

THE GUIDING LIGHT

January 2020

“Celebrating God as We Serve Others”

From Our Pastor A Few Words about Holy Communion

Recently someone was planning an event and suggested that they ask the pastor to say a few words. I have always wondered about that. Perhaps they are being optimistic. Know any pastors who speak just a few words?

The words “Holy Communion” carry a lot of meaning. What we may not know is that they refer to everything that happens in worship, not just our sharing the bread and wine, in which Christ is truly present. Holy Communion also refers to the gathering of Christ’s people together, with the Risen One in our very midst.

Luther taught that Christ is with us in the bread and wine and also in the hearts, hands and minds of all who gather on Sunday morning. Everything that happens – everyone who is around us – is a Holy Communion. Our very gathering together is a Holy Communion, as is all our worship.

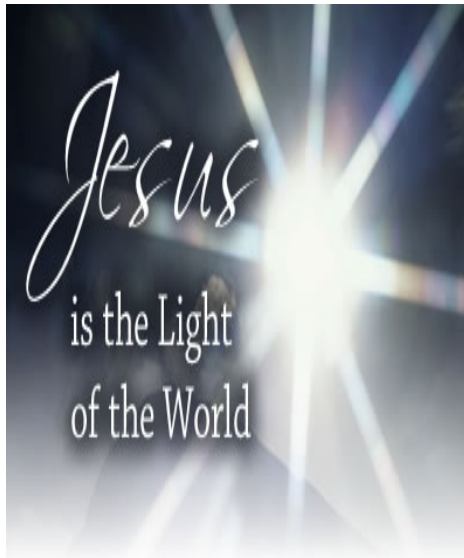
We use many words for Holy Communion – the Eucharist, the Lord’s Supper, the Sacrament of the Altar and the Mass (less common among North American Lutherans, but used often by Luther.)

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Some of those are very specific and speak only of the sacrament. Others, like, Eucharist (Praise and Thanksgiving) speak of all we do in worship, like the words “Holy Communion.” The word “Mass” comes from the last words spoke when we gather on Sundays and are sent out to be Christ’s Body in the World.

Next time you ask for a pastor to say a few words, do not be surprised if that is exactly what you get, especially if you ask me.

With Love,
 Pastor Stephen

A Note Regarding Sunday School and Worship from Pastor:

After much discussion, it was decided that, for a trial period, our Sunday School children will gather in our Place of Worship on Sundays for the gathering rite of Holy Communion, which will conclude with a short children's homily after the Prayer of the Day. This means that our children will be with us in worship for about the first 15 minutes, from 10:00 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. It will allow them to share in the beauty of our worship and connect with their community of faith, of which they are a very cherished and essential part. It also means that Confession may occur at a different time in worship than the gathering rite, to allow for a gathering rite more suitable for children, but still meaningful for adults.

With love, Pastor Stephen

Thank You

Jan and I are thankful for the many cards and gifts we have received over the Christmas season from members of Zion. We also thank the ZLW, the Golden Age Group and the parish council for their cards and gifts. Thanks also to the Pastoral care group for providing a delicious Christmas Lunch. We enjoyed the events held by various groups within our Church and we were pleased to be included and so warmly welcomed at all of them.

Pastor Stephen and Jan

Bible Study

If you are interested in being part of a Bible study group in the New Year, please let Pastor Stephen know and suggest a day and time that would work well for you. Perhaps, since we are in the Year of St. Matthew's Gospel, a study on that Gospel might prove enlightening.

Minutes

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Present: Chair Susan Dupuis, Vice Chair Ellen Vandersleen

Members: Pastor Stephen Scheidt, Jill Kellough, Diane Leeder, Joel Nieman, Cheryl Sack, Patricia Wegner, Gerry Vandersleen (treasurer), Karen Gauthier (secretary).

Absent: Rick Gerundin, Diana Wegner

Excused: Dan Dole, Scott Lange, Wilmer Verch

Opening: The meeting was opened by chair Susan Dupuis. Opening devotions were given by Susan Dupuis.

Agenda: The agenda was reviewed. Additions: Lent group, social ministry.

Motion to approve agenda: Cheryl Sack.

Seconded: Ellen Vandersleen.

