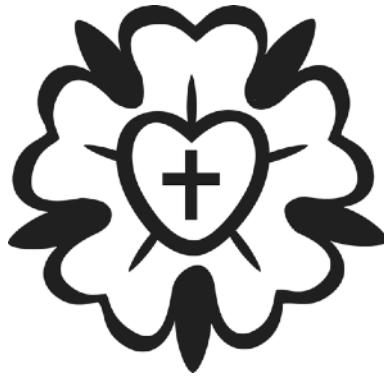




REFORMATION SUNDAY • OCTOBER 26, 2025

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:
Pastor Scott Simmons

Director of Music:
Kenneth Kusiak

Livestream Producer:
Jamie Gudknecht

Lay Minister:
10/26 Dave Olson
11/2 Sherry Batterman

Assisting Minister:
10/26 Janice Neenan
11/2 Janice Neenan

Psalm:
10/26 Katie Erickson
11/2 Peter Brown

Ushers:
10/26 Sharon Crist and
Kirby Doughty Crist
11/2 Dan and Katie
Erickson

Altar Guild:
Kay Stack and Carolyn
Border

Coffee:
10/26 Wayne and
LuAnn Lund

October Counters:
Kay Stack and Sharon
Crist

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

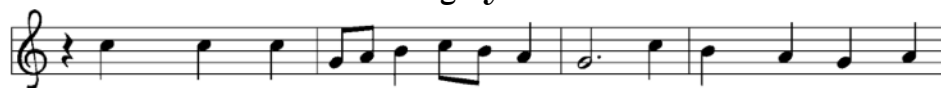
If you would like to
provide flowers for
Sunday Worship, sign-
up on the bulletin board
in the back of the
Narthex or contact the
office

GATHER

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE Wondrous King, All-Glorious Hans Arnold Metzger

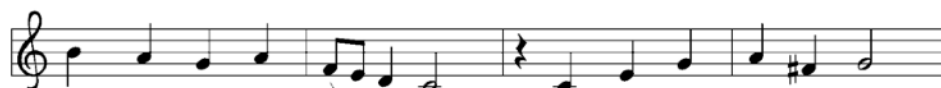
***GATHERING HYMN** A Mighty Fortress Is Our God ELW504



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of
one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God, we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.
 Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.
 You who were lost have been found.
 In the name of † Jesus, your sins are 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.**

***KYRIE**

Leader: In peace, in peace...

All:



Let us pray to the Lord, have mer- cy, Christ, ave

to Verses



mer- cy, Lord, have mer- cy.

Leader: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
 for the unity of all,

All:



Let us pray to the Lord, have mer- cy, Christ, ave

to Verses



mer- cy, Lord, have mer- cy.

Leader: For your people here, who have come to give you praise,
 for the strength to live you Word,

All:



Let us pray to the Lord, have mer- cy, Christ, have



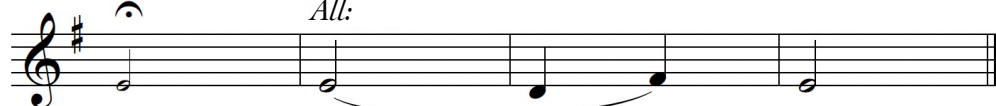
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy,

Leader:



Help, save and de - fend us, O

All:



God. A - men.

Today's Liturgy, Now the Feast and Celebration by Marty Haugen, was commissioned by the campus ministry and worshipping community of Pacific Lutheran Seminary in Tacoma, Washington. It is used throughout the ELCA.

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.

Following the Kyrie, we sing a song of joy, praise and celebration.

*NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

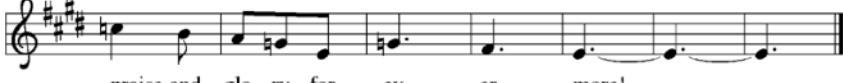
Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

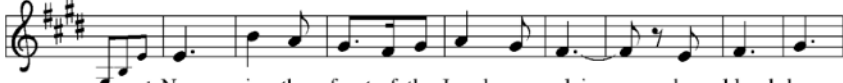


sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

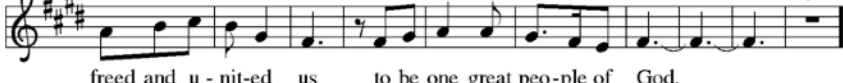


praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



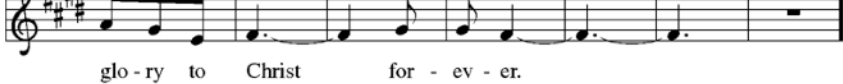
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God. *Refrain*



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain



God; to make all things new.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

Now King Hiram of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon when he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father, for Hiram had always been a friend to David. Solomon sent word to Hiram, saying, "You know that my

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

father David could not build a house for the name of the LORD his God because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him, until he put them under the soles of his feet. But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor misfortune. So I intend to build a house for the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD said to my father David, 'Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, shall build the house for my name.'

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the LORD out of the city of David, which is Zion. All the people of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the festival in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests carried the ark. So they brought up the ark of the LORD, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. The poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy place in front of the inner sanctuary, but they could not be seen from outside; they are there to this day. There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses had placed there at Horeb, where the LORD made a covenant with the Israelites when they came out of the land of Egypt. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the LORD, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.

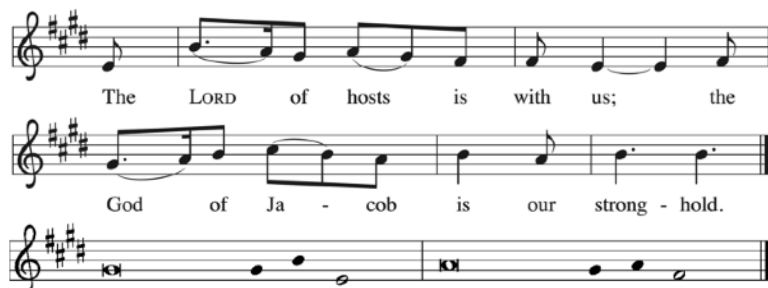
Then Solomon said,

"The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness.

I have built you an exalted house,
a place for you to dwell forever."

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

PSALM 46

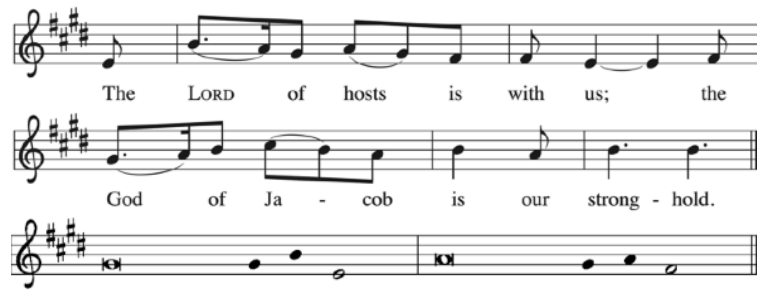


God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;
though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.



The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;

God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R

The LORD of | hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,

what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”

The LORD of | hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. **R**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

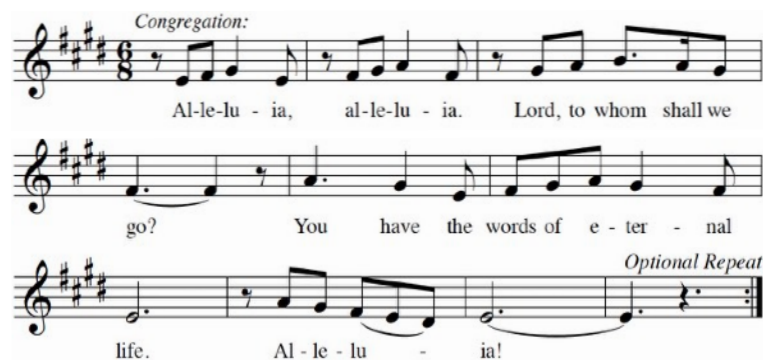
But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law?

That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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.

***GOSPEL**

John 2:19-21

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

Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body.

