

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

24542 Melbourne Road
Strathroy-Caradoc, ON N7G 3H5



IT IS GOD HIMSELF
WHO MADE US
WHAT WE ARE
AND GIVEN US
NEW LIVES FROM
JESUS CHRIST

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; the new has come.

BIBLE CLASS..... 9:00 a.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE..... 10:00 a.m.

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PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: We look to You, O Lord, so that we might live. We view Your victory on the cross so that we might know Your love. We witness Your sacrifice for our sake, so that we may be a witness to others about Your salvation. Keep our eyes fixed on You.

Lord lifted up on the cross, we lift our heads to see Your face.

WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU in the name of our Saviour, especially the visitors who have joined us this morning. If you do not have a church that you call home, we invite you to make Grace your spiritual home. Amid the trials and tribulations of life it's good that we can come to our Lord for strength through His Word. Please introduce yourself to the Pastor, and fill in the "Worship attendance registration" as it is being circulated.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE: Divine Service Setting 4..... p. 203
Holy Communion

HYMNS: 571; 915; 918

FIRST LESSON: Numbers 21: 4-9 (p.129)

EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 2:1-10 (p.976)

GOSPEL LESSON: John 3:14-21 (p.888)

SERMON: "God Gives Us Gifts Without Strings Attached" - John 3:14-21

PLEASE REMEMBER to bring God our regular offerings and tithes as well for the ongoing work of His Church. God calls us here to be in His glorious presence, that He may bless us. Let us commit ourselves to Him who is our forgiveness, life and salvation.

USHERS: After service, please collect the bulletins from the sanctuary and put them in the box which is located in the office. Also, please collect any paper scraps that have been left in the pews and dispose of them in the garbage cans. As well, make sure to record the names of all those attending service on the attendance sheet and give these sheets along with the offering envelopes to the pastor.

GUESTS AND HOLY COMMUNION: When life seems oppressive and burdens weigh us down, it is easy to feel alone, unloved and defeated. As the Lord of Life gives us His body and blood in the **Lord's Supper**, however; we are reminded that we are not alone, that we are deeply loved, and that in Christ we have the victory! Because the Bible bears witness to doctrinal unity in the common reception of this sacrament, the congregations of Lutheran Church-Canada have promised to practise closed communion. Guests who desire to commune are asked to speak with the pastor before the service.

PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION: You may find it helpful to read Luther's Questions and Answers on p. 329 (LSB) prior to communing at the Lord's Table today.

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

USHERS TODAY: Lorne and Susan Campbell

USHERS NEXT WEEK: Mayra Castillo

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Mike Flikkema

ALTAR GUILD: Betty Catanzariti and Anna Makish

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:



Special Needs: Walter and Donna Procknow, Else Jacobsen, John and Maria Paal, Patricia Phillips, Sandra Stewart, Imogen Strike, Frank Kleiber, Sophie Wilson, Stacy Francis and sons, John and Nancy Crowther, Ritva Kingo and family, Sarah Lawson, Keith and Alice Keller, Reiner Issendorf, Martha Fonger, David Biederman (Carole Atkinson's brother), Grace Woolner, Bill and Vicky Orlovski, Matthew Danyluk-Gascon, Earl Weiberg, Nancy Curtis, Marsha Kennedy, Shirley Kendall, Christina Hunt (Marissa Danyluk-Gascon's mother),

Janice Vandermyden, Sheila Mizon, Jenna Martinuzzi, Karen Webster (Jessalynn Webster's mother-in-law), Dennis and Sara Bradbury, Pastor and Marian Obeda, Loretta Baker (Stan Diehl's sister), Carolyn and Fred Neumann and family

Homebound: Becky Ames, Ana Greksa

Family Focus: Lloyd and Elsie Wilker; George and Carol Wilkinson; Anna Wissing; Arnold and Elizabeth Woelfle

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 30 ('17:32)

BIBLE STUDY: 5

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 5

OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS:

(from February 25th): Current 775.00; Building 50.00



NON-BUDGET GIFTS:

(from February 25th): Love Fund 20.00; Loose 3.25

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines

We are reminded of the importance of preparing men for the Holy Ministry.

BIRTHDAY CAKE AT GRACE: On Sunday, March 25th after service, you are welcome to celebrate those members who have a birthday in March. If you would like to provide a cake for the last Sunday of the month, please sign up on the sheet in the hallway.

