

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • OCTOBER 5, 2025

**CROSS**

Cross Lutheran Church

1945 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, Minnesota 55109

[www.crosslutheranchurch.org](http://www.crosslutheranchurch.org) [office@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto: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:**  
10/5 Phyllis Moser  
10/12 Sherry/Peter

**Assisting Minister:**  
10/5 Janice Neenan  
10/12 Phyllis Moser

**Psalm:**  
10/5 Duane Gudknecht  
10/12 Katie Erickson

**Ushers:**  
10/5 Dan and Katie  
Erickson  
10/12 Sharon Crist and  
Carolyn Border

**Altar Guild:**  
Kay Stack and Carolyn  
Border

**Coffee:**  
10/5 No Volunteers

**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*

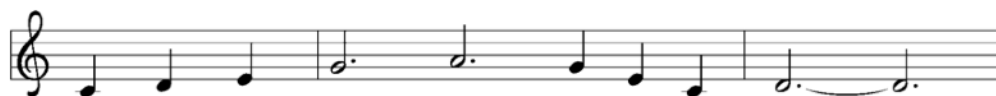
## GATHER

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

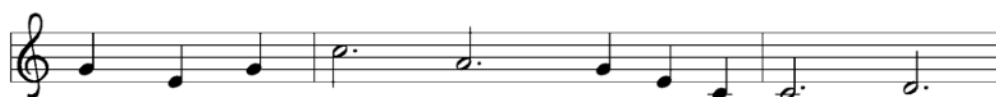
PRELUDE      How Great Thou Art [O STORE GUD]      Robert A. Hobby  
\*GATHERING HYMN      Morning Has Broken      ELW556



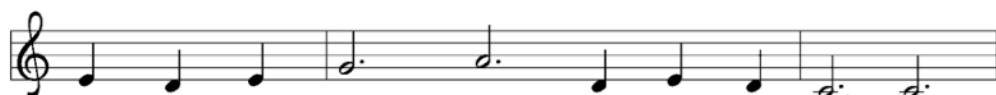
1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.  
Let us confess our sin to God who is faithful and just and who has promised to  
forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*silence for reflection and examination*

Most merciful God, have mercy on us. We confess to you that we have  
sinned against you and our neighbor in thought, word, and deed, by what  
we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not trusted you  
with our whole heart; we have not loved one another in deed and truth.  
In your compassion forgive our sin and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ  
our light and our truth. Amen

With joy, I proclaim to you that Almighty God, rich in mercy, abundant in love,  
forgives you all your sin and grants you newness of life in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

## \*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, have  
mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy.

*to verses*

*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, have  
mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy.

*to verses*

*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.

*to verses*

*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



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



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



*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy provider, despite your people's hardened hearts you gave them manna when they were hungry. Soften our hearts, and make us grateful for your marvelous gifts. 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

### Exodus 16:1-12

The whole congregation of the Israelites set out from Elim and came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

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

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD."

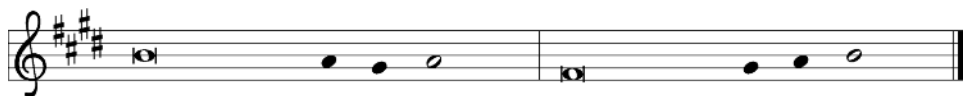
Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.' " And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.' "

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

#### PSALM 37:1-9



Com - mit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD.



Do not be provoked by | evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

**For they shall soon wither | like the grass,  
and like the green grass | fade away.**

Put your trust in the LORD | and do good;  
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

**Take delight | in the LORD,  
who shall give you your | heart's desire. R**

Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust | in the LORD,  
and see what | God will do.

**The LORD will make your vindication as clear | as the light  
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.**

Be still before the LORD and wait | patiently.  
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers,  
the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

**Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.**

For evildoers shall | be cut off,  
but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- | sess the land. **R**

## SECOND LESSON

## Exodus 16:13-18

But Moses said to the LORD, “O my Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor even now that you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.” Then the LORD said to him, “Who gives speech to mortals? Who makes them mute or deaf, seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? Now go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to speak.” But he said, “O my Lord, please send someone else.” Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, “What of your brother Aaron, the Levite? I know that he can speak well; even now he is coming out to meet you, and when he sees you his heart will be glad. You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you what you shall do. He indeed shall speak for you to the people; he shall serve as a mouth for you, and you shall serve as God for him. Take in your hand this staff, with which you shall perform the signs.”

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

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

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

### \*GOSPEL

### John 6:51

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

[Jesus said]: “**I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.**”

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

## SERMON

### \*HYMN OF THE DAY

### All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

ELW461

1 All who hun - ger, gath - er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.  
2 All who hun - ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.  
3 All who hun - ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.  
Come from rest-less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.  
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.

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.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
 Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.  
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

### \*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 we pray, Open Our Hands in Love.

### MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY      Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me      [ADORO TE DEVOTE]  
 arr. K. Lee Scott

\*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS      As The Grains of Wheat      ELW188



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.