Minutes: The previous council meeting minutes of October 8, 2019 were reviewed.

Motion to approve minutes: Jill Kellough.

Seconded: Pat Wegner.

Finance Report: Gerry Vandersleen brought attention to the following items from the comparative income statement and balance statement:

- Addition of grand piano fund; money in this account was moved from the general fund.
- The building fund is down due to payment for repairs completed this fall by Custom Mechanical.
- Total equity is around the same value as last year at the same time.
- Apple pie and Octoberfest surpluses are going into the general fund.
- Regular offerings, flower, and memorial offerings are down.
- Global hunger and food bank donations are also down.
- Total revenue is down.
- Committee and operating expenses are up; utilities and payroll expenses are down (total expenses are down).
- At present, the church has a positive net income.

Property Report: Gerry Vandersleen indicated that the repairs on the roof and entrance are awaiting the contractors to come back. Kevin Rutz is the new church custodian.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Stephen Scheidt gave the Pastors report as follows:

- In October- worked on the All Saints' Sunday celebration and the Installation Eucharist. Wrote the homily for All Saints' Sunday. Held a meeting with Confirmation youth and their parents to set a schedule for confirmation gatherings to the beginning of 2020. Attended the Area Reformation event in Renfrew. Met with the Dean to finalize plans for the Installation Eucharist. Met with Blaine for Worship Planning. Attended youth night at the Church, met briefly with the youth committee and offered my assistance and some ideas.
- In November- Planned for and Presided at the funeral for Wesley Rogge. Pastoral conversation and care for the family was provided. Presided at a Chapel Service. Met with Blaine for more worship planning. Met with the Worship Committee and very briefly with the Octoberfest committee. Met, several times, for pastoral and theological conversation, with Christians considering membership. Initial planning and conversations regarding Baptisms of Olive Murray and Carter Smith (December 29). We will welcome Jackie Beale and Saxon Murray (parents of Olive) on December 29. They are from Lutheran and Anglican backgrounds. Taught the Junior confirmation group for the first time (Sunday, November 10)- nine youth attended. Wrote a Prayer for the ZLW Praise Offering (Prayer of Remembrance). Offered assistance in any way needed. Numerous email conversations about upcoming events and activities in the life of our parish. Will be meeting with the Hospital Chaplain/Spiritual Care Worker for the registration and orientation tomorrow. Several visits to homebound parishioners.
- Pastor Stephen is thankful for: the choirs, for their hard work in preparing for my installation and for their beautiful music; for Blaine, who went above and beyond what was expected in providing marvelous music for my installation and worked so diligently with the choirs; for all who prepared the meal, set and cleaned up at the supper on the 10th.

Correspondence:

- Susan distributed the contact list for council members. Pastor Stephen's information was added.
- A thank you note was received from Edie Brum and family in appreciation of the work that council does, and in thanks for the gift in Don's name and condolences offered.

Committee Reports:

- Lenten group: November 3 the Lenten group ran a chili luncheon and \$365 was raised (\$150 will be donated to Careforfor Christmas gifts and \$215 to the miscellaneous fund for Rally Sunday luncheon).
- Social ministry- met last week. There are 125 We Care kits to fill and the congregation will be asked to donate. The jam jar fundraiser raised slightly over \$700.00 for the good shepherding fund. Some monies will be donated to the John Howard society and the social ministry committee is looking at having a speaker from this society speak. \$1000 for Synod mission grant has been received.

Ongoing Business:

- Mel and Nancy Davis have applied to have their membership transferred to Redeemer Lutheran Church in London. Council offered their blessings to the Davis family.
- June's retirement- Council has been planning special recognition and thanks during worship/coffee hour and gift in honour of June's many faithful and dedicated years of custodial work at Zion. A letter of request for council to hold a celebration of June's years of service to the congregation was also received from Mona Zadow. Susan has already spoken to June regarding acknowledgement during the service and cake and coffee after the service. June is okay with this.

Pastor Stephen will add something in the prayers for June's years of service as well. A monetary gift will be given to June on behalf of congregation/council. This will be done at the Sunday, November 24 service. Motion was drafted by council as follows: "Council has agreed that the church give June Popkie a monetary gift for her retirement". Moved by: Jill Kellough. Seconded by: Cheryl Sack.

