



FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
MINNEAPOLIS

Welcome to worship at Holy Cross! We are glad that you are here.

We practice open communion, welcoming all to Christ's table to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion is typically served on the second and last Sundays of each month.

Child care is available in the nursery for young children. Talk to an usher if you would like to make use of the nursery.

Hearing assist devices and large-print bulletins are available. Ask an usher if you are interested.

If you are seeking pastoral care, please speak to the pastor today, or call or email Pastor Jay at 612-722-1083 or pastorjay@holycrossmpls.org

We invite ordinary people with everyday struggles, who need a place to lighten the load.

We offer a hug if you need one, a blessing if you seek one, and a place to belong if you want one.

Hymnals: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW, the red cover hymnal), The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH, blue hardcover hymnal), and With One Voice (WOV, blue paperback cover)*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility,
confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 15:15-21

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. 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 merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will 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, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. 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; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: This is the word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 142



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28

P: The gospel according to Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of 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, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Come and Follow Me

ELW 798

APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess the faith of the church.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

*You are invited to exchange words and signs of peace
with those around you.*

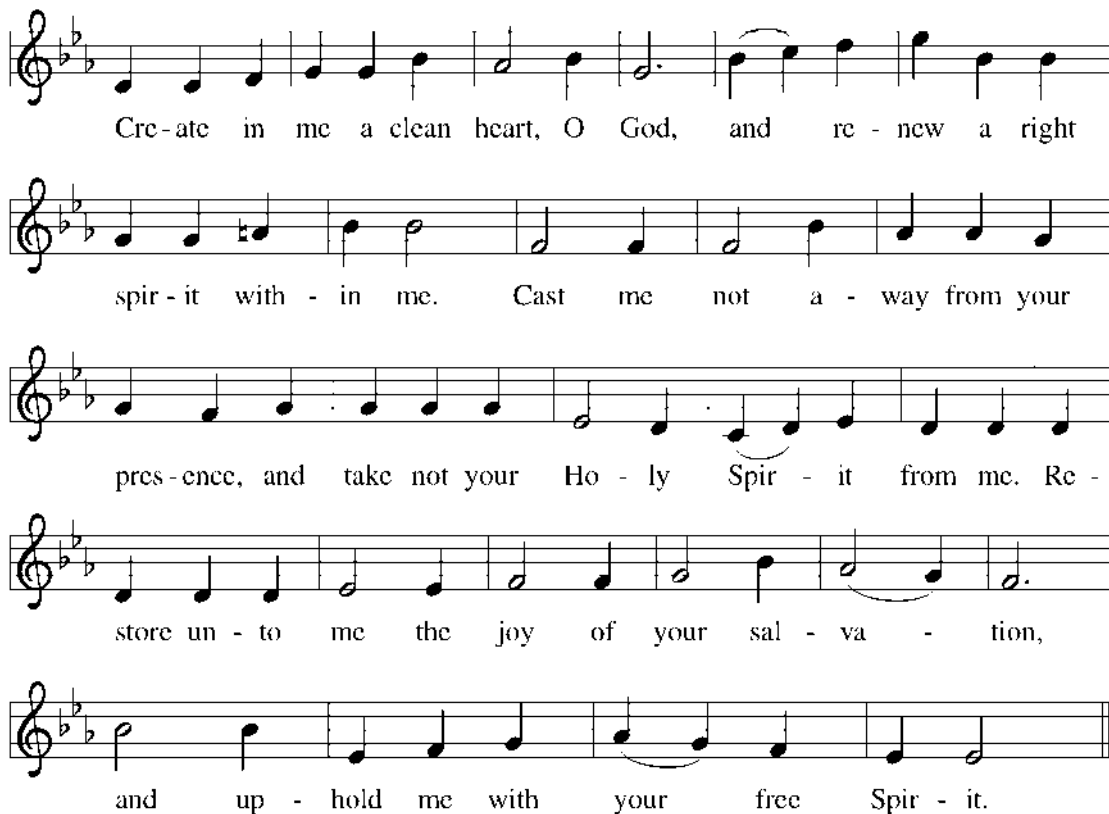
OFFERING

Morning Has Broken

arr. Ed Copeland

OFFERTORY*Create in Me*

ELW 188



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 208

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

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let Streams of Living Justice

ELW 710

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New member reception

We will officially receive new members in October. If you are interested in membership, please call the church office or talk with Pastor Jay.

