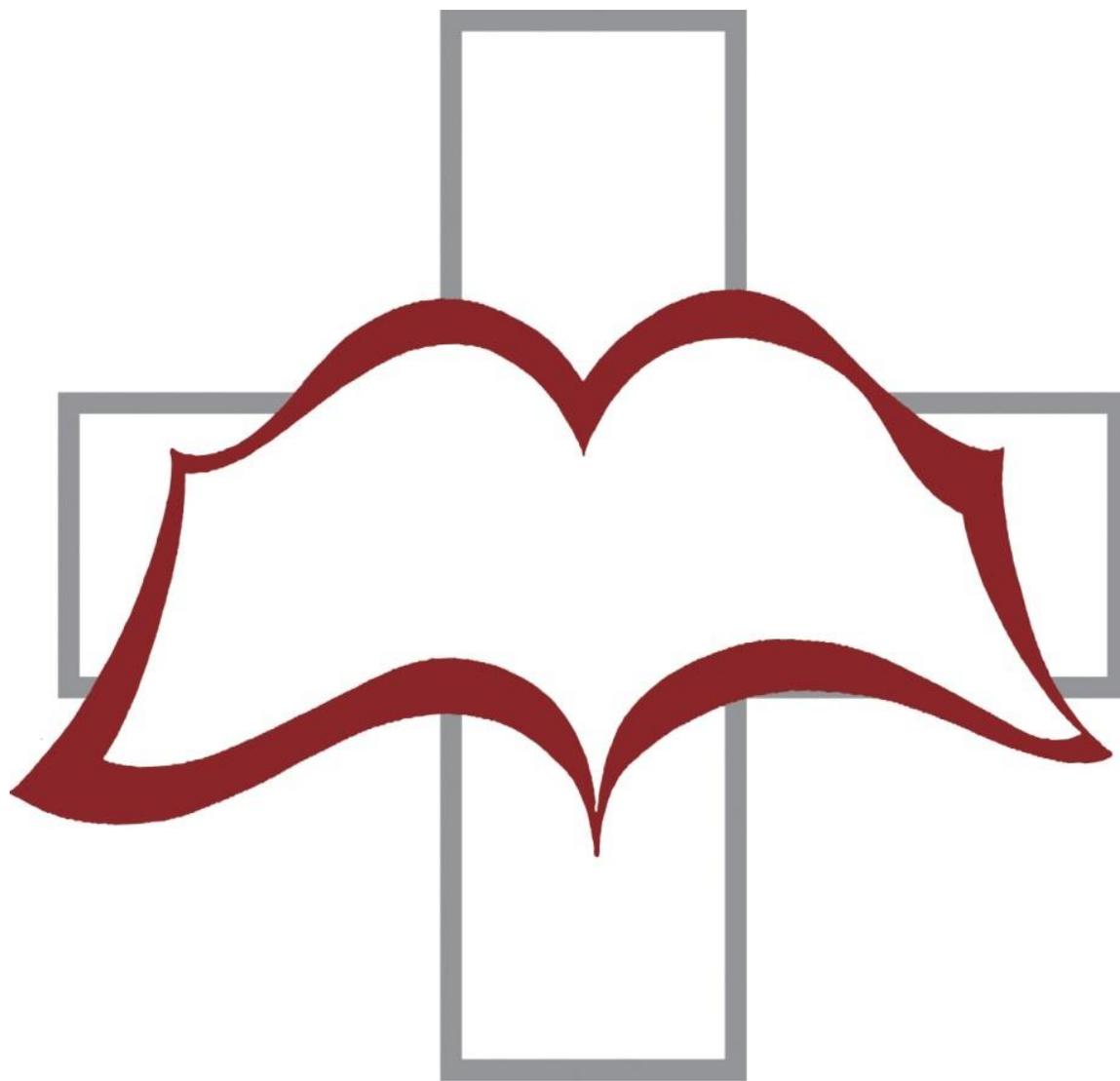


The Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 13, 2016



Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church Canada

322 East Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario N2H 1Z5

(519)742-5812 www.holycrosskitchener.org

“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 Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:30 & 11:00 am - Divine Services

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

3:30 pm - Slovak Congregation Service

6:30 pm - Adult Instruction Class

Entrance Hymn

Drawn to the Cross *LSB #560*

Invocation & Psalm 126

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

People **Amen.**

Pastor The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad. When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

People **The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**

Pastor Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy;

People **the LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**

Pastor Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

People **The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**

Pastor Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb! Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!

