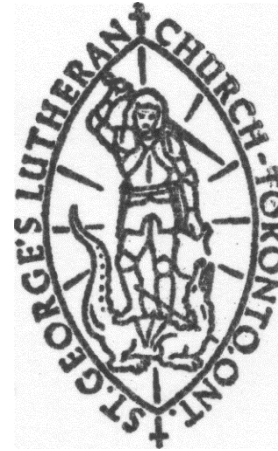


St. George's Lutheran Church
410 College Street
Toronto, Ontario M5T 1S8
Tel: 416 921 2687
www.st-georges-lutheran.com



Katharina Moeller, Pastor
2393 Gareth Road,
Mississauga, Ontario L5B 1Z4
Tel/Fax: 905 277 2631

Church - Newsletter

June 2023 – September 2023

1. Devotion

Dear members and friends of St. George's!

Psalm 23

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.**
- 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,**
- 3 he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.**
- 4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.**
- 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**
- 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life, and I will dwell
in the house of the LORD forever. AMEN**

Some of us have memorized Psalm 23 in our confirmation classes.

It is one of the favourite psalms in the Old Testament.

Today, many people do not know that the king in Israel was also called a shepherd. He was supposed to be there for the people in his country as a shepherd is for his sheep. He should show them the good and right ways and care for all of them.

He was specially to take care of those who were in need of help or sick.

When a good king reigns, that is, when a good shepherd is there, all are well, and the people can live in peace.

King David was first a shepherd, watching over his father's sheep when he was anointed king by the prophet Samuel. He trusted God and knew that God was like a shepherd to him. David referred to God as a good shepherd who is there for us people and cares for us. It is said that King David wrote this psalm.

In the New Testament we find this word of Jesus:

"I am the good shepherd; my sheep hear my voice and I know them and they follow me and I give them eternal life." (John's Gospel 10:11a, 27, 28a)

How do we read Psalm 23 in our time?

How can we understand it in our time and render it in our own words?

Many people have tried to translate this Psalm into another time or situation.

Also, in confirmation class we talked about this Psalm and tried in three groups to find new words and phrases for it.

Then we created a new version from these three versions. This was an interesting task for everyone and a new interpretation of the 23rd Psalm was created. This version was read by our confirmation students on the Sunday of the "Good Shepherd" in our church:

God is like a mother and father,

I shall not be afraid as someone takes care of me and gives me all that I need.

God gives me comfort and peace and makes me feel safe.

God forgives me. God shows me a good path through life that honours all creation.

Sheltering me from harm and difficulty when I pass through dark times,

Your hand and your hug comfort me. I trust that you are with me.

You help me resolve conflict peacefully when I have problems with others in a world that is broken too often.

You give me a purpose and make me feel important and special.

I will stay faithful to you forever. Your love will be with me for all the days to come, even in life or death I will find shelter in you.

(Confirmation class 2023)

Let us pray: God our father and mother,

we thank you for your love and that you care for every single one of us.

Thank you for providing everything we need for our daily lives.

Thank you for protecting us when nobody else can protect us.

Thank you for answering our prayers.

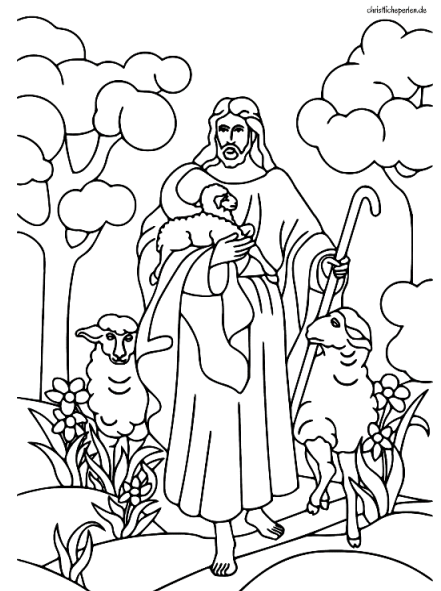
Thank you for filling our hearts with joy and happiness.

We thank you that we are allowed to return into your kingdom and live with you forever.

We will praise and thank you from the bottom of our hearts forever.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN



2. Word from the Church Council President

Dear members and friends of St. George's:

On Pentecost Sunday, we had the privilege of welcoming a wonderful group of confirmands as full members of our congregation. It has been an amazing journey to watch them grow in faith and to experience the infectious youthful energy that they bring to our services. We look forward to their continuing participation in our Church life and wish to thank Pastor Katharina, Karin Schemeit and Daniel Bornman for their leadership of this very special group. Congratulations to Shannon and Brianna Schmidt, Helena and Stelle Ballarino and Evan and Ben Swatuk!

As we look ahead to the fall, we have much to look forward to as well. On September 24, we will celebrate Confirmation anniversaries, including the 50th "Golden" Confirmation anniversary, but also 60, 70, 75 and more years after confirmation. On October 7 my daughter Kathryn will be getting married at St. George's and we also hope to welcome back Martin Neuland and his fellow musicians at a date to be announced.

Work is continuing on our building. When we got our new roof, we discovered that there were some serious issues with a masonry wall that had structural significance. A temporary fix was applied at the time to get us through the winter, but I am pleased to report that we are now commencing with the permanent repair.