- Saturday night services- offer those members who are unable to attend Sunday morning services a home visit by Pastor Stephen.
- Request from youth: message from Scott. Scott has requested that the youth news board be moved to the left side of the door to the kitchen and has requested a larger cork board (as the youth board needs to be more noticeable). Location and larger cork board okayed by council. Also looking to replace the furniture in the youth room by requesting donations and possibly have an organized supply room for youth supplies. Suggestion was made by Gerry to place an organizational cupboard in the youth room rather than a separate room.
- Congregational potluck dinner- the Sunday School children's program will be held December 15; this will also be the date for the potluck luncheon. Susan will request Jean to place info in the Guiding Light and bulletin.
- Christmas get together for council and staff- Monday, December 9 at 5:30 will be the date for the council Christmas dinner at Westwinds Restaurant. Ellen collected a donation from council members to purchase a Gift from the Heart.
- Staff Christmas gifts- discussion.
- Church offering envelopes- discussion regarding some members whose envelopes were returned and who then were upset that they did not receive their envelopes. Some members feel that their envelopes are an important indicator of their membership in the church. Susan will follow up with Jean regarding this issue.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn: Cheryl Sack.

Seconded: Dianne Leeder.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next Church Council Meeting is scheduled for December 10, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Devotions will be given by: Cheryl Sack.

W & M - Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, December 4, 2019

Celebrating God As We Serve Others

Present: Pastor Stephen, Gayle Seegmiller, Emma Rabishaw, Debbie Wegner, Blaine Sack, Koit Rull, Scott Lange, Joan Lehman

Regrets: Carol Boldt

Welcome and Opening Devotions: Gayle welcomed everyone and Debbie opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Previous Month's Minutes: Completed online

Approval of Agenda: Approve.

Committee Reports:

Pastor Stephen's report:

- Pastor Stephen met with the Learning Committee to discuss the children's participation in worship. It was decided to try a 10-15 minute involvement during the Gathering Rite on Sundays beginning in January. This trial run may extend worship time by 15 minutes but Pastor Stephen will do his best to keep the service to approximately an hour.
- Pastor Stephen met with Penny to plan the inclusion of a simplified Christmas Sunday School program within the context of our Sunday celebration of Holy Communion. The children will collect loose offering for their CLWR project, Tiny Hearts Garden, during the regular offering. Lunch will be served after the service.
- There were 2 funerals this month, one service at the funeral home and one service at Zion.
- Pastor Stephen would prefer a simpler, beautiful Gathering Rite for Christmas Eve services. People will enter into a fully lit church, prepared for our celebration...which is something we have been preparing for during Advent as we grow towards the light of Christmas Eve. Since Christmas literally means Christ's Mass, we want to make it the best, fullest, most beautiful celebration possible. He would like people, who may not come regularly, to have time to be surrounded by the beauty of this holy place, and our music, before we begin to worship.
- Pastor Stephen cannot hear the bells ringing before service. After some discussion, the committee came up with a plan to solve this issue.
- Pastor Stephen would like us to consider a Credence table to declutter the Altar. With a Credence table, only the Chalice and Paten would be brought to the altar when it is set during the Offertory.
- Gayle will speak with Diane Hammel to see if the projectionist can turn off both projectors during the sermon.

Blaine's Report

- On November 15th, a representative from Ottawa Piano came to the church to see the space, check the acoustics and help determine the best placement for a grand piano. A template was used to help visualize which size of piano would be appropriate for our space. A 5'8" piano was recommended as the best choice for the church. Ottawa Piano will give us a "church" price which is a savings of \$8,000.00. The cost is approximately \$25,200.00 . Blaine will follow up to obtain information about cleaning and getting a cover. The next step is for Blaine to go to the store in Ottawa to try out several different pianos. He plans to do this in January. It is our hope that the grand piano will be in the church by Easter.
- As per the organ contract, tuning will be done on December 12.

Sextons - Ringing of the Bell:

- Koit will email the sextons to update them on the procedure for ringing the bell.

Wedding Compensation for Blaine:

- After reviewing what other churches do for wedding compensation, the committee agreed that additional time was needed before a decision could be made.

