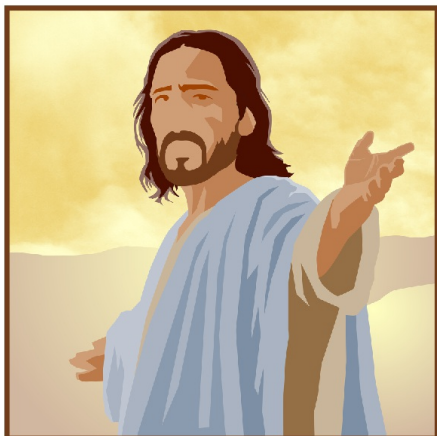




Jesus told His disciples, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me."

Matthew 16:24

Berea-by-the-Water Lutheran Church (LC-C)

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Serving Christ 54 years in Goderich & 153 years in Dashwood

A Member of
Lutheran Church-Canada



2026 THEME FOR BEREA & ZION

LIVING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22-23

The fruit of the Spirit is evidence of His work in our lives, shown by how we serve Christ by serving others. Because of the salvation Jesus bought for us, we are now free. But what **SHOULD** we do? Paul says he (and we) are "slaves" ("servants") to Christ.

By being servants and in gratitude to Jesus for His saving work, we are empowered by the Spirit working in and through us to do what He wants. We praise Him with lives well lived, and bring the message of salvation to everyone around us, bringing Him glory by our actions.

Throughout the year, we will explore the meaning of all nine fruit. Watch for these explorations on the announcement page. We hope you will revisit your understanding of God's gifts, seeing where the Holy Spirit's fruit shine through. You are a work in progress, a work of art that God has not yet finished.

BEREA & ZION GUESTS

At the end of worship we would like to invite you to please take a moment to sign our guest book in the foyer.

WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

Welcome! It's great to have you with us today! If you're here because you're looking for a church family, we're always excited to unite brothers and sisters in Christ.

Talk to Pastor John for more info.

14th Sunday after Pentecost ~ August 30, 2026

As We Gather

The time of changing seasons is a good time to begin an outdoor regimen of walking for personal wellness. Experts in the field of fitness have documented that going for a walk outdoors can bring a sense of physical betterment and mental calmness to those who engage in it on a regular basis. In the Scriptures there are numerous passages that underscore the value of spiritual walking for the Christian as well. Paul writes to the Galatians, "But I say, walk by the Spirit" (5:16), and he reminds the believers in Christ at Corinth that "We walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7). Hymn writers give poetic expression to that special walking in texts like "Let us ever walk with Jesus" (LSB 685:1) and "I want to walk as a child of the light" (LSB 411:1). May we be blessed by our walking through the Divine Service together this day!

+ WELCOME & SHARING OF PEACE +

Opening Hymn

LSB 906 O Day of Rest and Gladness

Invocation and Opening Sentences Psalm 72:18-19; 119:1; 116:5, 9

P: We come together in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

P: Blessed are those whose way is blameless,

C: who walk in the law of the LORD!

P: Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

C: I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

P: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C: Blessed be His glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with His glory! Amen and Amen!

Confession and Absolution

P: It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on Confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarize it well.

C: "Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven."

P: Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your Law. For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 26

P: Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

C: Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind.

P: For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.

C: I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.

P: I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

C: I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O Lord,

P: proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

C: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.

P: Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men,

C: in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.

P: But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

C: My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the Lord.

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now, and will be forever. AMEN

Prayer of the Day

P: *We pray.* Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: AMEN

Old Testament

Jeremiah 15:15-21

(The Lord promises deliverance to His people.)

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the

delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? Therefore thus says the Lord: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

Epistle

Romans 12:9-21

(The hallmarks of living in Christ.)

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honour. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honourable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

(Jesus calls His faithful followers to take up their crosses.)

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: These are the Word of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Profession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Hymn of the Day

LSB 861 Christ Be My Leader

Sermon

The Offerings Are Gathered

(The Offertory Prayer is sung as the offerings are brought forward)

***We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.***

***May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!***

Prayers of the Church

P: Heavenly Father, grant to Your Church pastors who say with Jeremiah, "*Hear the Word of the Lord,*" and who faithfully proclaim that Word to us. Strengthen our pastors and missionaries for the tasks to which You have called them, and care for their families. Lord in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, we lift to You all disciples of Jesus, both here at Berea and Zion and throughout the world. When evil attacks and temptations are great, may Your people not be overcome, but overcome evil with good, Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Holy Spirit, as the Church fulfils the Great Commission and proclaims Jesus as Lord and Saviour of all, bless those efforts. Give opportunities, and the words needed, to bring Jesus'

forgiveness, comfort, and peace, so that hearts would be turned to the Lord and live. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, as we see in these tense times; wars, protests, Tariffs, grandstanding, blockades, threats, violence, and senseless death and destruction we pray for all who are behind these things and those impacted by them. We pray for a turn around, a change of heart, a new direction that seek peaceful and amicable solutions that would benefit and bless all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Jesus, we lift to Your merciful and healing hands all who are ill, grieving, distraught, and for all near and dear to us who are wrestling through various things. We especially lift up... and all in our hearts. Give healing, strength, patience, and rest, in your time and will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For these, and any other things You would have us ask of You, gracious God, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: AMEN

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN

Benediction

P: The blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: AMEN

Closing Hymn LSB 851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

Announcements and Dismissal

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God.

SERVANTS IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

BEREA Organist: Bill Irwin
 Altar Guild: Kevin & Heather Ball
 Elders: Kevin Ball, Chuck Becker
 For Prayer: Lilo 226 421-2436, Elizabeth 237-3622

ZION Organist: Joanne Maguire
 Altar Guild: R.A. Luckhart / N. Rader
 Elders: Ken Rader, Lorne Koch, Tom Hayter,
 Randy Bowers, Jeff Miller
 For Prayer: Nancy 237-3653, Brenda 237-3789