



THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • JUNE 29, 2025

CROSS

Cross Lutheran Church

1945 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, Minnesota 55109

www.crosslutheranchurch.org office@crosslutheranchurch.org 651-777-1329

Reverend Scott Simmons, Pastor

*Indicates
congregation to stand
as comfortable.

Preaching/Presiding:
Rev. Scott Simmons

Director of Music:
Kenneth Kusiak

Organist:
Kenneth Kusiak

Livestream Producer:
Jamie Gudknecht

Lay Minister:
6/29 Patty VanderWaal
7/6 Sherry Batterman

Assisting Minister:
6/29 Janice Neenan
7/6 Jamie Gudknecht

Psalm:
6/29 Dottie Bingman
7/6 Duane Gudknecht

Ushers:
6/29 Sharon Crist and
Sheree Kieffer
7/6 Sharon Crist and
Kirby Doughty Crist

Altar Guild:
June Sherry Batterman
and Mary Vayne

Coffee:
6/29 Carolyn Border

June Counters:
Kay Olson and Linda
Duncan

If you are interested in
serving coffee following
worship, please sign-up on
the bulletin board

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.

GATHER

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

PRELUDE

VII^{ème} Improvisation

Francis Poulenc

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

For All The Children

ACS 1038



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.



Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen



wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - 'ry - one in - side.



For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -



long. May that wel - come be our song.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. **Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of † Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

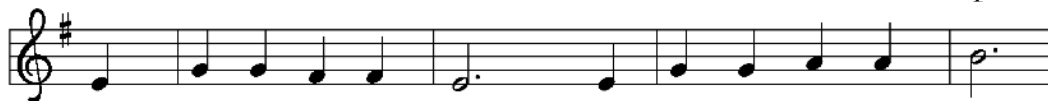
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

*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.**

*KYRIE

p.203



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

The **Kyrie** in Lutheran liturgy is a plea for mercy. Its name is derived from *Kyrie Eleison*, which in Koine Greek means "Lord, Have Mercy." Quite often, the Kyrie will include the phrase "*Kyrie Eleison*, *Christe Eleison*, *Kyrie Eleison*" which translated to English is "Lord, Have Mercy; Christ, Have Mercy; Lord, Have Mercy." The Kyrie typically occurs after the rite of Confession and Forgiveness or the Remembrance of Baptism at the beginning of worship.

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, sending—is 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.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

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1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Creator God who forms and shapes us, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

WORD

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

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 18:1-11

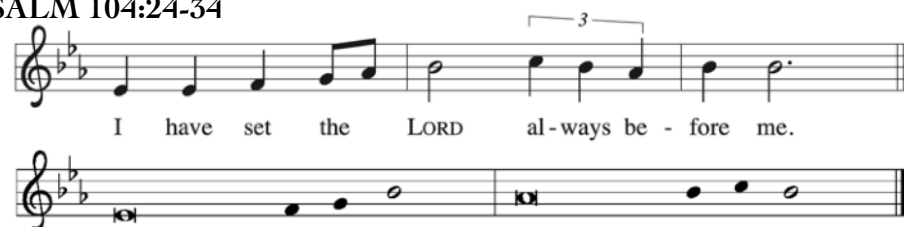
The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: "Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

Then the word of the LORD came to me: Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. And

at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 104:24-34



Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
 I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other."
All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.
 But those who run after other gods
 shall have their troubles multiplied.
I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names up on my lips. R
 O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
 it is you who hold my lot.
My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
 I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
 my heart teaches me night after night.
I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. R
 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
 my body also shall rest in hope.
For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.
 You will show me the path of life;
 in your presence there is fullness of joy,
 and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. **R**

SECOND LESSON Romans 9:19-24

You will say to me then, "Why then does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?" But who indeed are you, a human, to argue with God? Will what is molded say to the one who molds it, "Why have you made me like this?" Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one object for special use and another for ordinary use? What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience the objects of wrath that are made for destruction, and what if he has done so in order to make known the riches of his glory for the objects of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory including us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the gentiles?