Update on Multi-directional Microphone:

- Gayle checked about a multi-directional microphone. The 2 options available are an omnidirectional or a choir microphone. Pastor Stephen and the committee felt at this time the current mic is working so we can wait longer before deciding to purchase a new one.

Cogeco Update:

● Gayle checked with St. John's to see how they record their services for Cogeco. They use 2 cameras and a CD burner but some changes are needed in the future. They also had a member of their congregation set up their system. Gayle will contact Diane Hammel to see if she has any suggestions about how we can make a similar set up work for our church.

Miscellaneous:

- Gayle made Pastor Stephen aware of the Worship Suggestion Boxes. She will put a reminder in the bulletin about using them for hymn suggestions etc.
- The "Welcome and Contact Information" cards that are in the pews are outdated. People are more likely to connect through social media than use the cards.
- People are signing the guest book.
- Christmas trees will be in the Sanctuary by Dec. 15th, in time for the children's program.
- A notice will be placed in the bulletin asking for volunteers to usher on Christmas Eve.
- Having 2 ushers bring the offering to the front seems to be working well
- Koit will remind ushers to allow Blaine and the choir members to go first to communion.

Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m.

News From the Eastern Synod

Canadian Missions (\$350,000)

- In 2018 the Eastern Synod Mission Committee provided more than \$325,000 in grants to 39 congregations and Ministry Areas to support initiatives that are about increasing the vitality of our church, strengthening discipleship in Jesus Christ and engaging those outside our walls.
- Potential recipients can apply for grants in three categories:
 - **Compassionate Justice Initiatives** (addressing hunger and poverty related issues in the wider community, through CLWR Funds)
 - **Mission Partnership Support: Short Term and Long Term** support that comes via synodical and national gifts and endowments. The grants support applications that:
 - a) are exploratory and experimental in nature;
 - b) seek to address a challenge being faced in a particular context in relation to the Church's mission
 - c) seek to develop relationships with others in local communities and neighbourhoods;
 - d) encourage participation in God's mission in local communities and neighbourhoods.

Notes and News

Annual Reports

Annual Reports are due into the office by Wednesday, January 15, 2020. Please see future bulletins for more details on the Annual Meeting.

Used Postage Stamps Wanted

Used postage stamps to support "On Eagles Wings" who are volunteer Bible Camp teams who fly north from Yellowknife, NWT to the far reaches of the Mackenzie Delta and teach the Inuvialuit people and children about Jesus. Please leave the used stamps in the "Used Postage Stamp" box located at the front entrance of the church.

Soup and Sandwich Luncheon Sunday January 12, 2020

The Social Ministry Committee will be hosting a soup and Sandwich luncheon Sunday January 12. Suggested cost is 5.00. We will have a sign-up sheet available to help us with the food preparation. We will be looking for donations of sandwiches and cookies. The sign-up sheets will be on the bulletin board outside the kitchen serving window. Your help would be most appreciated. The proceeds from this luncheon will be directed to the Renfrew Hospice.

Come on out to help us out and warm up with a delicious hot bowl of soup on a cold January day.

Our mission is to help our neighbours.

Social Ministry Committee.



2019 REPORT ON CAMP LUTHERLYN

Bonnie Weppler

Camp Lutherlyn has had a fantastic 2019 camping and retreat season!

Under the worship theme of "Life is Good", 108 children learned about and celebrated all of the good things that God gives us every day. The kids swam, crafted, danced, ate, hiked, made new friends, sang, worshipped, experienced campfires and slept!

One of the campers provided this wonderful feedback of her experience: "I liked that your tuck was a surprise. It is fun to sleep in bunk beds, I liked that every night they have a camp fire to sing songs around and would have a game for you to play and the helped tire me out to help me sleep. In the morning after breakfast (which was cereal and muffins) would be chapel. We got to sing songs and choose one thing to do in the morning. I liked that we played a lot of sports during the day. We got to swim every day and every day had fun things to do. I enjoyed having only 6 kids with two counsellors in each cabin. I liked having a prize for being the cleanest cabin."

On the first day of the four weeks of children's camp, Public Health conducted an inspection and the Camp passed with flying colours!

