



**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

SEPTEMBER 10, 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

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Trusting that Jesus dwells in our midst and loves us into life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

We give you thanks, Holy One, for washing us and drawing us into your community.

We give you thanks for the waters that have shaped and formed your people in every time and place:

For water that washed the earth and brought about your promises;

For water that parted so that your people could dance in freedom;

For water that quenched the thirst of your promised people;

For water that shaped a holy land;

For water that washed a foreigner clean;

For water that satisfied a woman

who did not even know she was thirsty;

For water that welcomed an outsider on the road;

For water that cleanses and makes whole;

For water that drenches us and makes us your own.

Holy One, we give you thanks that your love flows over and into and through us.

May your Spirit live in us, that we might live for others.

Thanks be to God. 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

Holy One, you stretch wide your tent that all may be welcomed in, and in Jesus you stretched out your hands in expansive love for a weary and wounded world. Help us to reach out with your own wounded hands of love, that through us your life may be known in the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Gather Your Children

Allan Mahnke

PSALM 119:33-40

³³Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me.**

SECOND READING Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 18:15-20

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Beloved, God's Chosen

ELW 648

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

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

OFFERING

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.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, giver of all good things, receive the gifts we bring, fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, that they may be used to your purposes for life and love in the world. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

TLH 26

Ho - - ly, ho - - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of

This system contains the first four measures of the piece. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Ho - - ly, ho - - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of".

Sab - a - oth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho -

This system contains measures 5 through 8. The lyrics are: "Sab - a - oth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry; Ho -".

san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,

This system contains measures 9 through 12. The lyrics are: "san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,".

Bless - ed is He, Bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord. Ho -

This system contains measures 13 through 17. The lyrics are: "Bless - ed is He, Bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord. Ho -".

san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

This system contains measures 18 through 22. The lyrics are: "san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est.".

Honor, praise, glory and thanksgiving to you, God, our loving Creator. In the beginning you reached your hands into the earth and formed humanity in your own image. You breathed into us your own breath of love and gave us hearts and hands and voices to live your loving purpose in the world. Seeing the lonely creature of earth, you created a partner that we would know the joy of community. Throughout the history of your people, you never abandoned us, but brought us into community with one another and with you, and guided us through your prophets. With endless patience and love, you called us time and again to return to life with you. In the fulfillment of all things, you came to us in Jesus, born into a human family, raised in a hometown, who gathered around himself a community formed by your love, and yearned to gather all people as a hen gathers her brood.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW p. 208

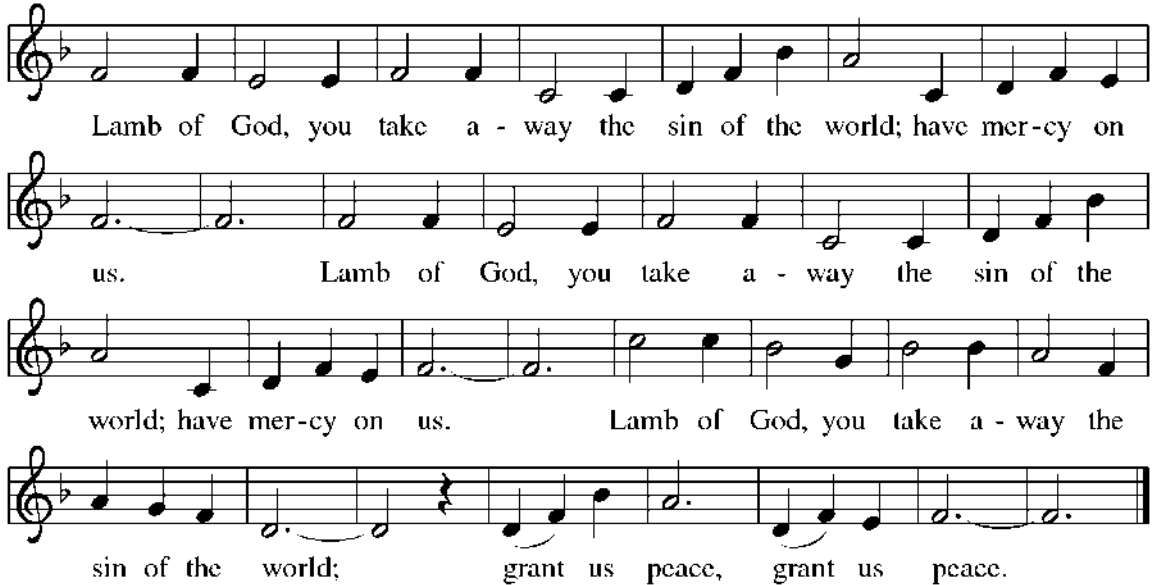
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Communion will be served continuously. All are welcome.

AGNUS DEI

ELW 195



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Around You, O Lord Jesus

arr. Thomas Keesecker

HYMN

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

ELW 470

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy Jesus, in this meal you have fed and nourished us to work in your beloved world. Send us now, filled with yourself and strengthened by your Spirit to live your love for others.

Amen.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

God's Work. Our Hands

Wayne L. Wold



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your Gos - pel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday

Today we 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.

Sunday School & Adult Study

Holy Cross will offer a new, exciting children’s ministry program starting next Sunday, September 17. Each week, students of all ages are invited to take part in 30 minutes of learning intended just for them. We’ll hear stories of faith, engage in creative projects, and have a lot of fun!

Families can attend worship together beginning at 9:30 am. Students will be invited to leave worship a little early and gather in another room with their teachers from 10:15 to 10:45 am. Parents and other caregivers may join their students or enjoy a time of coffee and conversation.

All ages are invited to join us for our Adult Study hour Sundays after the worship service from 10:45 to 11:30 am, September through May. We explore a variety of topics in a casual multi-generational setting.

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.

Saturday Bible Study

Each Saturday there is an opportunity to join a weekly Saturday morning Bible study online. Holy Cross member Doug Morton is a retired Lutheran pastor and is leading a study on the scripture passages that will be read in worship each week. There is 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 Jean Anderson 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, September 3, was 46. The total offering was \$6,719.50, including \$1,580 for the Building Fund, \$76 for the Synod, and \$150 for Trinity First. Additionally, \$500 was received electronically.

Birthdays this week: Angela Newfield (9/11) and Lyle Horrmann (9/16)

Upcoming dates

Sept 14 Council meeting, 7 p.m.

Sept 16 Bible Study, 9 a.m. (Zoom)

Sept 17 Beginning of Sunday School and Adult Study

Oct 4 Blessing of the Animals, 6 p.m.

SERVING TODAY

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

Next Sunday, September 17

September Altar Guild: Mary Lange

Counters: Adam Horrmann and Gail Klatt

Lector: Andy Tatham

Organist: Julie Wright

Pastor: Rev. Jay Carlson

Audio: James Blomberg

Video: Ed Copeland

Treats: Kim Blomberg

Usher: Andy Tatham

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