

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER † MAY 17, 2026

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. Juli Thompson

Director of Music:
Kenneth Kusiak

Livestream Producer:
Jamie Gudknecht

Lay Minister:
5/17 Dave Olson
5/24 Duane Gudknecht

Assisting Minister:
5/17 Sherry Batterman
5/24 Katie Erickson

Psalm:
5/17 Duane Gudknecht
5/24 Katie Erickson

Ushers:
5/17 Marilee and Dave
Jackson
5/24 Sharon Crist and
Phyllis Moser

Coffee:
5/17 Carolyn Border

Altar Guild:
Sharon Crist and Jamie
Gudknecht

Counters:
Sherry Batterman and
Duane Gudknecht

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.

1

GATHER

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

PRELUDE

Allein Gott in der Höh' sei Her

Johann Pachelbel

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Before You, Lord, We Bow

ELW893



1 Be - fore you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns a - bove and
2 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, each vale and for - est green, shine
3 Earth, hear your mak - er's voice; your great re - deem - er own; be -
4 And when in pow'r he comes, oh, may then ev - 'ry land from



rules the world be - low with bound - less pow'r and love. Our thanks we
forth in wis - dom's light, and its rich fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry
lieve, o - bey, re - joice, and wor - ship God a - lone. Cast down your
all its rend - ing tombs send forth a glo - rious band, a count - less



bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to you we sing!
tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise a grate - ful song.
pride, your sin de - plore, and bow be - fore the Cru - ci - fied.
throng, with joy to sing to heav'n's high king sal - va - tion's 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.*

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us
from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that
we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. 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**

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In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.

For the peace from above, and for our sal-va-tion, let us

pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u-ni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A-men.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of love, With praise we celebrate Jesus, who humbled himself so that every knee should bend and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is 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

Philippians 2:1-11

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy,^s make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Sing to God, who rides up - on the clouds.

Let God arise, and let God's enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee.

As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish
at the presence of 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.*



Sing to God, who rides up - on the clouds.

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice ¹ before God;
let them also be mer- ¹ ry and joyful.

**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name;
exalt the one who ¹ rides the clouds;
I AM is that name, rejoice ¹ before God! R**

In your holy habita- ¹ tion, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defend- ¹ er of widows;
**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners ¹ into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in ¹ desert places.**

O God, when you went forth be- ¹ fore your people,
when you marched ¹ through the wilderness,
**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain,
at the presence of God, the ¹ God of Sinai,
at the presence of God, the ¹ God of Israel.**

You sent a bountiful ¹ rain, O God;
you restored your inheritance ¹ when it languished.

**Your people found their ¹ home in it;
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision ¹ for the poor. R**

Sing to God, O kingdoms ¹ of the earth;
sing praises ¹ to the Lord.

**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ¹ ancient heavens;
you send forth your voice, your ¹ mighty voice.**

Ascribe pow- ¹ er to God,
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is ¹ in the skies.

**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O ¹ God of Israel,
giving strength and power to your people! ¹ Blessed be God! R**

SECOND LESSON

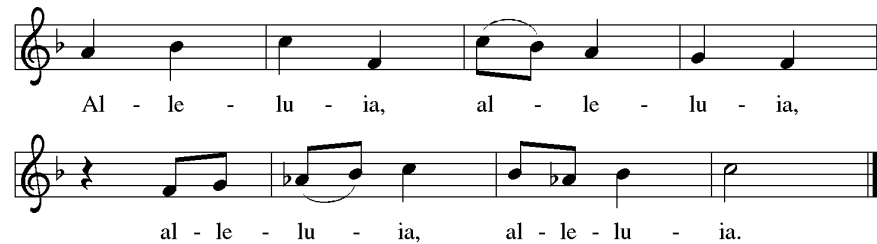
Philippians 2:12-13

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

***ALLELUIA**

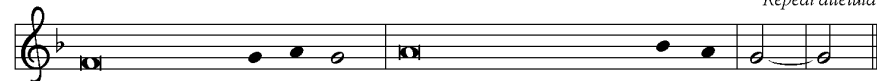
p.25



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

***GOSPEL**

Luke 6: 43-45

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

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil, for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.