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

*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, yes, 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.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p.205

Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*GOSPEL

John 15: 1-8

The holy gospel according to John. Glory to you O, Lord.

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ.

SERMON

Change My Heart, O God

Refrain

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

End

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Refrain

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
 from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
 Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
 give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
 Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

*APOSTLES CREED

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 catholic church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God in Your Mercy, Hear Our Prayer.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY

Allegretto in C

Samuel Barber

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This week we pray for:
 Marya, Sheree, baby
 Hayden, Henry, Gabby and
 baby Creed, Roman
 Joseph, Ray and Clara,
 Dawn, Brady, Richard,
 Judy, Marv, Dottie,
 BettyLu, Robin, Lonna,
 Kelly, Steve, Joetta and
 family, Rick, Pastor Brian,
 Nick, Joshua, Dean and
 Shirley

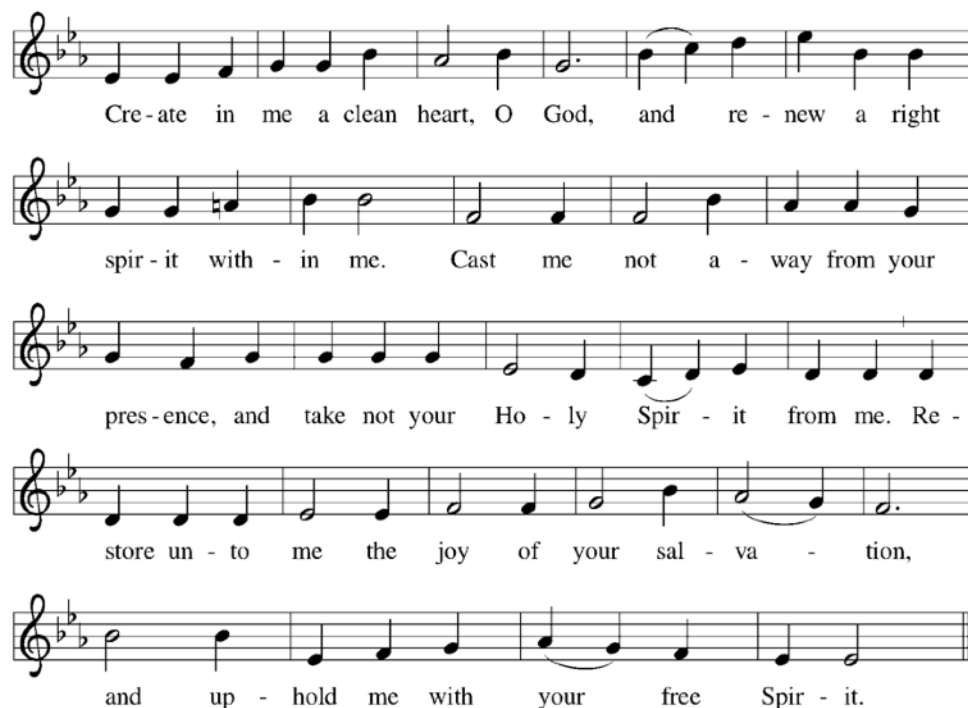
*We offer continued
 prayers for Norm Sessing
 and Matt Wickoren*

*If you have a name
 to add or remove from this
 prayer list, please contact
 Jamie Gudknecht or
 Pastor Scott.*