People **The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**

Pastor He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

People **The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

Pastor The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Pastor Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; 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

The Lamb *LSB #547*

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

¹⁶Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings forth chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸"Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.

¹⁹Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild beasts will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches, for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself that they might declare my praise.

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading: Philippians 3:4b-7, 8-14

⁴though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Pastor This is the Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

(11:00 - Church Choir with Jacob Drung)

“Through Christ”

by Pepper Choplin

Holy Gospel: St. Luke 20:9-20

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

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

⁹And he began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. ¹⁰When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed.

¹²And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. ¹³Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.' ¹⁴But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.' ¹⁵And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others." When they heard this, they said, "Surely not!"

¹⁷But he looked directly at them and said, "What then is this that is written: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone"? ¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him." ¹⁹The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. ²⁰So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

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

Hymn of the Day

My Song Is Love Unknown LSB #430 vs-1-4

Sermon

Hymn

My Song Is Love Unknown LSB #430 vs-5-7

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 Offerings

Prayer of the Church

Pastor Let us pray for ourselves, the Church around the world, and all people in their various needs.

Let us pray for all who, like Israel in Isaiah's day, have had their dreams shattered, have been displaced from their homes, are living in refugee camps, or are forgotten in pockets of poverty and discrimination. Fulfill their dreams with Your gracious plans, Lord. Restore them to their homes, lift their lives in dignity, and provide the food, clothing, and shelter they require.

All Sing Refrain


O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer;
 When I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer, O
 Lord, hear my prayer; Come and lis-ten to me.

Pastor Let us pray for all who, like those in the psalm going to the temple, whose better, joyful, and bountiful times in the past seem like shattered dreams. Fulfill their dreams with Your gracious plans, Lord. Console those who mourn loved ones, lost crops, and past prosperity. Strengthen and restore those who languish under ill health, inadequate nutrition, or unemployment.

All Sing Refrain

Pastor Let us pray for all who, like Paul before he came to faith in Christ, struggle, dreaming that they might be righteous under God's Law, as well as those who have no understanding of God's grace and mercy for the sake of Christ, our Lord. Fulfill their dreams with Your gracious plans, Lord. Guide the Church here and around the world to proclaim the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ. Strengthen us to press on toward the upward call You so graciously extend to us for Jesus' sake.

All Sing Refrain

Pastor Let us pray for all who, like the tenant farmers in Jesus' parable, have nightmares, fearing that the spiritual and physical blessings they enjoy must be held tightly as their own possessions. Fulfill their dreams with Your gracious plans, Lord. Open the eyes of governmental leaders, corporation executives, and religious leaders to see their calling to care for others with the resources You provide. Show them how they may serve Your people in justice, compassion, and mercy.

All Sing Refrain

Pastor Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People **Amen.**

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 favor and give you peace.

People **Amen.**

Pastor Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

What Wondrous Love is This LSB #543

Preacher Pastor Nolan Astley

Officiant Pastor Roland Syens

Organist Jennifer Massicotte

Acolytes (8:30) Sarah Newport, (11:00) Brianna Manuel

Sound System Operators (8:30) Ken Griffin, (11:00) Jerry Golschesky

Prayer Concerns: We pray for those who are *persecuted for their faith* that God would give them strength, courage, freedom; for the *Pastors and leaders of Lutheran Church - Canada* that God give them wisdom and direction as they lead the church.

Last Adult Information Class!..tonight at **6:30 pm**. All are welcome for the lesson "About Keys Which Lock & Unlock (confession & absolution)" and also "About Stewardship & Eternal Life". Join Us!

Coming Events...

Midweek Lenten Services continue this **Wednesday, March 16**, at **1:30 and 7:00 p.m.**

We continue in week six with 'Restored in Christ – Broken Justice Restored'. A broken justice system put Jesus on the cross; we are restored when by His death we are declared not guilty.

Easter Breakfast Reminder..if you will donate nut free muffins or other baked goodies to our Easter breakfast on **Sunday, March 27, 8:30-10:00 a.m.**, please sign up in the parlour at the Welcome Centre. It helps to plan.

Spring Mission project continues – until **April 17**. We are delivering boxes of Cereal to Historic St. Paul's Community Cupboard to be distributed on Monday mornings. We are also accepting **toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, pull-ups and wipes** for families of refugees connected at Franklin Public School.

