

February 12, 2023



*Parable of the Sower
Phillip Medhurst Collection*

Sunday School and Bible Class, 10:00 am
Sunday Divine Service, 11:00 am

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Welcome guests and visitors.

We are glad to have you with us. For the time of Easter (Pre-Lent, Lent, and Easter), we will follow the order of Divine Service Setting One, beginning on page 151 of *Lutheran Service Book*. The bulletin insert will guide you through the service and provide you with the parts that are proper for this Sunday of **Sexagesima**.

The Season of Pre-Lent

The greatest difference between the one-year and three-year calendars comes toward the end of the Epiphany Season. The one-year calendar has three Sundays of Pre-Lent before we reach Ash Wednesday. These three Sundays serve as a countdown of anticipation. Septuagesima, the Latin word for 70th, tells us that we are within 70 days of Easter. The significance of the 70 days is a reminder of the years of exile in Babylon for the Old Testament people of God before their return to Jerusalem. Sexagesima (60th) tells us there are approximately 60 days to Easter and Quinquagesima (50th) falls 50 days before Easter. During Pre-Lent we begin to observe some the customs familiar to the Season of Lent. We silence our Alleluias and the Gloria in Excelsis, as the exiles laid down their harps by the rivers of Babylon (Psalm 137).

We receive the Lord's Supper every Sunday In joyful obedience to the teaching of Scripture, the congregations of Lutheran Church-Canada practice closed communion. We would like you to commune with us, but because of the different teachings about this sacred meal we want you to know what we believe and confess before showing your agreement as you join us in this communion meal. Guests who desire to commune with us are thus asked to speak with the pastor to arrange for a time of instruction before giving their public confirmation of what we believe and confess. Everyone who communes should fill out a communion card and leave it in the offering plate.

This Week:

Today Sunday School and Bible Class, 10am

Divine Service, 11am

Tues Circuit Pastors' Winkel at St. John's Snyder

Wed Divine Service with the seminary community, 10am

Next Sunday: Quinquagesima (50 days before Easter)

Sunday School and Bible Class, 10am

Divine Service, 11am

Call for Reports

The Church Council will be collating annual reports for distribution before our March congregational meeting. If you have one to submit, please send it before the end of February.

Coming Events

Feb 22 Ash Wednesday Divine Service, 7pm

Feb 24-26 Lutheran Young Adults Retreat at St. Luke's, Ottawa

Feb 25 Choose Life Niagara Annual Dinner at Club Italia, 6pm

Feb 26-Mar 01 Pastor at LCC/LCMS Koinonia Event

Feb 27 Mary Martha Society meeting, 1:30pm

Mar 01, 08, 15, 22, 29 Lent Vespers, 7pm

Mar 02 Council meeting

Mar 04 Andrew Hayes Organ Recital, 2:30pm at St. Thomas Anglican

Mar 05 LWMLC Niagara Zone Prayer Service, 3pm

Mar 12 Congregational meeting after the service

The Lutheran Hour

“Shine Like Stars” Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler: A social media star with a million followers can't possibly know all one million of them. However, there is one really famous Person with billions of followers Who knows and loves each one. (1 Corinthians 3:6-7). Find and listen to inspiring messages at www.lhm.org or listen live Sunday mornings at 8:30am on radio AM1380.

Lutheran Public Radio

EQUIPPING THE PRIESTHOOD OF ALL BELIEVERS... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's topics include: How to Save the West; Finding a Therapist; “Luther's Large Catechism with Annotations and Contemporary Applications; 19th-Century Lutheran Theologian Wilhelm Loehe; and more. You can listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app, and your favourite podcast provider.

Choose Life Niagara Dinner... Feb 25, 6pm at Club Italia NF

The guest speaker is Emily Albrecht of Equal rights Institute, and accomplished pro-life apologist. Details and tickets (\$50; students \$25) are available at www.ChooseLife.ca/Events or call (905) 684-7505. There will be a free interactive YOUTH seminar with Emily, on answering common pro-choice arguments from 3-5pm prior to the Annual Dinner. Sign up on the web site. Students who attend the seminar may also stay for the dinner for \$20.

Andrew Hayes Organ Recital... Mar 04, 2:30 at St. Thomas Anglican

Our organist invites you to his student solo recital: “Immersion in the Sounds of Organ” will include selections from Bach, Buxtehude, Mendelssohn, Locklair, and Gigout. Admission is free.

The Small Catechism, Owner's Manual... Wednesdays in Lent, 7pm
Luther's Small Catechism was written not only to be memorized, but also as an instruction manual for the practice of the Christian faith. At our Wednesday Vespers during Lent we will let the six chief parts of the Small Catechism guide us through repentance and faith to receive our Saviour.

Earthquake Relief in Turkey and Syria

Canadian Lutheran World Relief is calling on Canadians to pray for those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria, and to give generously to support their urgent humanitarian needs. The death toll from this tragedy has risen to over 20,000. CLWR joined forces with other Canadian charities through the Humanitarian Coalition, to appeal for funds to assist those in need and support rescue efforts. Donations can be made by phoning the CLWR office at 1-800-661-2597 Mon-Thur, 9-4, or through their web site www.clwr.org/earthquake.

Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Golf Tournament

This year's golf tournament will be held at Conestoga Golf and Country Club just north of Waterloo, on Monday, June 5. Online registration will be live in March.