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

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

At the Name of Jesus

ELW416



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name
4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.
all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.
on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,
thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;
Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.
let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

***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.**

*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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*This week we pray for:
Lisa, Marya, Sheree,
Marie, baby Hayden,
Gabby and baby Creed,
Ray and Clara, Henry,
Dawn, Brady, Judy, Marv,
Dottie, BettyLu, Lonna,
Bruce, Kelly, Pastor Brian,
Nick, Joshua, Rose, Dean
and Shirley, Mike, MaryJo,
Jose and family, Lew, the
Johns family, Barb, Janice,
Lindsay, Ron, the
McDonald family, Dave
Olson and family, and the
Marilyn Lewinski family.*

*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*

***PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

God in Your Mercy, Hear Our Prayer.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY

**Come, Holy Ghost, in Love
CROSS CHOIR**

R. Evan Copley

***PRESENTATION OF GIFTS Create in Me a Clean Heart**

ELW188

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**

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**

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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**

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

***PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE**

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.
 The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars;
 beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
We praise you, O God.
 Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water;
 by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
We bless you, O God.
 We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life;
 near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
We thank you, O God.

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

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

We remember the gift of your presence through Christ, by the Spirit, as we share in this sacred story:
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.

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

***PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS**

Remembering Christ's love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.
 We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

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.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you,
 holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit,
 in your church, without end. **Amen.**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit,
 let us pray the prayer that 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 ever. Amen.**

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

If you require a gluten free wafer, please tell the pastor when you approach to receive the bread. Pre-filled 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 in the narthex.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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SONGS DURING COMMUNION

- ELW787 – *On Eagle’s Wings*
- ELW805 – *Lead On, O King Eternal*

DISTRIBUTION

***COMMUNION BLESSING**

***SONG OF THANKS Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise**

ELW 207

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
 ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice 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**

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

SENDING

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

***BLESSING**

God bless you and keep you.
God shine on you with grace and mercy.
God look upon you with favor and † give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW773

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



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

***DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Live and share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Allegro [Toccatà]

Johann Gottfried Walther

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SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
MAY 17, 2026
Meeting to follow worship

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

ADULT EDUCATION New series — **Heaven and Hell** — returns on May 24th

FLESHPOTS OF EGYPT - Monday, May 17th at 6:30pm

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY meets Thursdays at 11:00 am. All are welcome.

CROSS CHOIR— There will be no rehearsal on Thursday. Next rehearsal will be on May 28th, from 6:30-7:30, following bell rehearsal. Anyone interested in singing or has questions please contact Ken.

BELL CHOIR— There will be no rehearsal on Thursday. Next bell choir rehearsal Thursday, May 28th, from 5:30-6:30. Rehearsals will be typically held twice a month going forward. Anyone interested in ringing or has questions please contact Ken.

COMMUNITY MARKET CELEBRATION

What?
Cross Lutheran
Cross Lutheran Church would like to invite the John Glenn staff to join them in celebrating another great year of our partnership and the Community Market
There will be drinks, treats and highlights of our partnership.
Even if you haven't attended the Market before please join us to learn more!

When?
Wednesday, May 27th from 2:00 - 3:00pm

Where?
The John Glenn Media Center

Thank you!
Thank you for making the Community Market possible!

Thank You
Cross members and JG staff for making our blood drive successful once again. We met our goal collecting 32 units!

**NEXT COMMUNITY MARKET
May 20th**

THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, May 17

9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

1:00-5:00

Promesa De Dios

5:00 – 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

Monday, May 18

Office Closed

6:30pm

Fleshpots of Egypt

Tuesday, May 19

Wednesday, May 20

2:30-5:00pm

JG Community Market

7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, May 21

1:00-2:00pm

Worship at the Shores

Friday, May 22

7:00pm – 10:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, May 23

9:00am – 1:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

1:30pm – 4:30pm

Cross Organ Practice

5:00 – 7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, May 24

9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee and 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 612-859-1134

Jamie Gudknecht, administrative assistant office@crosslutheranchurch.org

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Carol Hastings, financial secretary carol@crosslutheranchurch.org

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

