

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • JULY 14, 2024

# **CR#SS**

### Cross Lutheran Church

1945 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, Minnesota 55109 www.crosslutheranchurch.org office@crosslutheranchurch.org 651-777-1329 Reverend Scott Simmons, Pastor

### Preaching/Presiding:

Rev. Scott Simmons

### **Director of Music:** Kenneth Kusiak

### Lay Minister:

7/14 Jamie Gudknecht 7/21 Jamie Gudknecht

### Assisting Minister:

7/14 Phyllis Moser 7/21 Janice Neenan

#### Cantor:

7/14 Alternative 7/21 Peter Brown

#### Ushers:

7/14 Matt Wickoren and Sheree Kieffer 7/21 Sharon Crist and Matt Wickoren

### Acolyte:

7/14 Henry Mizinski 7/21 Kirby Doughty Crist

### Livestream Producer:

Katie Tomek

#### Altar Guild:

July: Linda Duncan and Lisa LeMay

### Coffee:

If you are interested in serving coffee following worship, please sign-up on the bulletin board between the narthex and the kitchen.

If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday Worship, sign up on the bulletin board in the back of the narthex, or contact the office.

### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

\*PRELUDE When Morning Gilds the Skies arr. Teresa Wilhelmi

\*GATHERING HYMN Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ELW 807



- Come, thou Fount of ev 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
- 2 Here I raise my Eb en e zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home. let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love, Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God; Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove. he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood. Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



### \*GREETING

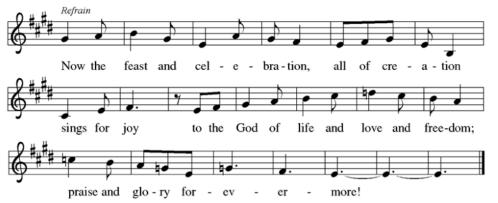
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion **SYRJEIMESPRAY** with you all. **And also with you.** Scott Simmons



### SONG OF PRAISE

### Now the Feast and Celebration

**ELW 167** 



### CANTOR:

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God. *Refrain* 

Power and riches, wisdom and might, to make us to make all

all honor and glory to Christ forever. *Refrain*For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. *Refrain* 

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Liturgy of Holy Communion, which we celebrate every Sunday, is the principal form of Lutheran worship. Here, the Holy Spirit gathers us around the means of grace—the saving Word of God and the sacraments. From the table of communion where Jesus Christ comes with forgiveness, life, and salvation, God sends us out to share the good news and to care for those in need.

The basic pattern of this liturgy—gathering, word, meal, sendingis a structure that allows for freedom and flexibility in the ways our worship may be shaped locally, while focusing on what the church holds in common. The whole people of God are joined by the same gifts of grace, for the sake of the same mission of the gospel, into the life of the one triune God.

### WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

We gather around the WORD in reading, preaching, and song, as we enter into the steadfast love of God as proclaimed through Holy Scripture.

For Lutherans, the Gospel of Christ—the Good News of what God has done in Jesus —is at the heart of our public witness and proclamation.

This Good News is received through the Gospel accounts of the apostles Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, ves, but also in the writings of Paul, John, and Peter; in the witnesses of the Old Testament prophets; the memories of the people of Israel; and through the poetry and prose of Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Proverbs and others. The Gospel is truly the Good News of Christ proclaimed from Genesis to Revelation, whenever and however it points to God's loving, redeeming, and creative power in, with, and through Jesus Christ and by the Holy Spirit. Good News indeed.

### FIRST LESSON Amos 7:7-15

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line

in the midst of my people Israel;

I will spare them no longer;

the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,

and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,

and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words.

For thus Amos has said,

'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'"

And Amaziah said **Byann 36** s**strad fast vove** the land of Judah, earn evour bread there, and prophesystem evous never again prophesysatic Rethicles for it is the king's sanct parxian 36 is steadfast the kingdom."