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*



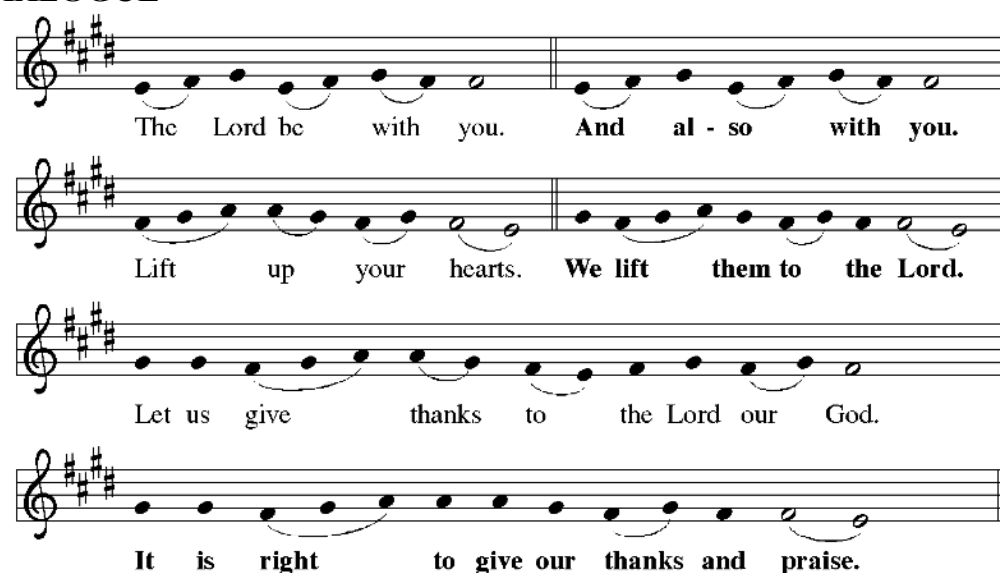
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

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**

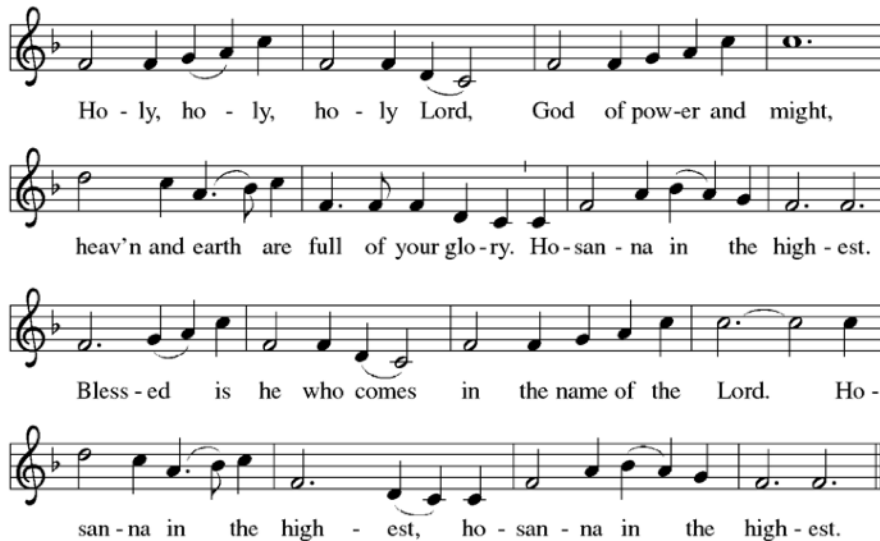
***DIALOGUE**



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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**

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



*PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

Praise to you for your presence by the Spirit and your invitation to share the sacred story:

*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

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.

Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

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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.

We give thanks and offer praise for the gifts of new life and redemption in the body and blood of Christ — which we receive in, with, and under the bread and wine of Holy Communion.

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.

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 yet 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.

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

With Matt, Norm, and your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. **Amen.**
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

