

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 23, 2025

## **CR#SS**

### 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

**Livestream Producer:** Jamie Gudknecht

### Lay Minister:

11/23 Dave Olson 11/25 Duane Gudknecht 11/30 Phyllis Moser

Assisting Minister: 11/23 Phyllis Moser 11/30 JaniceNeenan

### Psalm:

11/23 Duane Gudknecht 11/30 Peter Brown

#### Ushers:

11/23 Sharon Crist and Kirby Doughty Crist 11/30 Dan and Katie Erickson

### Altar Guild:

Jamie Gudknecht and Sharon Crist

### Coffee:

11/23 Sherry Batterman

### **November Counters:**

Sherry Batterman and Diana Border

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

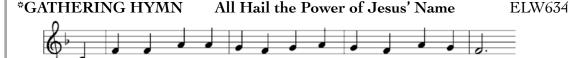
If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday Worship, sign up on the bulletin board in the back of the narthex, or contact the office.

Today's Liturgy, Now the Feast and Celebration

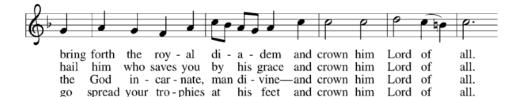
### **GATHER**

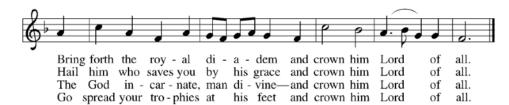
### The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! [CORONATION] Jean Langlais



- All hail the pow'r of Je sus'name! Let an gels pros-trate fall;
- 2 O seed of Is rael's cho-sen race now ran-somed from the fall,
- 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da-vid's line, whom Da vid Lord did call-4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,





- 5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe on this terrestrial ball to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.
- 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall! We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God, you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.

We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom

of your faithful promises.

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance,

trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.

Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken,

renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

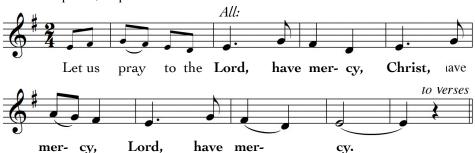
Hear the good news:God the Faithful One loves you, + in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. Amen.

### \*GREETING

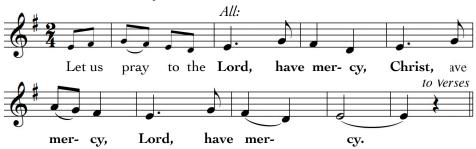
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

### \*KYRIE

Leader: In peace, in peace...



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



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



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



### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of hope, How often have we found ourselves in exile, separated from your presence! Restore us, and let us find you when we seek you. 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 29:1, 4-14

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses

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

and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let the prophets and the diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to your dreams that you dream, for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, says the LORD.

For thus says the LORD: Only when Babylon's seventy years are completed will I visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

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-1y of God,

he holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall 1 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-1 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

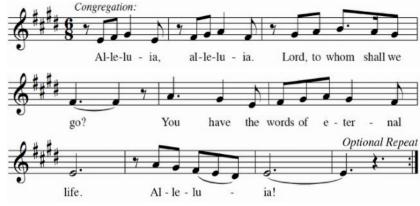
### Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



\*GOSPEL

John 14:27

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

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you O Christ.

### **SERMON**

peace in

Peace be

for

with you, full and free,

him

sin - ners found

# \*HYMN OF THE DAY Peace to Sooth Our Bitter Woes ELW381 1 Peace, to soothe our bit - ter woes, God in Christ on us be-stows; 2 Peace with - in the church still dwells in our wel-comes and fare-wells; Je - sus bought our peace with God with his ho - ly, pre-cious blood; and through God's bap - tis - mal pow'r peace sur-rounds our dy - ing hour.

is

the gos - pel's joy - ful sound.

now and through e - ter - ni - ty.

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.

### \*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.

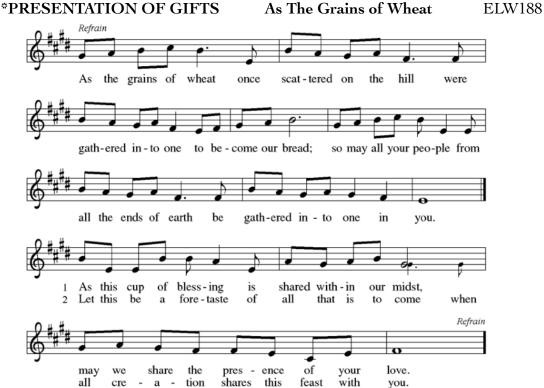
### MEAL

God feedsd us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

**OFFERTORY** 

Jesus, meine Zuversicht

Johann Sebastian Bach



### \*OFFERING PRAYER

cre

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.

you.

shares

### **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, Kimberly, Gayle, Dean and Shirley, Jerod. Ruthann, Mary Beth, Stacey and Cristina.

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 handsfinancial 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

### \*GREAT THANKSGIVING

with you.

praise.

# \*DIALOGUE The Lord be with you. And al - se

right



to give our thanks and

\*PREFACE

### \*HOLY, HOLY



\*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 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.

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

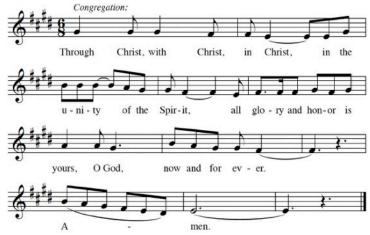


Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that all of your promises may come to us and your whole creation that our lives may anticipate that day when you will make all things new.

(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



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.

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.