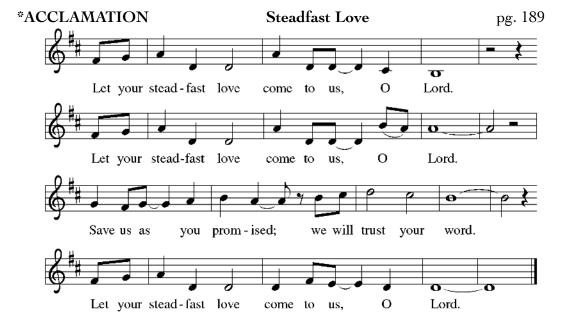


### SECOND LESSON

### Ephesians 1: 3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



### \*GOOD NEWS

Mark 6: 14-29

The Gospel according to Mark... Glory to you, O Lord.

King Herod heard of [the disciples preaching], for Jesus's name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead, and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly

### PREACHING SCRIPTURES

Here are the main biblical texts for the coming weeks:

July 14

Amos 7:7-15

Psalm 85:8-13

Ephesians 1:3-14

Mark 6:14-29

July 21

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm 23

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28

2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalm 145:10-18

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

perplexed, and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests, and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

### **SERMON**



### dd or remove from \*STATEMENT OF BELIEF

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This week we pray for:
Andrew, Marya,
Carolyn, Marilee,
Margo, Roman Joseph,
Sherry, Ray and Clara,
Dawn, Brady, Richard,
Judy, Sheree, Marv,
Dottie, BettyLu, Greg,
Kennedee, Robin,
Hailey, Jerrod, Lonna,
Heather, Joe and
Family, Kelly, Dawn L,
Michael, Sara and Mary
N.

We pray for Kelly and John, missionaries in Papua, New Guinea.

We offer continued prayers for the families of Allen Stack, Bud Nasby, Ellie Scot-Meyer, Dave Davidson, and Deb Grothe (Patty's sister).

If you have a name to add or remove from this prayer list, please contact Pastor Scott or Katie Tomek, Admin. Assistant. to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION



### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, be with you always. And also with you.

Please share a covid-friendly sign of peace with those around you.

### *MEAL*

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

### **OFFERTORY**

Consolations: #1

Franz Liszt

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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

### \*PREFACE

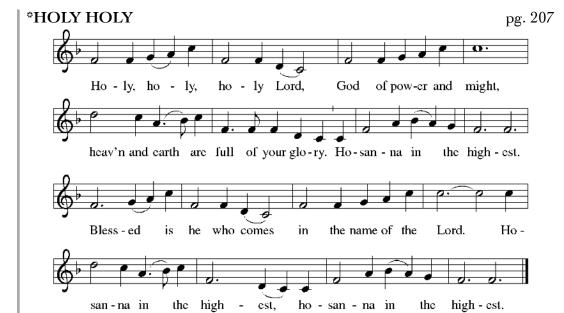
### **OFFERING**

We bring our offerings to God with grateful hearts, in confidence they will be used to support the work of the church both here and throughout the world.

In ELCA liturgy, the
Offering is set within
the context of the Meal,
for it is here that we set
the table with the fruits
of our hands—
financial offerings, yes,
but also bread and
wine which are
products of human
effort and gifts of our
gracious God. It is from
this table of blessing
that God feeds us with
the presence of Christ.

In Holy Communion, we receive the gift of Christ's presence in bread and wine (the body and blood of Jesus) through the holy promise that this gift is "for you." All who desire to receive Christ's presence in, with, and through the wine and the bread are invited to this table.

We remember God's faithfulness to God's people and God's purposes.



All are invited to proclaim the words of institution along with the presiding pastor.

### \*PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, in his death, resurrection and ascension, opened his arms to all, inviting all believers to participate in the sacred story, that...