p.208



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

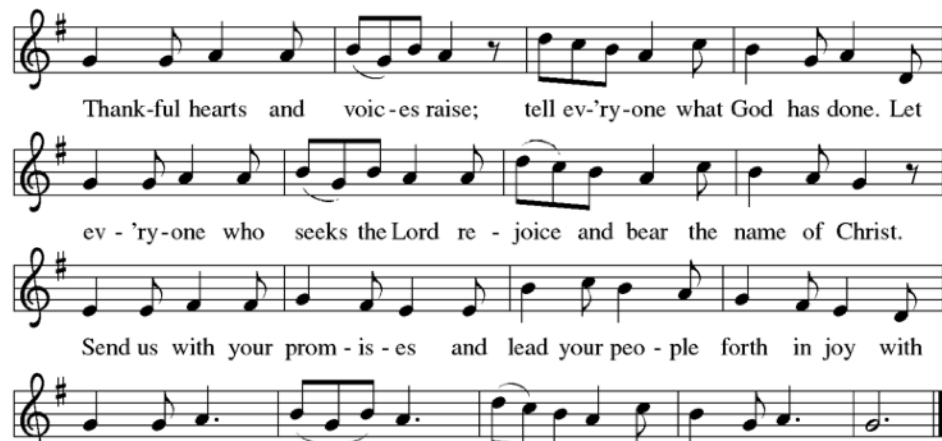
ELW 574 — *Here I Am, Lord*

ELW 423 — *Shall We Gather At the River*

DISTRIBUTION

*COMMUNION BLESSING

*SONG OF THANKS Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise ELW207



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and
proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

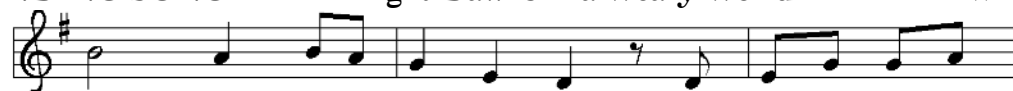
*BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Light Dawns in a Weary World

ELW726



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.



Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.

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

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fünf Variationen, HWV 434, Nr. 3

Georg Friedrich Händel

TODAY AT CROSS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP Join us after worship for fellowship and coffee.

ADULT EDUCATION will finish our exploration of the book *When Church Stops Working – a Future for Your Congregation beyond More Money, Programs, and Innovation*.
11 am in the community room

BELL CHOIR — There will be bell choir rehearsal on Thursday, July 3rd and July 17th from 6-7pm upstairs in the second floor classroom, and NO rehearsal on July 10th. We are excited to continue rehearsals as we prepare to play for a few services this summer, as well as a collaborative experience with Our Redeemer early this fall!

Anyone who is interested in ringing or has questions, please contact Ken at worship@crosslutheranchurch.org.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY is taking summer sabbath. Look for information about the return of bible study later in the year. .

UNITED SISTERS LUNCHEON, TOMORROW Monday, June 30th, 11:00am. Lunch will be provided. Come for a short meeting and a good time! All female members of Cross are welcome!

USHERS NEEDED - Interested in being an Usher? Commitment would only be once a month. Questions or interest, see Sharon Crist.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

packing event will be held

Saturday, July 19th

Join us at 990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 136, Eagan, MN. 55121 from 9:00 to 11:15am to pack food. Following packing, we will be having lunch at the Gaubert home (1382 St. Andrew Boulevard, Eagan, MN. 55123).

Please reserve your spot on the signup sheet in the Narthex. Hope everyone can join us! Questions? Contact Rita at rkdgaubert@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, June 29

9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

11:00am

Adult Education

1:00 – 5:00pm

Promesa De Dios

5:00 – 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

Monday, June 30

Office Closed

6:30pm

Fleshpots of Egypt

Tuesday, July 1

1:00-5:30pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

Wednesday, July 2

1:00-6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

7:00–7:30pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, July 3

11:30-2:30pm

Pastor Scott Office by apt

3:00-4:00pm

Worship at the Shores

6:00pm

Bell Choir Practice

Friday, July 3

1:00 - 6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

7:00pm – 10:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, July 4

9:00am – 1:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

1:30pm – 4:30pm

Cross Organ Practice

5:00 – 7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, July 5

9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

11:00am

Adult Education

1:00-5:00pm

Promesa De Dios

5:00 – 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

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www.crosslutheranchurch.org office@crosslutheranchurch.org 651-777-1329

Reverend Scott Simmons, pastor pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org 612-859-1134

Jamie Gudknecht, administrative assistant office@crosslutheranchurch.org

Kenneth Kusiak, director of music worship@crosslutheranchurch.org

Carol Hastings, financial secretary carol@crosslutheranchurch.org

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