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

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** **Dear Christians One and All Rejoice**

ELW594



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, with ex-ul-ta-tion
2 Fast bound in Sa-tan's chains I lay, death brood-ed fierce-ly
3 O God, you saw my deep dis-tress be-fore the world's foun-
4 You said to your be-lov-ed Son: "'Tis time to have com-
spring-ing, and, with u-nit-ed heart and voice and ho-ly
o'er me, sin was my tor-ment night and day; in sin my
da-tion, and, with your mer-cy mea-sure-less, you planned for
pas-sion. Then go, bright jew-el of my crown, and bring to
rap-ture sing-ing, pro-claim the won-ders God has done, pro-
moth-er bore me. My own good works all came to naught, free
my sal-va-tion. You turned to me a fa-ther's heart; you
all sal-va-tion; from sin and sor-row set them free; slay
claim the vic-t'ry God has won, how pre-cious was our ran-som!
will a-gainst God's judg-ment fought, so firm-ly sin pos-sessed me.
did not choose the eas-y part, but gave your dear-est trea-sure.
bit-ter death for them that they may live with you for-ev-er."

***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 of grace, receive our prayer.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY **Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word** **Michael Burkhardt**

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*This week we pray for:
Lisa, Marya, Sheree,
baby Hayden, Henry,
Gabby and baby Creed,
Ray and Clara, Dawn,
Brady, Richard, Judy,
Marv, Dottie, BettyLu,
Robin, Lonna, Bruce,
Kelly, Steve, Rick,
Pastor Brian, Nick,
Joshua, Rose, Muiren,
Gayle, Dean and
Shirley, Jerod, Kimberly,
Ruthann, and Mary
Beth.*

*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

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.

*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

As The Grains of Wheat

ELW188

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in-to one to be-come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in-to one in you.
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre-a-tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain

*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful God, Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us: May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing, nurture, and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ, Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*DIALOGUE

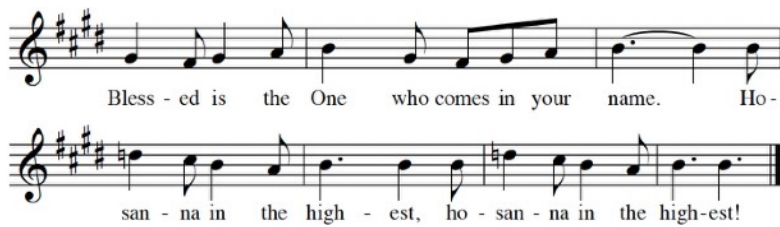
The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

*HOLY, HOLY

Congregation:

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly are you, God of pow-er and
might; Heav-en and earth are filled with your
glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est!



*PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God, creator of heaven and earth; everything, everywhere is filled with your glory. We give you thanks for the promise you gave to our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, that through their descendants they would bless the whole family on earth.

We give thanks for the steadfast love you showed to their offspring. You delivered them from Egypt, bound yourself to them in covenant, sent them liberators and prophets, brought them home from exile.

When the time had fully come, you kept your promise by sending Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and deed announced your gentle rule of justice and peace. He was obedient until death, even death on a cross.

And so, we remember how on the night of his betrayal...

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

In the same way 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 sins.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS

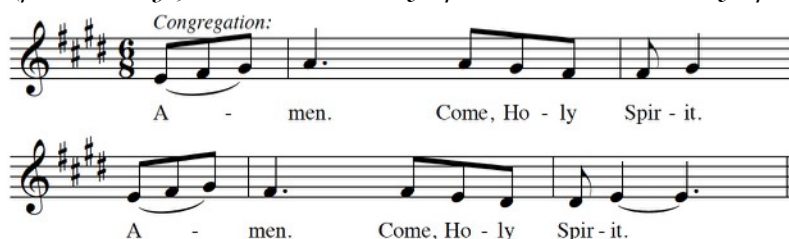
Remembering his command that we love one another,
his life and death, and his glorious resurrection and ascension
we pray for his coming again even as we pray:

(presider sings) Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen, Come, Lord Jesus



Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises
may come to us and your whole creation.
that our lives may anticipate that day when
you will make all things new.

(presider sings) Amen. Come, Holy Spirit. Amen, Come, Holy Spirit



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.