### \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

### \*PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS

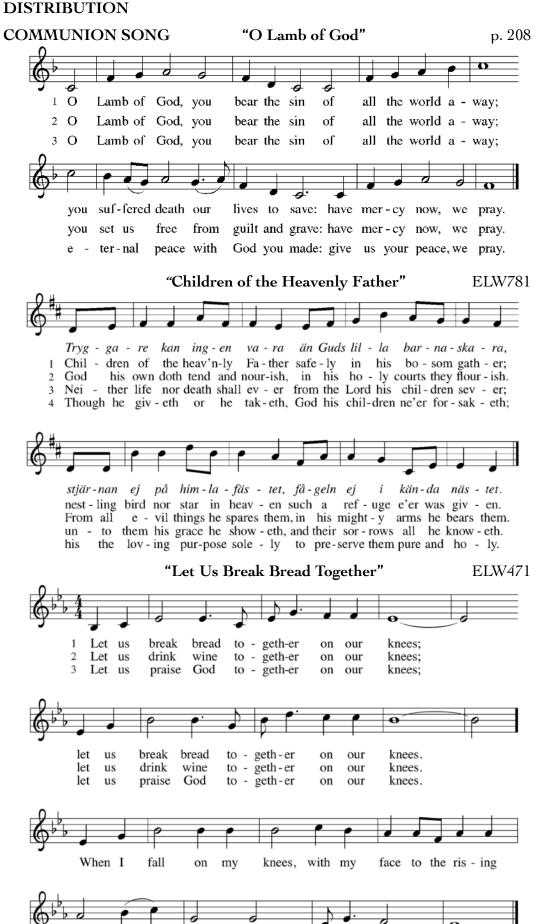
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 forever. Amen.

Today we practice continuous communion using a pouring chalice as a common cup. Ushers will invite you to proceed up the aisle towards the pastor. Please offer cupped hands to receive the bread. Proceed to the cupbearer, select an empty cup and hold it for the lay minister to fill. Please recycle your cup in the basket provided and return via the side aisle.



O

sun,

Lord,

have

mer-cy

on

me.

If you require a gluten free wafer, please tell the pastor when you approach to receive the bread. Pre-filled grape juice cups are available in the silver tray.

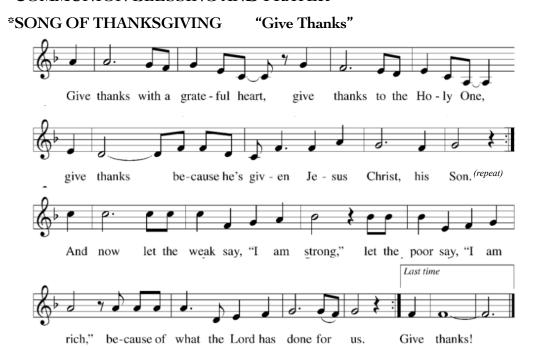
Children who are not vet communing and others wishing not to commune may receive a blessing from the pastor. Please indicate by crossing your arms over your chest.

Individual sealed communion sets are also available at the sanctuary entrance.

**ANOINTING** After communing, you may receive prayer and anointing with oil from the assisting minister in the narthex.

The Holy Spirit **SENDS** us, restored and refreshed in the Word and the Meal, to share the Good News.

### \*COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

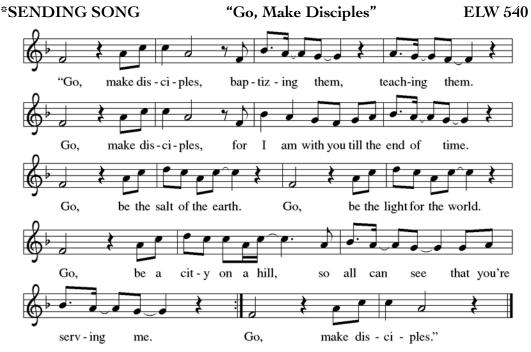


### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

### \*BLESSING OF CONFIRMATION YOUTH

\*CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING



\*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ. Thanks Be To God.

**POSTLUDE** 

March

Notebook of Anna Magdalena Bach



Next Sunday, July 21, worship will be led by Rev. Dr. Ed Treat from the Center of Addiction and Faith. You are invited to stay for adult education at 11:00 pm where Rev. Dr. Treat will explain the important work of the Center of Addiction & Faith and how faith communities can better respond to those looking for help and their loved ones.