Several special camps were held during the summer, some of which integrate with the regular children's camp programming. International Camp brings children from China over, some of them accompanied by parents, so that they can experience Canadian camp. The Ontario Provincial Police hosts the one-week Niigan Mosewak camp for Indigenous youth, focussing on traditional teachings, team-building, sports and building positive relationships. The Phoenix Centre in the Ottawa Valley hosts a camp for children with mental health issues.

Nineteen rental groups made use of both the Four Seasons Lodge and the cabins. Renters included the University of Guelph Track Team, family reunions, two quilting retreats (each for five days), a Church Council retreat and the Camp Lutherlyn Board retreat. Still to come, a 5-day sewing retreat, the annual Seaway Clergy retreat and a New Year's Eve booking.

Significant improvements were made this season. Hydro poles were replaced, the Ministry of the Environment conducted a site water inspection, moisture control efforts were made especially for the Four Seasons Lodge basement. During a work day on October 5, cabins were painted, new siding installed on the Four Seasons lodge, a new wood crib was built and wood was cut to fill it, a rotten beam in one of the cabins was replaced and camp winterization tasks were completed. Upcoming work includes replacing some cabin roofs and a septic inspection.

Our renters noticed the upgrades:

"It was a great retreat for all of us, and our people were talking about coming back next year already. It is a great facility and we would encourage more churches in the area to use it more often."

"WOW! Everything is wonderful here. Really appreciate the wood and kindling. The group has bought two larger pots for Four Season Lodge; we noticed that was the only thing missing in the kitchen."

Looking forward to 2020, there are 11 potential and already booked rentals including a confirmation

camp, a possible Lutherlyn Youth 50th Anniversary reunion and a Craft Guild.

At its October meeting, Camp Lutherlyn's Board resolved to move forward with creating a six suite Comfort Station (toilets). Some years back, a Legacy Fund was created and approximately \$50,000 was donated for this purpose. In November, posts marked out the frame of this new - and much needed - addition.

If you would like to donate funds to Camp Lutherlyn, consider earmarking your donation for the new comfort station or for camperships for those families who need a bit of help to ensure that their children have the opportunity to go to camp.



From the Treasurer

Zion's Income and Expenses as of December 16, 2019

The weekly amount of \$4,712.00 is needed to cover our budgeted costs. (PAR and regular offerings)

Offerings	\$205,513.95
Missions and Outreach	\$3,069.95
Other Donations	\$1,900.50
Solar Income	\$12,404.83
Other Earned Income	\$11,917.37
Fundraised for general use	\$5,383.29
Total Income to Dec.16	\$240,189.89
Benevolence Expense	\$20,050.00
Directed Gifts Expense	\$2,450.15
Committees Expense	\$6,310.88
Utilities Expense	\$19,891.27
Church Insurance	\$13,494.72
Property Maintenance	\$16,606.62
Other Operating Expense	\$41,022.67
Payroll	\$82,981.46
Benefits Expense	\$36,884.69
Expense Total to Dec.16	\$239,692.46
Net Total for 2019	\$497.43
2018 Surplus/Deficit	\$7,000.68
Net Equity to Dec.16,2019	\$7,498.11

Pre Authorized Givings (PAR) is another way to give weekly whether you're away or here. Contact the church office at 613-732-8792

Please note: Even though I show a small net for 2019 we still owe \$6000.00 for our benevolence commitment plus heat, hydro, telephone, snow removal contract and salary and benefits for Dec.31st. We fundraised \$5383.29 for general use and this has helped us towards a positive position.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Your treasurer,

Gerry Vandersleen



**Treasurer
Report**

From the Heart

A New Year's Prayer

*May God make your year a happy one!
Not by shielding you from all sorrows and pain,
But by strengthening you to bear it, as it comes;
Not by making your path easy,
But by making you sturdy to travel any path;
Not by taking hardships from you,
But by taking fear from your heart;
Not by granting you unbroken sunshine,
But by keeping your face bright,
Even in the shadows;
Not by making your life always pleasant,
But by showing you
When people and their causes need you most,
And by making you anxious to be there to help.
God's love, peace, hope and joy to you
For the year ahead.*