As you are aware, St. George's financial sustainability remains a concern. It is not just the building repairs, but the cost to offer services and operate our church. A few members have kindly provided additional support and we are seeing an increase in rentals. We are also very grateful that Mrs. Sara Kloos who was called home last fall remembered St. George's in her will. This is a great way to secure the future of our congregation. Thank you for all your donations, they are very much appreciated! However, more is needed to ensure that we can remain in our building and we are grateful for whatever you can contribute.

We would also like to congratulate our member, Margarete Kalin-Seidenfaden, who received an honorary doctorate for her global leadership in ecological engineering and environmental reclamation. This outstanding accomplishment recently came to our attention. Margarete has also been the recipient of the Noranda Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Land Reclamation, the Teck-Cominco Environmental Award in 2005-06 and, was a Distinguished Lecturer for the Canadian Institute of Mining. We are very proud of her achievement and contribution to improving our environment. Margarete lives in Switzerland and we wish her good health and God's blessings!

Please mark your 2024 calendar for our 70th anniversary celebration on May 26. It is still a year away, but we are already making plans and Bishop Pryce has kindly agreed to preach. We are hoping for a great turnout of our members and friends and look forward to a very special service and celebration and for your support in making this happen.

As we head into the summer, we hope you can enjoy the wonderful weather and spend happy times with your family.

God's blessings to all!

Chris Duffield

3. Announcements and Information

Our Sunday services are held **every Sunday at 11 am.**

We are happy to welcome our members and all guests at our services!

After the services there is time for coffee and conversation with each other.

All are very welcome!

A sermon series is planned during the summer months.

4. Georgenkreis (conducted in German)

On Tuesday, June 13th, we want to meet at 11 a.m. at the church for the Georgenkreis.

Guests are always welcome! This summer we are planning a visit to the "Mandarin."

A date will be announced soon.

Please call Angela SenGupta if you would like to attend. Thank you!

5. Congratulations to our Confirmands

Congratulations to **Shannon and Brianna Schmidt, Evan and Ben Swatuk, and Helena and Stella Ballarino**, who were confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, in a special celebration service at our church. We wish them God's blessings on their life journey and joy in our church and in the great church of Jesus Christ all over the world. We ask God that their faith and all of our faith may grow and that we all understand more and more of God's love.



6. Golden Confirmation and Confirmation Anniversaries

On Sunday, September 24, 2023, we want to celebrate Golden Confirmation and Confirmation Anniversaries again at 11 am. All who were confirmed in 1972/73, 1962/1963, 1952/1953 or before 1948 are invited. It does not matter where you were confirmed, but the year of confirmation. We are in the process of sending out the invitations to the confirmands who were confirmed in our church 50 years ago.

We are also inviting everybody who was confirmed 1970/71, as we were not able to celebrate with you during covid.

We appreciate any help or leads. Please let us know if you belong to one of these groups!

7. Our website www.st-georges-lutheran.com

Our web site is an important component of our public relations and outreach program. A number of guests have found us using the web site, and we often receive inquiries regarding our church. You can find a link to all our video services when you click on the link to our YouTube channel, or YouTube: “**St. George’s Lutheran Church Toronto**”. You can also visit us on Instagram: @st_george_lutheran_toronto

8. Joy and sorrow in our congregation

We bid farewell to:



Mr. Philipp Engel, 89 years
Mr. Ludwig Ryl, 93 years

Jesus says: I am the resurrection and the life. John 11, 25

9. Request

Please call me, if you have any questions or if you would simply like to talk.

Please let me know if you or a family member would like a visit
or if anybody is in the hospital

Please let me know, if you have time to regularly call a congregation member.

Please don’t forget, to let us know when you move.

We want to stay in touch with one another.

Please also let me know if you want us to pray
for you or a family member or friend during our Sunday services.



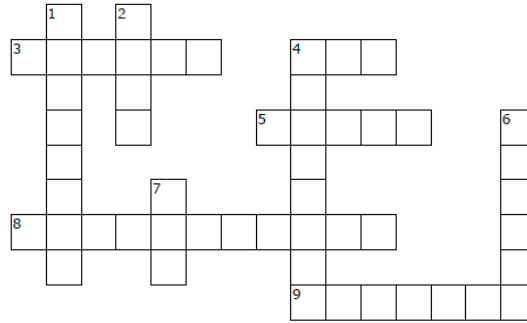
I wish you and your families a beautiful summer, that you are protected on all paths near and far and you can rest well!

God’s blessings be with you all! Many greetings!

Your pastor,

Katharina Heller

10. Childrens corner



ACROSS

3. Coming next in order after the first one
4. The creator of heaven and earth; The One we worship
5. The center and source of a person's emotions or feelings
8. A rule or law; direction or instruction to do something
9. Someone who educates or trains others

DOWN

1. A person who lives near or next to another
2. To have a deep feeling of affection or attraction for someone
4. The most important; better than all others of the same kind
6. A spoken or written reply to a question
7. A system of rules or principles

commandment	love	God	law	second
greatest	neighbor	teacher	heart	answer

Word Search

Puzzle

Mark 12:28-34

S A C R I F I C E S A U T F T
 M C S L D L K N X V M N C H Y
 R E E J W H E R D D A E G C R
 Z L C T Y V E F N T M I B O I
 I S O U I O S A R C R D B E T
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 K T J U J O T S Y W W O S T S
 L E B H C S Y H S L L W P T T

answer	greatest	Jesus	offerings	second
burnt	heard	kingdom	questions	strength
commandment	heart	love	right	teacher
given	important	neighbor	sacrifices	yourself