### 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, Kelly,  
 Steve, Rick, Pastor  
 Brian, Nick, Joshua,  
 Rose, Muiren, Gayle,  
 Dean and Shirley,  
 Jerod, Gavin, and Pat  
 and her family.

*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*

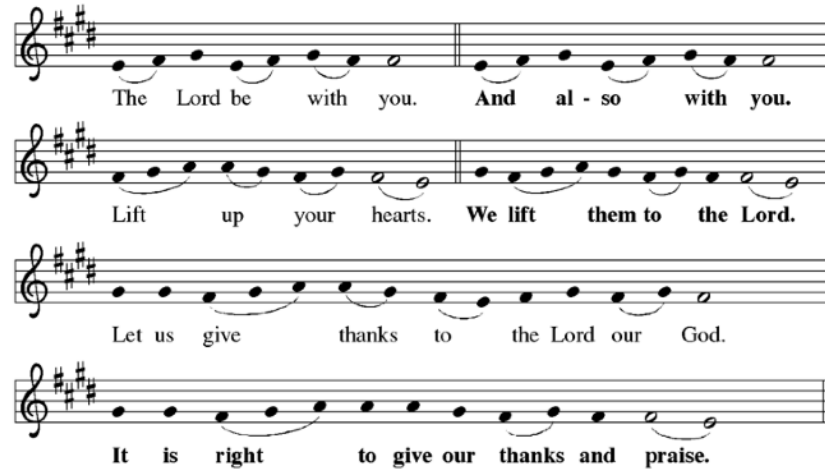


## \*OFFERING PRAYER

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



### \*PREFACE

#### \*HOLY, HOLY

*Congregation:*



### \*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...

*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.*



## \*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

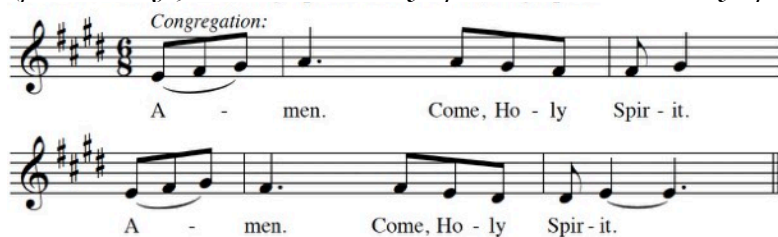
Remembering his command that we love one another,  
his life and death, and his glorious resurrection and ascension  
we pray for his coming again even as we pray:

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

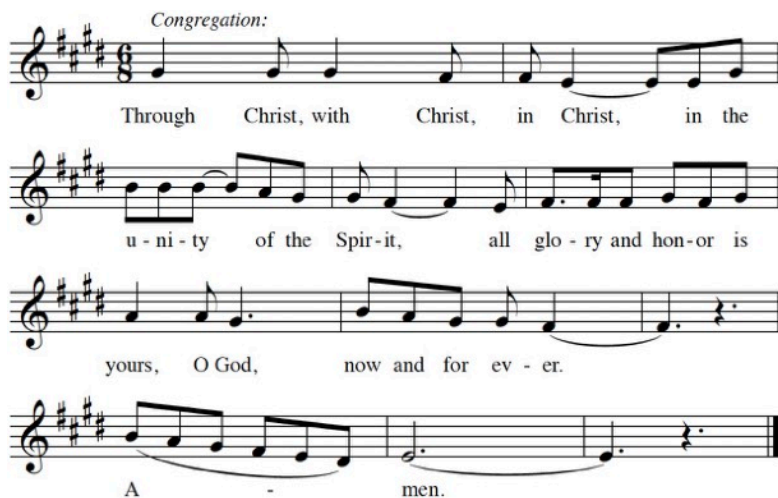


Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises  
may come to us and your whole creation.  
that our lives may anticipate that day when  
you will make all things new.