January 2020 Volunteers

Altar Guild

Jan 5 – Kevin & Jean Rutz
Jan 12 – Mona Zadow, Sheila Purdy
Jan 19 – Wendy Schutt
Jan 26 – Cheryl Sack

Sexton

Jan 5 – Koit Rull
Jan 12 – Don Boldt
Jan 19 – Al Kellough
Jan 26 – Diane Hammel

Ushers

Jan 5 – Kevin & Jean Rutz, Emma & Vince Rabishaw
Jan 12 – Fred & Cindy Thrasher, Allen Rose, Peter Wegner
Jan 19 – The Grosskleg Family
Jan 26 – Sonya Grife, Pam Duplessis, Al Kellough, Robbie Tremblay

Counters

Jan 5, 12, 19, 26 – Susan Dupuis, Barry & Arlene Grosskleg

Projector Operator

Jan 5 – Krista Grosskleg
Jan 12 – Rick Gerundin
Jan 19 – Kerrie Lynne Wilson
Jan 26 – Philip Vandersleen

Greeters

Jan 5 – Cheryl Sack
Jan 12 – Denise Schizkoske
Jan 19 – Diana Wegner
Jan 26 – Myrna Valliant

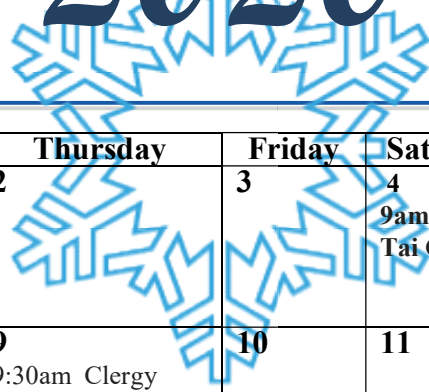
Worship Assistants

Jan 5 – Erin Dupuis
Jan 12 – Michael Lange
Jan 19 – Lorraine MacKenzie
Jan 26 – Sandra Sell





January 2020



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day – Office Closed	2	3	4 9am-12pm Tai Chi
5 10am Holy Communion 11:30am Sr Confirmation Class	6 9am Quilters 1:30pm Daily Weekday Exercise Class 6pm Tai Chi	7 9:30am Tai Chi 10am Heritage Manor Holy Communion 6:30pm Tai Chi 7pm Worship & Music Mtg.	8 9am Full Moon Country Practice 7pm Men's Choir Practice	9 9:30am Clergy Cluster 9:30am Tai Chi 7pm Mixed Choir Practice 7pm Music Healing Veterans	10	11
12 10am Holy Communion with Healing Rite 11:30am Soup & Sandwich Lunch 11:30am Jr Confirmation Class	13 9am Quilters 1:30pm Daily Weekday Exercise Class 6pm Tai Chi	14 9:30am Tai Chi 11am Staff Mtg. 6:30pm Tai Chi 7pm Council Mtg.	15 9am Full Moon Country Practice 7pm Men's Choir Practice Annual Report Submission Deadline	16 9:30am Tai Chi 10:30am Mid Week Holy Communion 7pm Mixed Choir Practice 7pm Music Healing Veterans	17	18
19 10am Holy Communion 11:30am Sr Confirmation Class	20 9am Quilters 1:30pm Daily Weekday Exercise Class 6pm Tai Chi	21 9:30am Tai Chi 11am Staff Mtg. Boys & Girls Club/Batch Cooking 6:30pm Tai Chi	22 9am Full Moon Country Practice 9:30am Pastoral Care Mtg. 7pm Men's Choir Practice	23 9:30am Tai Chi 7pm Mixed Choir Practice 7pm Music Healing Veterans	24	25
26 10am Holy Communion 11:30am Jr Confirmation Class	27 9am Quilters 1:30pm Daily Weekday Exercise Class 6pm Tai Chi	28 9:30am Tai Chi 11am Staff Mtg. 6:30pm Tai Chi	29 9am Full Moon Country Practice 7pm Men's Choir Practice	30 9:30am Tai Chi 7pm Mixed Choir Practice 7pm Music Healing Veterans	31	

BIBLE VERSE OF THE MONTH

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17