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday

On Sunday, September 10, we are going to join many other ELCA congregations as one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. After our worship service, we will be making sandwiches to give to our neighbors in need at Our Savior’s Housing in Minneapolis.

To give us an idea of approximately how many helpers we might have (and the number of sandwiches we need for our own lunch), please put your name on the signup sheet in the Narthex if you think you can lend a hand.

If you have any questions, contact Jean Anderson, Mary Lange or Donna Bristol.

Saturday Bible Study

Beginning this Saturday, there will be an opportunity to join a weekly Saturday morning Bible study online. Holy Cross member Doug Morton is a retired Lutheran pastor and will lead a study on the scripture passages that will be read in worship each week. There will be a Zoom link sent via email on Tuesday so that you can join the study from your home or wherever you happen to be. If you do not receive the email, contact the church office for information on how to join. The studies will be held each Saturday morning, from 9:00 to 10:00.

Gardener of the week

Thanks to Kim Blomberg who volunteered to water this past week. Working together we can keep the gardens looking bright and flourishing. Open dates remain in September and maybe into October. Please help if you can!

Minneapolis Area Synod Women of the ELCA Fall Gathering

Women of the ELCA are coming together to learn, grow, connect and be part of something extraordinary, igniting love, and creating a ripple effect of positivity throughout our community – one act of love at a time! The gathering will be Saturday, November 4, 2023, from 9 am to 5 pm at First Lutheran Church in Columbia Heights.

You will be inspired by Bible study, worship, connection, music, and friendship. Bishop Ann Svennungsen will preside at worship and deliver a powerful message! There will be opportunities to explore mental health and loneliness, social justice, and women's imprisonment. Refreshing activities to include coffee and lunch, childcare, chair massage, and yoga. Serve through on-site impact projects and a global market. There will be onsite childcare.

Visit MplsWomenOfELCA.org to learn more and secure your spot for this transformative day!

Statistics

The attendance on Sunday, August 27, was 42. The total offering was \$5,783, including \$5 for the Building Fund, \$1 for the Synod, and \$25 for Trinity First. Additionally, \$185 was received electronically.

Birthdays this week: Dave Schlueter (9/4), Jeanne Phelon (9/4), and Paul Brooks (9/7)

Anniversary this week: Judy and Errol Sorenson (9/9)

Upcoming dates

- Sept 7 Prayer Group meeting, 1 p.m.
- Sept 7 Elders meeting, 7 p.m.
- Sept 9 Bible Study, 9 a.m. (Zoom)
- Sept 10 "God's work. Our hands." Sunday
- Sept 14 Council meeting, 7 p.m.
- Sept 17 Beginning of Sunday School and Adult Study

SERVING TODAY

Sunday, September 3

September Altar Guild: Mary Lange

Counters: Keith Lange and Mary Lange

Lector: Jean Anderson

Organist: Scott Rohr

Musician: Ed Copeland

Pastor: Rev. Jay Carlson

Audio: James Blomberg

Video: Ed Copeland

Treats: Judy Sorenson

Usher: Adam Horrmann

Next Sunday, September 10

September Altar Guild: Mary Lange

Communion Assistant: Steve McConley

Counters: Gail Klatt and Lynn Oolman

Lector: Linda Scanlon

Organist: Dr. David Langemo

Pastor: Rev. Jay Carlson

Audio: James Blomberg

Video: Ed Copeland

Treats: Sally Gorski

Usher: Lynn Oolman

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