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



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



**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.

Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

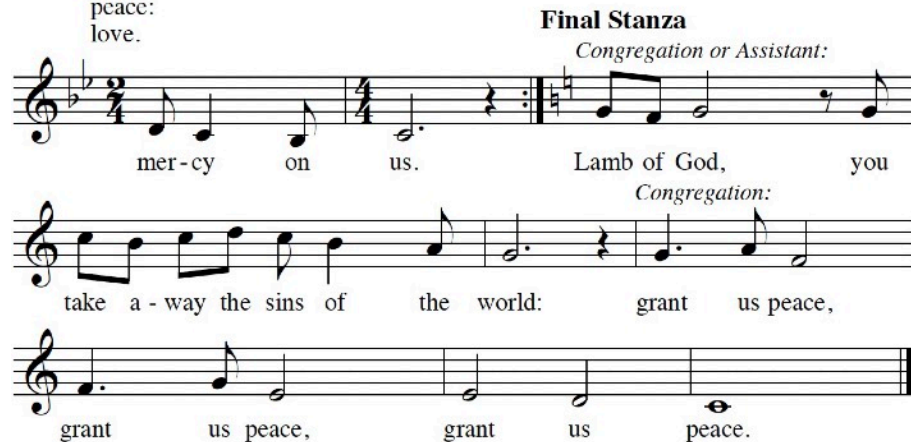
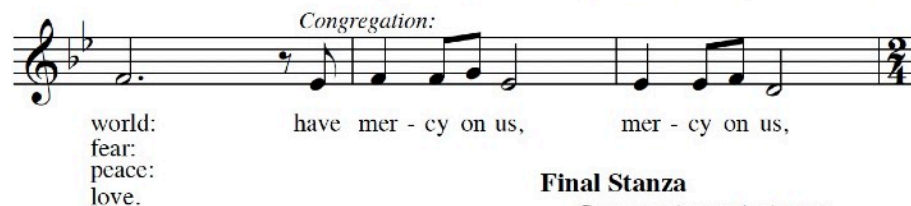
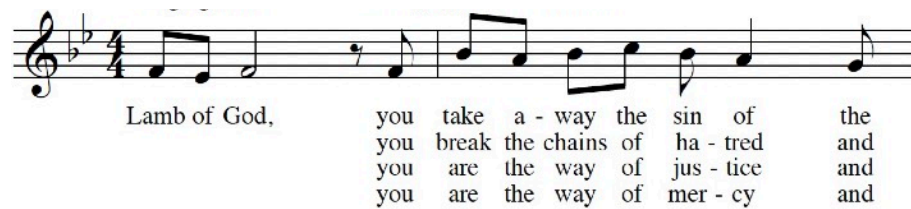
Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.

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



## COMMUNION SONGS

ELW 485 — *I Am the Bread of Life*

ELW 856 — *How Great Thou Art*

## 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.

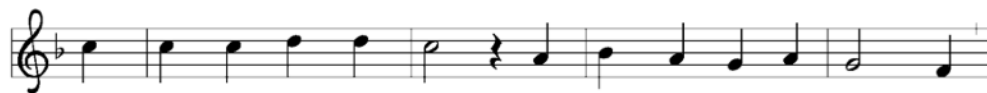
## SENDING

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

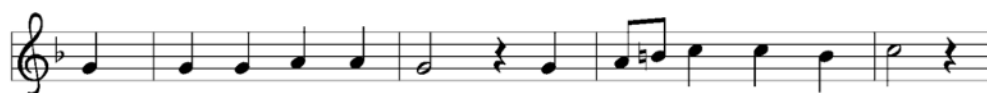
\*SENDING SONG      God Be With You Till We Meet Again      ELW536



1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voice - es,  
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,  
3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-ther now be giv - en,



who won-drous things has done, in whom this world re-joice - es;  
with ev-er joy-ful hearts and bless-ed peace to cheer us,  
the Son, and Spir-it blest, who reign in high-est heav-en,



who, from our moth-ers' arms, has blest us on our way  
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per-plexed,  
the one e-ter-nal God, whom earth and heav'n a-dore;



with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Sonata LI

Domenico Cimarosa

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

## TODAY AT CROSS

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

**ADULT EDUCATION** continues today with *Lessons from Dietrich Bonhoeffer—In a House Divided and a World on Fire*: a six week look at the life, ministry, and theology of one of the most influential Lutheran pastors and theologians of the 20th century. Join us in the north side Community room from 11 am–noon.



**LAY MINISTRY MEETING** - Tuesday, October 7th at 4:00pm

**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 9th. Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, October 16th from 6-7pm. Anyone interested in singing is welcome to participate. Please contact Ken at [worship@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:worship@crosslutheranchurch.org) with questions.

**CROSS CLEANUP DAY**, Saturday, October 25, 1:30 pm–4:00 pm. An old saying goes: "cleanliness is next to Godliness." Let's find out together. All are invited; many are hoped for. Wear your best work clothes and bring a friend — the more the merrier.

## NEXT COMMUNITY MARKET October 29th



### Fall Launching Pad Items

Sweatpants

Sizes: Kids L, XL

Adults: S - XXL

Fem. Hygiene Products  
Pads

Bar Soap

Ongoing:

Kleenex, Black

ExpoMarkers,  
Coats

## THIS WEEK AT CROSS

**Sunday, October 5**  
9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

1:00-5:00pm

Promesa De Dios

5:00 – 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

**Monday, October 6**

Office Closed

**Tuesday, October 7**

1:00-5:30pm

Pastor Scott office by appt  
4:00pm

Lay Ministry Meeting

**Wednesday, October 8**

1:00-6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt  
7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

**Thursday, October 9**

11:00am

Bible Study

11:30-2:30pm

Pastor Scott Office by apt  
1:00-2:00pm

Worship at the Shores

**Friday, October 10**

1:00 - 6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt  
7:00pm – 10:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

**Saturday, October 11**

9:00am – 1:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

1:30pm – 4:30pm

Cross Organ Practice

5:00 – 7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

**Sunday, October 12**

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

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Reverend Scott Simmons, pastor [pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org) 612-859-1134

Jamie Gudknecht, administrative assistant [office@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@crosslutheranchurch.org)

Kenneth Kusiak, director of music [worship@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:worship@crosslutheranchurch.org)

Carol Hastings, financial secretary [carol@crosslutheranchurch.org](mailto:carol@crosslutheranchurch.org)

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

