

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2016

*“By this all people will know
that you are my disciples, if you
have love for one another.”*

JOHN 13:35. ESV



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 Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:30 & 11:00 am - Divine Services

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

Hymn

I Know that My Redeemer Lives *LSB #461*

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Invocation and Opening Sentences

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

People **Amen.**

Pastor Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;

People **praise Him in the heights!**

Pastor Praise Him, all His angels;

People **praise Him, all His hosts!**

Pastor Praise Him, sun and moon,

People **praise Him, all you shining stars!**

Pastor Let them praise the name of the LORD,

People **for His name alone is exalted;
His majesty is above earth and heaven.**

Confession and Absolution

Pastor Almighty God,

People **We confess before You our sinful nature and sinful deeds. We do not like to wait for anything! As sinners we want and labor for things that perish, forgetting to set our affections on You and Your kingdom where true joys are found. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, and fill us with the Spirit of truth that our sorrow may turn to joy.**

Pastor The dwelling of God is with people. Beloved, Jesus is in our midst. He is and ever shall be. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus 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.

People **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise (8:30) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *LSB #700*

**Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.**

**Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit; Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.**

Praise Chorus' (11:00) Arise and Sing *by Mel Ray*

**Arise and sing, ye children of Zion, For the Lord has delivered thee;
Arise and sing, ye children of Zion, For the Lord has delivered thee.**

(Chorus)

**Open up your hearts and rejoice before Him,
Open up your hearts and rejoice before Him,
Open up your hearts and rejoice before Him,
For the Lord is your King.**

Blessing and Honor *by Jeff Hamlin*

(Chorus)

**Blessing and honour, glory and pow'r be unto the Lamb on the throne;
Blessing and honour, glory and pow'r are Yours both now and forever,
Jesus, our Saviour and Lord.**

**Your are the sacrifice, dying, You suffered
Paying the greatest price, redeeming us unto God,
Redeeming us unto God. *(Chorus)***

**You are the risen King, death could not hold You;
Riding in victory, Your kingdom will never end,
Your kingdom will never end. *(Chorus)***

First Reading: 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.**

Second 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.**

Hymn (8:30)**The Church's One Foundation** *LSB #644*

**The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
 She is His new creation By water and the Word.
 From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
 With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.**

**Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
 And to one hope she presses With ev'ry grace endued.**

**Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
 She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
 Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
 And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.**

Praise Chorus' (11:00)**He Is Lord**

**He is Lord, He is Lord.
 He is risen from the dead and He is Lord.
 Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
 That Jesus Christ is Lord!**

Glory to the Lamb *by Larry Dempsey*

**Glory, Glory, Glory to the Lamb.
 Glory, Glory, Glory to the Lamb.
 For He is glorious and worthy to be praised,
 The Lamb upon the throne;
 And unto Him we lift our voice in praise,
 The Lamb upon the throne.**

Holy Gospel: St. John 16:12-22*Pastor*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixteenth chapter.

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

¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁶"A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me." ¹⁷So some of his disciples said to one another, "What is this that he says to us, 'A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me'; and, 'because I am going to the Father'?" ¹⁸So they were saying, "What does he mean by 'a little while'? We do not know what he is talking about." ¹⁹Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, "Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, 'A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me'?"

²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²²So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.

Pastor This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Hymn of the Day

Lord Whose Love in Humble Service LSB #848

Sermon

St. John 13:31-35

“COLOURING OUTSIDE THE LINES”

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 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

Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me LSB #722

Officiant	Pastor Roland Syens
Preacher	Pastor Nolan Astley
Pianist.....	(8:30) Judy Lumsden, (11:00) Heather Schein
Praise Singers	Brian Hallman (<i>Director</i>), John Rickert (<i>drums</i>)
Special Music.....	Kaitlyn Neustaedter (11:00 piano)
Acolytes.....	(8:30) Emma Sommer, (11:00) Emily Steinman
Sound System Operators.....	(8:30) Ken Griffin, (11:00) Mike Koch

Prayer Concerns: We give thanks and praise for another successful **Women's Retreat**, for the health and blessings of our **Queen Elizabeth II** as she celebrated her 90th birthday in her 64th year of serving as our Queen; for all **care givers** and pray that God give them strength, patience and health. We pray for all those **struggling with illness** and those **preparing for or recovering from surgery**; for the **Youth and Young Adults retreat** coming up this weekend here at Holy Cross.

Altar Flowers: are placed to the glory of God and in memory of Aden & Lorraine Brubacher by Bruce & Norene Brubacher.

Coming Events...

Spring Voters' Assembly meets on **Tuesday, May 3 at 7:00 p.m.** Dockets are available at the Welcome Centre in the parlour.

Please Note...

VBS volunteers needed! Cave Quest Vacation Bible School is July 4-8. If you would like to join in the fun and sharing of God's Word to children in VBS this year, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex!

Today's Education Hour...

Nursery through Grade 5 students learn about "The Good Shepherd" found in John chapter 10. Gr. 6 & 7 class will find out from Colin/Karen when they get to class! Parents, ask what they learned about!

Youth continuing our journey though the book of Romans.

YABS will meet with Curtis and the topic: What it means to be a Christian.

Adult Bible Class...This Sunday we continue our study of Psalm 23.

Last Week at Holy Cross...

Sunday Attendance:	96 & 188	Total 284	('15 – 302)
Communion Attendance:	87 & 148	Total 235	('15 – 256)
Adult Bible Class:	Pupils: 48	Staff: 1	Total 49 ('15 – 53)
Youth Bible Class:	Pupils: 8	Staff: 1	Total 9 ('15 – 5)
YABS:	Pupils: 0	Staff: 0	Total 0 ('15 – 8)
Sunday School:	Pupils: 36	Staff: 13	Total 49 ('15 – 51)

Memorials: In memory of **ADEN & LORRAINE BRUBACHER** to the Lutheran Hour from Bruce & Norene Brubacher. In memory of **ROSS MUELLER** to the Lutheran Hour from Pastor Lloyd & Shirley Wentzlaff. In memory of **EARL HEBNER** to the Unified Church Budget from Bob & Ruth Ann Paetz.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, April 25 to Sunday, May 1, 2016

Monday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i>	10:30 a.m.
Tuesday	ESL, <i>Historic St. Paul's</i>	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	Knotty Ladies, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Board of Church Property, <i>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Board of Elders, <i>Confirmation Classroom</i>	7:00 p.m.
	Board of Evangelism, <i>Parlour</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.
	Church Choir, <i>Church</i>	8:00 p.m.
Friday - Sunday	EDLYA & Youth Spring Retreat, <i>Everywhere</i>	
Friday	This House, <i>Parlour</i>	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	The Sixth Sunday of 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>Triple Bible Classroom</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Youth Bible Class, <i>Church</i>	9:45 a.m.
	Holy Communion Service , <i>Church</i>	11:00 a.m.