LIFE QUOTES: "My heart goes out to those struggling with guilt from the secret sin of abortion—a burden carried by millions. These women and men should not be deprived of the forgiveness Jesus earned for them when they have a repentant heart. We need to speak up and let them know they can have the forgiveness Jesus bought for them through His life, death, and resurrection." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota - Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org (For those who have made an abortion decision, there is a Word of Hope, Lutherans For Life's post-abortion healing ministry. Call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org.)*

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES: "Thrown into the Arms of God"

(Mark 10:32-45)

Speaker of the Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

The desire to advance your own interests can alienate you from others and God. Serving others without thought of reward is God's way forward for followers of Jesus. Hear this inspirational message on 1290AM CJBK on Sunday, March 18th at 9:00 a.m. Streaming audio and pod-casts at www.lutheranhour.ca



SEDER SUPPER AT FAITH (MARCH 29th): A Seder service is being planned for Maundy Thursday, March 29th at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the Christian Seder is to help us understand the background and significance of the Passover celebration, during which our Lord Jesus instituted and gave us the blessed Sacrament of the Altar. The evening includes dinner, as well as our Maundy Thursday service. Tickets are \$4.00 per person, with a maximum cost of \$12.00/family. Tickets are now available through the church office. The cost helps us provide the meal and necessary items for this evening. To keep costs down, we also need help to prepare the meal, including items such as green salads (no dairy) and pies. A sign-up list is posted in the parish hall. We hope you will join us!

OUR HOLY WEEK SERVICES help us remember how Jesus suffered, died and rose again to save us from sin, death, and hell. We invite you to worship with us at these special services:

- Thursday, March 29th** **6:30 p.m.** Seder Service @ Faith
- Friday, March 30th** **10:00 a.m.** Good Friday Service @ Grace
- Friday, March 30th** **10:00 a.m.** Good Friday Service @ Faith
- Sunday, April 1st** **10:00 a.m.** Resurrection of Our Lord Service
with Holy Communion @ Grace
- Sunday, April 1st** **10:00 a.m.** Resurrection of Our Lord Service
with Holy Communion @ Faith



EASTER IS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY for you to invite family and friends to join us in the wonderful message of the Saviour, who destroyed death and the grave through His resurrection from the dead. Holiday times are occasions in which people are more open to the invitations that we make. Like the women who couldn't wait to tell others the good news the angel gave, "He is not here; He is risen, as He said", let us also go and share the hope that God has given us through His Son. Invite them to breakfast, too!



SANCTUARY CLEANING FOR 2018: Please consider taking a turn at cleaning our church sanctuary. Duties include vacuuming, dusting and cleaning the bathroom. A sign up list has been placed in the parish hall. What a wonderful way to participate in our family of faith.

BIBLE STUDIES AT GRACE: We encourage you to participate in our Bible Study on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. We are studying the Gospel of Mark. Come and learn about the "Good News" of our salvation through Jesus Christ.

LENTEN DEVOTION BOOKLETS: "Silent Witnesses" are still available. Please take a copy with you.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS will continue at Faith on Wednesdays at 6:20 p.m. You are welcome to attend the supper and the services to follow.

GRACE PLANNING COMMITTEE will meet this Thursday, March 15th at 6:00 p.m. at Grace. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting.

EASTER BREAKFAST AT GRACE: We will be having a pot blessing for Easter Sunday on April 1st at 8:45 a.m. Please bring a breakfast dish to share.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH AND GRACE		
Mon.	9:30 a.m.	Office Prayers / Staff Meeting
Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Pastors meet
	11:00 a.m.	Pastor Scholz at Grace
	1:00 p.m.	LWML
Wed.	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	One-day VBS (Faith)
	6:20 p.m.	Soup Supper (Faith)
	6:40 p.m.	Chimers
	7:15 p.m.	Midweek Lenten Service (Faith)
Thurs.	8:15 p.m.	Choir
	11:00 a.m.	Pastor Castillo at Grace
	6:00 p.m.	Grace Planning Committee Meeting
Sat.	8:00 am.	Men's breakfast and fellowship (Faith)
Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study (Faith & Grace)
	10:00 a.m.	Morning Worship (Faith)
	10:00 a.m.	Morning Worship (Grace)
	10:00 a.m.	God's Kids (Faith)
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School (Grace)

