

Our Saviour Lutheran Church

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Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity 21 August 2016

Welcome to our visitors this morning. Please sign our visitors' book and stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

We believe that in Holy Communion, we eat and drink the true body and blood of Christ. During Communion, everyone is welcome to come forward for a blessing. It is our practice to commune only those who have been confirmed in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (or a sister Church) and are under the pastoral care of this congregation. If you are visiting and would like to receive the Sacrament today, please speak to the pastor **before the service**. Thank you for honouring our beliefs.

Today's hymns: 794, 683, 708, 642

Catechism Reading

- P** What is the Office of the Keys?
- C** **The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.**
- P** Where is this written?
- C** **This is what St John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."**
- P** What do you believe according to these words?
- C** **I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.**

Volunteer Rota

Today: Music: Carol—Sunday School: Calvin & Michelle—Teas: Dot
Next week: Music: Hanna—Sunday School: Barbara & Sarah—Teas: Carol

In Our Prayers

Members

Ron; Frank; Žina

Family of members

Christopher; Debbie (health); Diana (old age); Alex, Sarah & family; Roly (dementia); Jane (mental health); John (health); Philip (health); Rita Anniss (health); Claire Anniss (health); Joan Fast (lung cancer); Doug (heart operation) & Myra; Mikko (liver failure)

Friends of members

Ilse Kelly (old age); Trevor (unemployed); Jim Ferguson (stroke); Gus & Mae (health); Claire & Phil (health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke, breast cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Bob Waters (cancer); Janet (cancer); Graham (cancer); Sally (health); Gina & family; Tim (health);

Richard (mental health); Katie (depression); Lynette Wiebusch (Alzheimer's); Jacqui (cancer); Penny (stroke)

Local Community

Caroline Deans (cancer); Leanne (health); Karen (depression); Karlton (depression); Tina (depression)

ELCE

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

The Church of God

The Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church; Fareham Baptist New Life Church; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; Somali Christian Mission, Mohamed Gurhan

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD THE APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION ARTICLE V: LOVE AND THE FULFILLING OF THE LAW

Truly, if anyone will think about it, ... He will most easily understand that we are justified not by reason or by the Law. ... For the Gospel shows another way. The Gospel compels us to make use of Christ in justification. The Gospel teaches that through Christ we have access to God through faith. It teaches that we ought to set Him as Mediator and Atoning Sacrifice against God's anger. The Gospel teaches that through faith in Christ the forgiveness of sins and reconciliation are received, and the terrors of sin and of death are overcome. Paul also says that righteousness is not of the Law, but of the promise. The Father has promised that He wants to forgive, that for Christ's sake He wants to be reconciled. This promise, however, is received through faith alone, as Paul testifies in Romans 4:13. This faith alone receives the forgiveness of sins, justifies, and regenerates. Then love and other good fruit follow. Therefore, we teach that a person is justified (as we have said above) when conscience, terrified by the preaching of repentance, is cheered and believes that for Christ's sake it has a reconciled God. "Faith is counted as righteousness [before God]" (Romans 4:3, 5). When the heart is cheered and quickened through faith in this way, it receives the Holy Spirit. He renews us, so that we are able to keep the Law, to love God and God's Word, to be submissive to

God in afflictions, to be chaste, to love our neighbour, and so on. Even though these works are far from the perfection of the Law, on account of faith they please God. Through faith we are accounted righteous, because we believe that for Christ's sake we have a reconciled God.

Paragraphs 169–172

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HYMN OF THE DAY: JESUS, THY BOUNDLESS LOVE TO ME (LSB 683)

Paul Gerhardt (1607–76) scarcely needs an introduction among Lutherans, who for generations have loved his hymns. Today's hymn of the day is actually a summary of Gerhardt's original, written by the founder of Methodism, John Wesley (1703–91). He uses a different meter from what Gerhardt chose, and from that summary the LSB contains four stanzas. Gerhardt's original had sixteen stanzas. One such missing stanza, which I have gathered from a translation other than Wesley's goes like this:

My Saviour, Thou in love and grief
Didst go to peril, death and loss,
Yea, as a murderer and thief,
Mocked, spat on, wounded on the cross;
Ah, let Thy wounds pierce deep in me
That I Thy love may always see.

The hymn speaks of God's love, which is shown in the actions of the Good Samaritan of today's Gospel. Jesus is the Good Samaritan who does what the Law cannot, binds up our wounds and places us in the church to be taken care of. There is no love that we can show to our neighbour without knowing Christ's love first. While interpreting Wesley's summary, we should keep in mind that faith receives this love by means of God's Word, as Gerhardt originally described.

Rev. Mark Preus

Bible Study on the Move (Again)

In order to make it possible for as many as possible to attend Bible study, the time is changing again.

From September, Bible study will be held on **Tuesdays at 7.30 pm** at the Parsonage. All are warmly encouraged to attend. Those members who live too far to attend in person can still participate via the internet. Please speak to the pastor about details.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Wed	10.30 am 2 pm 6.45 pm	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub) Devotion at Willow Tree Lodge & Merry Hall Divine Service—St. Bartholomew
Sun	10.30 am 4.30 pm	Divine Service (Scout Hall) Divine Service at Brighton Mission

This Month

31 Aug	10.30 am	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)
4 Sep	10.30 am 12.15 pm 6 pm	Divine Service (Scout Hall) Voters' Assembly (Scout Hall) Youth Club
6 Sep	7.15 pm 7.30 pm	Christians Together in Fareham meeting (Fareham Methodist Church) Bible study (Parsonage)
7 Sep	10.30 am	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)
11 Sep	10.30 am 4.30 pm	Divine Service (Scout Hall) Divine Service at Brighton Mission
13 Sep	7.30 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
14 Sep	10.30 am 2 pm 6.45 pm	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub) Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge Divine Service—Holy Cross Day
18 Sep	10.30 am 6 pm	Divine Service (Scout Hall) Youth Club
20 Sep	7.30 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
21 Sep	10.30 am 6.45 pm	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub) Divine Service—St. Matthew
25 Sep	10.30 am 3 pm 4.30 pm	Divine Service (Scout Hall) Bible study at Oxford Mission Divine Service at Oxford Mission

Daily Readings:

Sun:	1 Kings 1:1–4, 15–35 1 Corinthians 12:14–31 <i>Apology of the Augsburg Confession V (III):144–147 [265–268]</i>
Mon:	1 Kng 2:1–27 1 Cor 14:1–16:23 1 Cor 13:1–13 <i>Ap V (III):148–152 [269–273]</i>
Tue:	1 Kng 3:1–15 1 Kng 3:16–4:34 2 Cor 1:1–22 <i>Ap V (III):153–159 [274–280]</i>
Wed:	1 Kng 5:1–18 1 Kng 6:1–7:50 2 Cor 1:23–2:17 <i>Ap V (III):160–166 [281–287]</i>
Thu:	1 Kng 7:51–8:21 2 Cor 3:1–18 <i>Ap V (III):167–169 [288–290]</i>
Fri:	1 Kng 8:22–30, 46–63 2 Cor 4:1–18 <i>Ap V (III):170–176 [291–297]</i>
Sat:	1 Kng 9:1–9, 10:1–13 2 Cor 5:1–21 <i>Ap V (III):177–182 [298–303]</i>
Sun:	1 Kng 11:1–26 2 Cor 6:1–18 <i>Ap V (III):183–191 [304–312]</i>