

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

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Misericordias Domini *Third Sunday of Easter* 10 April 2016

Hymns: 482, 709, 634, 791

Catechism Reading

P The Creed, the Third Article

C **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.**

P What does this mean?

C **I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

In Our Prayers

Members

Ron; Frank

Family of members

Debbie (health); Diana (old age); Alex, Sarah & family; Roly (dementia); Jane (mental health); John (health); Philip (health); Rita Annis (health); Claire Annis (health)

Friends of members

Ilse Kelly (old age); Trevor (unemployed); Gus & Mae (health); Claire & Phil (health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke, breast cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Bob Waters (cancer); Caroline Deans (cancer);

Angela (tests); Janet (cancer); Richard (mental health); Sally (health); Leanne (health); Gina & family; Tim (health)

ELCE

St. David's Lutheran Church, Pr. Naumann; Wendy Nicolson (cancer); baby Christian Graham (cancer); Pr. Edge (health)

The Church of God

Lutheran Church in Southern Africa; Hill Park Baptist Church; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; Somali Christian Mission, Mohamed Gurhan

Music during the Service

Offering: J.S. Bach, Cantata 112

Goodness and mercy

Follow me throughout my life,

And I shall remain forever

In the house of the Lord;

On earth in the company of Christians

And after my death I shall be

With Christ, my Lord.

Communion: J.S. Bach, Cantata 104

Happy flock, Jesus' sheep.

The world is for you a heavenly kingdom.

Here you already taste the goodness of Jesus

And hope for the reward of faith

After a sweet sleep in death.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD

THE SMALCALD ARTICLES

PART III, ARTICLE XII: THE CHURCH

We do not agree with [the Pope] that they are the Church. They are not the Church. Nor will we listen to those things that, under the name of Church, they command or forbid. Thank God, a seven-year-old child knows what the Church is, namely, the holy believers and lambs who hear the voice of their Shepherd. For the children pray, "I believe in one holy Christian Church." This holiness does not come from albs, tonsures, long gowns, and other ceremonies they made up without Holy Scripture, but from God's Word and true faith.

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HYMN OF THE DAY: THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS LSB 709

The Hymn of the Day for Good Shepherd Sunday is a hymn on a hymn! When Jesus sang hymns with his disciples, they would have been singing from their hymnal, the Psalms—Psalm 23 included. Since this hymn is a paraphrase of Psalm 23, Christians have been singing these words for more than three thousand years! King David wrote Psalm 23, perhaps the most beloved of all the Psalms.

Our hymn pictures Jesus as the answer to David's hymn. It shows Jesus loving us; Jesus leading us to good water; Jesus shepherding us when we go astray; Jesus walking through the valley of the shadow of death with and for us; Jesus feeding us a meal in the wilderness of this life; and Jesus bringing us to eternal life. Its place in the middle of the Easter season shows the Good Shepherd rounding up His scattered Church after His resurrection. One will call to mind Jesus shepherding the disciples on the road to Emmaus, bringing the Apostles and particularly Thomas back to the fold, opening Mary's tear filled eyes to see that he is the Risen One, curing Peter's broken conscience and restoring him, appearing to his brother James and many others as the Shepherd who loves them.

Even now He gathers the scattered through the preaching of the Word and restores the lost into the fold through the great "peace be to you," of the absolution.

Rev. Aidan Sherrill

BARNES CONFERENCE—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Saviour is hosting the Barnes Conference (ELCE pastors' conference) on 26–27 April. 8 pastors are expected to be present

The pastors will stay in a hotel and be responsible for their own breakfast, and for dinner on the Tuesday.

All that the congregation is asked to provide is refreshments (coffee/tea) during the day and a cold lunch on both days. This involves providing the food, and helping serve lunch (no need to serve tea/coffee—the pastors are quite capable of that).

If you are would be willing to co-ordinate the refreshments and lunches, please speak to the pastor.

Many thanks!

Liturgical Titbits: A Clash of Times and Days 1—A Tale of Two Calendars

The Christian Church was borne out of the mixed soil of the Old Testament Scriptures, first-century Judaism and the Græco-Roman world. This mixture of influences is still with us today when it comes to measuring and marking time in the Church's life.

The worship of the Old Testament, and much of the Judaism of Palestine in the first century, operated with a lunar calendar, where the change of months was determined by the cycle of the moon. Months, and therefore festivals, would not always occur at the same time of the natural year.

This is why the chief festival of the Church, Easter, which is based on the Jewish festival of Passover, can occur on any time between 22 March and 25 April, depending on when the first full moon of the spring occurs.

On the other hand, the Romans (like us) used the solar calendar, so that months always occur at exactly the same time of the natural year. Festivals that have no Old Testament precedent but were introduced by Christians, such as Christmas, therefore have a fixed date.

Some of the seasons of the Church Year relate to fixed dates (e.g. Advent for the 4 Sundays before Christmas), some to movable dates (e.g. Lent for 40 days before Easter), and others vary depending on how the two relate (Epiphany and Pentecost).

The Church Year has kept both calendars side by side, giving us a number of fixed festivals, with Easter moving to and fro. As a result, in any given year, we might have a short Epiphany season and a long Pentecost (Trinity season), or *vice versa*.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

This week

Today	4. 30 pm	Divine Service at Brighton Mission
Wed	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
Thu	10.30 am	Bible Study (Parsonage)— Note the new time
Sat	2 pm	Service of thanksgiving & dedication at Lutheran Radio UK, Cambridge
Sun	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)

Next Month

20 Apr	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
21 Apr	10.30 am	Bible study (Parsonage)
22–24 Apr		ELCE Retreat (Launde Abbey)
24 Apr	10.30 am	Divine Service
	3 pm	Bible study at Oxford Mission
	4.30 pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
26–27 Apr		Barnes Conference
27 Apr	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Willow Tree Lodge & Merry Hall
28 Apr	10.30 am	Bible study (Parsonage)
1 May	10.30 am	Divine Service at St. Francis—NB unusual venue
	12.30 pm	Voters' Assembly (The Parsonage)
	6 pm	Youth Club

Daily Readings:

Sun:	Exodus 32:15–35 Luke 6:39–49 <i>Formula of Concord Solid Declaration VII:73–76</i>
Mon:	Ex 33:1–23 Luke 7:1–17 <i>FC SD VII:77–84</i>
Tue:	Ex 34:1–28 Luke 7:18–35 <i>FC SD VII:85–90</i>
Wed:	Ex 34:29–35:21 Ex 35:22–38:20 Luke 7:36–50 <i>FC SD VII:91–103</i>
Thu:	Ex 38:21–39:8, 22–23, 27–31 Luke 8:1–21 <i>FC SD VII:104–106</i>
Fri:	Ex 39:32–40:16 Luke 8:22–39 <i>FC SD VII:107–115</i>
Sat:	Ex 40:17–38 <i>Leviticus 1:1–7:38</i> Luke 8:40–56 <i>FC SD VII:116–123</i>
Sun:	Leviticus 8:1–13, 30–36 Luke 9:1–17 <i>FC SD VII:124–128</i>

Volunteer Rota

Today:	Music: Elias—Sunday School: Barbara—Teas: Rosemary
Next week:	Music: ?? —Sunday School: Diane—Teas: Anne

The rota is still quite empty for coming weeks. If you are able to help, please sign up on the notice board at the back of the hall.