Gather our prayers with those of the apostles, prophets, martyrs, and all the faithful who have gone before us, and unite them with the unceasing prayer of the One who lives in us and in whom we live, Jesus Christ

Congregation:

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the
u - ni - ty of the Spir - it, all glo - ry and hon - or is
yours, O God, now and for ev - er.
A - men.

Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
you break the chains of ha - tred and
you are the way of jus - tice and
you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
fear:
peace:
love.

Final Stanza
Congregation or Assistant:

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONGS

ELW 342 - *There in God's Garden*

ELW 482 - *I Come with Joy*

DISTRIBUTION

*COMMUNION BLESSING

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, We give you thanks, O God, for the blessings of this table. May our lives be made new by these gifts of grace and may your live be made known through us. Amen.

SENDING

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

*SENDING SONG By Grace We Have Been Saved ACS1006

Refrain



By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak, on the

2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind, in the

3 You don't need to be a - fraid. You will



days when you are strong, rich or poor,

still - ness you will find you're a love - ly,

nev - er be a - lone. There is mer - cy,



Refrain

young or old, just lis - ten to the song.

pre - cious child, part of the great de - sign.

there is hope, and love will take you home.

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

Toccata

Johann Gottfried Walther

TODAY AT CROSS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP. Join us after worship for fellowship and coffee.

ADULT EDUCATION is taking a break this week. Look for details about upcoming classes.

PPC MEETING - Tuesday, October 28th, 6:00pm. [BRING A SPOOKY SNACK TO SHARE!](#)

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY every week at 11 am. We'll be studying the preaching text from the Narrative Lectionary year of John. All are welcome.

CROSS CHOIR — There will be no rehearsal on Thursday, October 30th. Rehearsals are held on Thursdays, from 6-7pm. Anyone interested in singing is welcome to participate. Please contact Ken at worship@crosslutheranchurch.org with questions.

BELL CHOIR — Watch for an announcement for bell choir coming soon! Anyone interested in ringing or has questions please contact Ken.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, October 26
9:30am

Sunday Worship
10:30am
Coffee Fellowship
1:00-5:00pm
Promesa De Dios
5:00 – 9:00pm
Ebenezer Elim

Monday, October 27
Office Closed

Tuesday, October 28
1:00-5:30pm
Pastor Scott office by appt
6:00pm
PPC Meeting

Wednesday, October 29
1:00-6:00pm
Pastor Scott office by appt
1:30pm
Community Market Setup
2:30-5:00pm
Community Market
7:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, October 30
11:00am
Bible Study
11:30-2:30pm
Pastor Scott Office by apt
1:00-2:00pm
Worship at the Shores

Friday, October 31
1:00 - 6:00pm
Pastor Scott office by appt
7:00pm – 10:00pm
Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, November 1
9:00am – 1:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia
1:30pm – 4:30pm
Cross Organ Practice
5:00 – 7:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, November 2
10:00am
Sunday Worship
10:30am
Coffee Fellowship
11:00am
Adult Education
1:00-5:00pm
Promesa De Dios
5:00 – 9:00pm
Ebenezer Elim



Sweatpants
Sizes: Kids L, XL
Adults: S - XXL
Fem. Hygiene Products
Pads
Bar Soap

Ongoing:
Kleenex, Black
ExpoMarkers,
Coats

Cross Lutheran Church, 1945 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, Minnesota, 55109
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



NEXT COMMUNITY MARKET

October 29th

Weaver Elementary families will be
joining us for the first time.

Set-up 1:30pm

Market 2:30pm-5:00pm

Thank you Volunteers!!!

**WHEN EVERYTHING
IS LOST, YOU
CAN ENSURE
HOPE ISN'T.**

**How your congregation
can help neighbors
in crisis.**

The Board of Stewardship will be collecting funds for the next two weeks for Lutheran World Relief. LWR works throughout the world in communities in crisis. If you would like to give, please make checks to Cross Lutheran Church and we will send one donation on behalf of the church.

“God does not need your good works, but your neighbor does”

Martin Luther

United Sisters Meeting

Monday,
November 17th
11:00am

and
Potluck