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 SONGS**

ELW660 — Lift High the Cross ELW616 — Jesus, Remember Me

### DISTRIBUTION

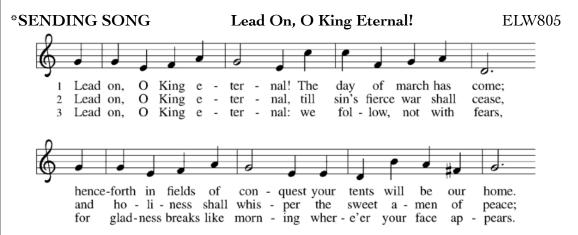
### \*COMMUNION BLESSING

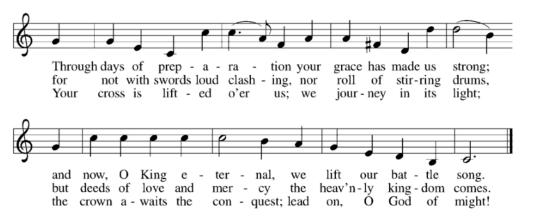
### \*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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 love be made known through us. Amen.

### **SENDING**

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





### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Allegro con spirito [FUGUE]

Friedrich Wilhelm Zachau

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### DECORATING THE CHURCH

### November 28th \*\*\* 10:00am

You are invited to join the Board of Lay Ministry in decorating the church on Friday (yes, the day after Thanksgiving). This usually goes pretty quick and is a lot of fun. Everyone loves setting up Christmas Trees!

### TODAY AT CROSS

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

ADULT EDUCATION Join Pastor Scott for Voices of Advent, an exploration of the Advent season. This weekend, we hear from and about John the Baptist.

**FLOWERS** on the altar are given in celebration of Duane and Jamie's 35th wedding anniversary

**COMMUNITY MARKET** - Wednesday, December 17th. Set up begins at 1:30pm. Market runs from 2:30-5:00pm.

**CROSS CHOIR** — There will be a short choir rehearsal on Tuesday, November 25th after Thanksgiving service. There will be no rehearsal on Thursday, November 4 27th. Anyone interested in singing or has questions please contact Ken.

**BELL CHOIR** — There will be a Bell Choir rehearsal the week of November 30th. Anyone interested in ringing or has questions please contact Ken.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY meets every week at 11:00 am. No Bible Study on Thanksgiving.



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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



### THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, November 23 9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

11:00am

Adult Education

1:00-5:00pm

Promesa De Dios 5:00 – 9:00pm

5:00 – 9:00pm Ebenezer Elim

Monday, November 24 Office Closed

Tuesday, November 25 1:00-5:30pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

Thanksgiving Worship

Wednesday, November 26 7:-00-9:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, November 27 HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Friday, November 28 10:00am

Decorate Church - BLM 7:00pm – 10:00pm Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, November 29

9:00am - 1:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia 1:30pm – 4:30pm

Cross Organ Practice

Cross Organ Practic

5:00 - 7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, November 30

10:00am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

1:00-5:00pm

Promesa De Dios

5:00 – 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim



### First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 9:30 am

### **Advent Wednesday Evening Prayer**

Wed., December 3, 4:00 & 6:00 pm

### **Second Sunday in Advent**

December 7, 9:30 am

### **Advent Wednesday Evening Prayer**

Wed., December 10, 4:00 & 6:00 pm

### **Third Sunday in Advent**

December 14, 9:30 am

### Carols and Ales with the Fleshpots of Egypt

Mon., December 15, 6:30-8:30 pm Dubliner Pub

### **Advent Wednesday Evening Prayer**

Wed., December 17, 4:00 & 6:00 pm

### Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 21, 9:30 am Christmas Potluck follows

### **Blue Christmas Worship**

Mon., December 22, 6:00 pm

### **Christmas Eve Worship**

Wed., December 24

Shores of Lake Phalen

3:00 pm

**Family Worship** 

6:00 pm

**Candlelight Worship** 

10:00 pm

### **Christmas Day Worship**

Thurs., December 25, 10:00 am

### **First Sunday of Christmas**

December 28, 9:30 am

### **Second Sunday of Christmas**

January 4, 9:30 am





# CHRISTMAS GIVING at CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

**FOR OUR JOHN GLENN FAMILIES**: We are asking for Target (\$25) and Cub (\$50-\$100) gift cards which will be given to Miss Vivian at John Glenn to distribute to the families most in need. This will allow them

to purchase gifts if they wish and/or provide a nice holiday meal.

**MERRICK COMMUNITY SERVICES HOLIDAY SHARE, DECEMBER 13**: is an event where families are invited to shop for toys for their children. Last year this organization served over 600 families and 2,200 children. Many John Glenn families register for this event and it is a fun event to participate in.

If you are inclined donate toys for this event, here's your opportunity to visit the toy department. If you are not a shopper, gift cards are always appreciated. This was a huge success last year with Cross donating over 100 toys.

Popular wish list items for teenagers (13-17) include:

Headphones, phone stands, phone cases

Book Series (young adult, multi-book sets)

Beanies, water bottles

For Girls: belt bags, sunset lamps, paint marker pens, journals, lip balm, perfume

For Boys: LEGO sets, remote-controlled toys, sports balls, hoodies

All toys must be purchased and returned (unwrapped) to Cross by **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7**. Gift cards should be given to Tammy Erickson or Jamie Gudknecht **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 14**.

There are also opportunities to volunteer at Merrick the week of the event, either setting up for the event or helping the day of distribution.

Please contact Merrick for details.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THIS CHRISTMAS SPECIAL FOR MANY!

THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP/OUTREACH