

# Our Saviour Lutheran Church

The Parsonage, 65 Furzehall Avenue, Fareham, PO16 8UD

[www.oslc.org.uk](http://www.oslc.org.uk)

Pastor: Rev. Tapani Simojoki

Tel: 01329 822832 Mob: 07825 447475 e-mail: [pastor@oslc.org.uk](mailto:pastor@oslc.org.uk)

## *Quasimodo Geniti*

### Second Sunday of Easter

21 April 2019

Today's Hymns: 490, 470, 473, 482

#### Catechism

**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.**

*Turn to Confession and Absolution in the Order of Service.*

#### **Volunteer Rota**

	<i>Music:</i>	<i>Sunday School 1:</i>	<i>Sunday School 2:</i>	<i>Teas:</i>
Today:	John	Sarah	Carol	Joy
Next week:	John	??	Diane	??

## In Our Prayers

### Members

Ron; Cindy & Nikola; Žina

### Family of members

Helen (health); Holly (health); Alex, Sarah & family; Marie (health); Geoffrey (depression); Ian (Parkinson's); Claire Anniss (health); Doug & Myra (health); Jack Fast (dementia); Howard (health); Žanna (health); Rita (cancer); Steve (heart failure); Sheridan (health)

### Friends of members

Ilse Kelly (old age); Becky Varsogea (brain tumour); Claire & Phil (health); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Charlotte (cancer); John & family (cancer); Brian (cancer); David & Sue (terminal cancer); Tim (health); Lynette Wiebusch (Alzheimer's); Janet (cancer); Pauline (cancer); Sharon

(brain tumour); Jenny (health); Michael (health); Freddie & Grace (health); Anne & Richard (health); Jean (health); Albert (health); Tressey (mental health)

### ELCE

St. Peter's Lutheran Church & Bristol Lutheran Mission, Pr. Bessel; Pr. Roger and Emily Jones (health); Wendy Nicolson (cancer)

### The Church of God

Japan Lutheran Church; Somali Lutheran Church, Pr. Mohamed Gurhan; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; St. Columba CofE; Amir family, Jawid (persecution)

### Thanksgiving

Helen Kriewaldt

## Marriage Enrichment Course:Volunteers Wanted

*From Christians Together in Fareham:*

For many years, Christians Together in Fareham have run a marriage preparation course called 'Love and Cherish'.

More recently, some of the people involved have been discussing the possibility of starting a marriage enrichment course—tentatively called "From This Day Forward". The idea would be to run a 4-evening course with the final evening incorporating a celebratory meal.

We are hoping to hold our first course proper in the Autumn term. The course will be similar in style to "Love and Cherish".

**We would like to run a pilot** on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019 to ensure the course material will work. However, for this to work we will need couples prepared to attend for the day version of the course. Ideally, we are hoping to have at least *one couple from each church* attend this so that they can help us refine the course and maybe become champions for it in your congregation.

*If you are interested in taking part, please write to Paul O'Beirne ([paul@obeirne.org.uk](mailto:paul@obeirne.org.uk)) or Richard Wadsworth ([richardw@farehamcommunitychurch.com](mailto:richardw@farehamcommunitychurch.com)).*

## From the Pastor: Getting into the Catechism

Starting today, the Sunday bulletin will include quotations from the Book of Concord (the Lutheran Confessions) linked to the day's reading from the Small Catechism. Usually, they will be from the Large Catechism, but sometimes also from other writings. It's my hope and prayer that they will lead you to understand the teaching of the Catechism more deeply.

### GETTING INTO THE CATECHISM THE OFFICE OF THE KEYS

Our teachers' position is this: the authority of the Keys [Matthew 16:19], or the authority of the bishops—according to the Gospel—is a power or commandment of God, to preach the Gospel, to forgive and retain sins, and to administer Sacraments. Christ sends out His apostles with this command, “As the Father has sent Me, even so I am sending you ... Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld” (John 20:21–22). And in Mark 16:15, Christ says, “Go ... proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation.”

This authority is exercised only by teaching or preaching the Gospel and administering the Sacraments, either to many or to individuals, according to their calling. In this way are given not only bodily, but also eternal things: eternal righteousness, the Holy Spirit, and eternal life. These things cannot reach us except by the ministry of the Word and the Sacraments, as Paul says, “The Gospel ... is the power of God for salvation to everyone that believes” (Romans 1:16).<sup>10</sup> Therefore, the Church has the authority to grant eternal things and exercises this authority only by the ministry of the Word.

*The Augsburg Confession, Article 28: Church Authority, para. 5–8*

The Keys are an office and power given by Christ to the Church for binding and loosing sin [Matthew 16:19]. This applies not only to gross and well-known sins, but also the subtle, hidden sins that are known only to God. As it is written, “Who can discern his errors?” (Psalm 19:12). And St. Paul himself complains that “with my flesh I serve the law of sin” (Romans 7:25). It is not in our power to judge which, how great, and how many the sins are. This belongs to God alone. As it is written, “Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you” (Psalm 143:2). Paul says, “I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted” (1 Corinthians 4:4).

*The Smalcald Articles, Part III, Article 7: The Keys*

From Paul McCain, ed., *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2005), 58, 279.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### This Week

Today	3.30 pm	Bible study at Oxford Mission
	4.30 pm	Divine Service (Oxford Mission)
Wed		<i>St. Philip &amp; St. James (Apostles)</i>
	10.45 am	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)
	7 pm	Divine Service (St. Philip & St. James)
Thu	1.10 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
	6.45 pm	Bible study (Eastleigh)
Sat	6 pm	Barbara's 70 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party (Fareham Fire Station)
Sun	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	12.30 pm	Church Council Meeting
	6 pm	Youth Club

### Further Ahead

8 May	10.45 am	Pastor's Drop-in (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
9 May	1.10 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
	6.45 pm	Bible study (Eastleigh)
11 May		Lutheran Women's League of Great Britain Conference (St. Andrew's, Ruislip)
12 May	10.30 am	Divine Service
	3.30 pm	Bible study at Brighton Mission
	4.30 pm	Divine Service at Brighton Mission
13–15 May		Pastors' Study Week
16 May	1.10 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
	6.45 pm	Bible study (Eastleigh)

### Daily Readings:

Sun: Exodus 20:1–24 Luke 4:1–15 *Formula of Concord Solid Declaration VII:35–41*

Mon: Ex 22:20–23:13 Luke 4:16–30 *FC SD VII:42–47*

Tue: Ex 23:14–33 Luke 4:31–44 *FC SD VII:48–51*

Wed: Ex 24:1–18 Luke 5:1–16 *FC SD VII:52–58*

Thu: Ex 25:1–22 Ex 25:23–30:38 Luke 5:17–39 *FC SD VII:59–61*

Fri: Ex 31:1–18 Luke 6:1–19 *FC SD VII:62–68*

Sat: Ex 32:1–14 Luke 6:20–38 *FC SD VII:69–72*

Sun: Ex 32:15–35 Luke 6:39–49 *FC SD VII:73–76*

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