Women's Renewal Weekend Hello ladies! Do you need a break? Do you want to be refreshed? Come to our "**LAVENDER SPRINGS SPA**" **Friday, April 22 to Saturday, April 23** at the Guelph Bible Conference Centre. Spend time with our Lord and other ladies. Study the book of Psalms in an inspiring informative way. Enjoy the fellowship, fun and laughter with new and old friends, bring a friend, enjoy good food and relax. Attend the whole weekend, or come for Friday night or Saturday. For more information and registration forms, please see our display on the welcome desk. **Registration Deadline is April 17th**, please try to register early. We look forward to seeing you there. God's blessings to all of you and your families.

Please Note...

Thank you to all who helped with the Children's clothing exchange yesterday! What a great way to serve our community and connect with families.

Reach Out for Easter by giving one of the invitations available at the Welcome Centre desk. Your personal word asking a friend, family member, neighbour, or a church member you haven't seen lately, to join you for Easter worship goes much farther than almost any other outreach effort you can imagine!

Come to the Upstairs Library God's love is constant and it is amazing! It is hard to understand this love and let it shine in our lives. In our Youth section, find the "Diary of a Teenage Girl, Caitlin #2, It's My Life" by Melody Carlson. Boys, you would enjoy this, too. In the Non-Fiction, check out "The Grace Awakening" by Charles Swindoll. Need a good devotion? Try, "Choosing to See" by Mary Beth Chapman. In our Fiction, get "In Search of Eden" by Linda Nichols, it is about accepting God's amazing love during adversities. We want to know what books you enjoy reading so please check out a book by removing the card, completing it and placing it the file box. We are planning "Library Birthday Sundays" soon, so we are purchasing new books; if you have any suggestions please contact Donna Sauder. Thanks for your help. God's blessings to you all. See you in the Library!

Today's Education Hour...

A "Journey to the Cross" Pop-Up Window Calendar goes home today. Your family can either start Tuesday {March 15}, and open 1 window/day until Easter morning, OR wait until Palm Sunday & follow directions as printed on the back!

Nursery through Grade 5 students will study Matthew 6:25-34: Jesus Teaches Us to Trust.

Grade 6/7 will have topical studies from now – June. Ask your child what they discussed!

Youth will continue their series on the book of Romans.

YABS will meet for Today's Topic: What it means to be a Christian.

Adults will be continuing with a DVD on Islam.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Wednesday Attendance:	40 & 60	Total 100	('15 – 180)
Sunday Attendance:	121 & 165	Total 286	('15 – 314)
Communion Attendance:	100 & 137	Total 237	('15 – 238)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 42 Staff: 1	Total 43	('15 – n/a)
YABS:	Pupils: 5 Staff: 2	Total 7	('15 – 5)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 5 Staff: 1	Total 6	('15 – 6)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 28 Staff: 17	Total 45	('15 – 62)

Memorial: In memory of **GEORGE TOMESCH** to the Unified Church Budget from Dave & Sue Tomesch. In memory of **ALMA GOLSCHESKY** to the Unified Church Budget from Delphine Brown, Pam Martin-Giuliani, Peter Geimer, Earl & Pat Famme. To Missions from Steve & Delila Keczem. In memory of **MARJORIE TOOLSIE** to the Unified Church Budget from Earl & Pat Famme, Marlene Lemon, Virginia Schmidt, Grant & Joanne Schaefer, Bernie & Helga Drung, Doreen Groff. To Missions from Pastor Konny & Doris Hahn. In memory of **RUTH LUFT** to the Unified Church Budget from Harold & Norma Blake, Shirley Martin, Robert Wagner, Bruno & Jean Fergin, Grant & Joanne Schaefer. To Canadian Lutheran World Relief from Ruth Henderson. To Missions from Pastor Konny & Doris Hahn. In memory of **SKIP MCELHINNEY** to the Unified Church Budget from Jerry & Lilian Golschesky, Grant & Joanne Schaefer, Robert & Carolyn Booth. To Missions from Harry Drews, Peter Weber, Pastor Lloyd & Shirley Wentzlaff, Pastor Konny & Doris Hahn.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, March 14 to Sunday, March 20, 2016

Monday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i>	10:30 a.m.
	Griefshare Seminar, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i>	6:30 p.m.
	Board of Stewardship, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Lenten Service , <i>Church</i>	1:30 p.m.
	Lenten Service with Jubilation Male Chorus , <i>Church</i>	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Beginnings, <i>Downstairs</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Prayer Group, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:30 a.m.
	Rock Climbing Youth Event, <i>Grand River Rocks</i>	4:00 p.m.
Sunday	Palm Sunday	
	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>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Youth room</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Holy Communion Service with Reception of New Members , <i>Church</i> ...	11:00 a.m.
New Member Social, <i>Basement</i>	12:15 p.m.	