**The Center of Addiction & Faith** is a newly formed (6 years old) nonprofit working to **Awaken Faith Communities to Address Addiction**. Addiction is the number one health crisis plaguing this country today–and it's growing worse by the day. Faith communities for the most part are not well equipped to respond to this crisis. We want to change that. We believe, with young people dying every day and loved ones grieving those terrible overdose losses, the church would do well to understand the many ways they could be helping. The Center of Addiction provides resources to faith communities--inspiration, education, and resources to better understand addiction and how to be there for those looking to the church for help.



### Early Tuesday Morning, our

confirmation youth (Amelia, Henry, and Kirby) and Pastor Scott (who is blessed to tag along) will heading to New Orleans for the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering. They'll be joining around and 20,000 Lutheran youth and adult chaperones for 5 amazing days of service and learning, fellowship, worship, and fun.

Please keep our group in your prayers and plan on blessing them in worship today as we send them off to an experience of a lifetime.

Keep an eye on the **Cross Facebook** page this week for updates from New Orleans. And plan on joining Amelia, Henry, Kirby, and Pastor Scott for a **special presentation** of their trip on **Sunday**, **July 28**, during **adult education**.

### TODAY AT CROSS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP Join us after worship in the community room for coffee and fellowship.

ADULT EDUCATION There is no adult education today. Join us for adult education next week, Sunday, July 21, as we hear from guest speaker Dr. Ed Treat about addiction and what faith can do to help address it.

BELL CHOIR. Bell choir is now practicing to play a service in August and September. Our next rehearsal will be on Thursday, July 18th, beginning with setup at 5:30 pm, then 6:00-7:30 for practice. Rehearsals will be continuing each Thursday night until mid-September, when chorus rehearsals will resume. Please contact Ken at worship@crosslutheranchurch.org with questions.

THE BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY decided, recently, to modify our liturgy so that there aren't so many long periods of standing during worship, which is an increasing issue among many. We will continue to rise and stand on those sections where it is recommended in ELCA liturgical guidelines, but have removed the indication to stand from other sections. Of course, if you would like to stand, please do. But do not feel you must on those sections of the liturgy which are not marked with an \*.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP July 14 and August 11. The Board of Lay Ministry voted to worship outside on the East Lawn, weather permitting today Sunday, July 14 and on August 11. Invite your friends and neighbors. Bring your own lawn chair or blanket and let's take advantage of the wonderful weather and tree-covered yard. Stay tuned for more details.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN packing event will be held this Saturday, July 20. Join us at 990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 136, Eagan, MN 55121 from 9:00 — 11:15 am to pack food. Immediately after, we'll be having lunch at the Gaubert home (1382 St Andrew Boulevard, Eagan, MN 55123). Space is limited. Please reserve your spot on the signup sheet in the Narthex.

HOURS THIS WEEK: Created To Be Youth Conference is happening this week! As Pastor Scott will be traveling with them, please note he has no office hours this week, and Thursday Bible study is paused until next week.

#### THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, July 14

9:30am

Sunday Worship outside

10:30am

Sunday School

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

1:00 - 5:00pm

Promesa De Dios

5:00 - 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

Monday, July 15

Office Closed

6:30-8:30pm

Fleshpots @ the Dubliner

Tuesday, July 16

6:30-8:00pm

Board of Stewardship

Wednesday, July 17

7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, July 18

8:00am-5:00pm

Katie Tomek office

3:00-4:00pm

Worship at the Shores

5:30-7:30pm

Bell Choir Rehearsal

Friday, July 19

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, July 20

9:00am - 1:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

9:00-11:15am

Feed My Starving Children

1:30pm - 4:30pm

Cross Organ Practice

5:00 - 7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, July 21

9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Sunday School

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

11:00am-12:00pm

Adult Ed

11:00a-12:00pm

Promesa De Dios

5:00 - 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim