



FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST • JUNE 21, 2026

**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:**  
Rev. Scott Simmons

**Director of Music:**  
Kenneth Kusiak

**Livestream Producer:**  
Jamie Gudknecht

**Lay Minister:**  
6/21 Dave Olson  
6/28 Duane Gudknecht

**Assisting Minister:**  
6/21 Sherry Batterman  
6/28 Paul Schafer

**Psalm:**  
6/21 Alternative  
6/28 Katie Erickson

**Ushers:**  
6/21 Marilee and Dave Jackson  
6/28 Phyllis Moser and Sharon Crist

**Coffee:**  
6/21 Phyllis Moser  
6/28 Diana Border

**Altar Guild:**  
Mary Vatne and Sherry Batterman

**Counters:**  
Kay Olson and Linda Duncan

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

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

# GATHERING

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

## PRELUDE Song without Words, Op. 19, No. 1 Felix Mendelssohn

## \*GATHERING HYMN God, We Gather As Your People ACS1038



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



long. May that wel - come be our song.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS



Leader: Oh peo - ple of God, the Lord be with you. All: And may the Lord



be with you too. Leader: The Spir - it calls us to re - mem - ber



All: Oh Lord we lift our hearts to you. All: We fail to love you with our  
You bid us come out from the

whole hearts or love our neigh - bors as we should. And so we're  
 sha - dows in - to the light by which we see Our sins for -

ask - ing for for - give - ness Oh set us free and make us good.  
 give - en and for - got - ten for Jes - sus' sake we're clear and free

**\*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**

**Kyrie We Pray**

Simmons

Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison we pray

Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison we

pray let there be peace let there be life let there be  
 pray for all the sighing for all the starving for all the  
 pray we trust your promise we crave your presence we need for -

love, let us have faith no more be war, no more be  
 aching we lift our prayer for all the crying for all the  
 givenness Lord, hear our prayer we trust your power we crave your

death, no more be hate, let us have faith  
 fearing for all the lonely we lift our prayer  
 blessing we need re-storing Lord, hear our prayer

**SONG OF PRAISE**

**To God Be The Glory**

Simmons

- To God be the glo - ry, to God be all praise, we sing to the mer - ci ful cre -
- To Christ be our wor - ship, to Christ here we sing. Your life is e - ter - nal, faith the
- Your Spi - rit is with us, in this time and place, You bring us to - geth - er and you

a - tor of days, Your peace and your po - wer are one in the same, Your  
 gift which you bring Your mer - cy is end - less for - give - ness di - vine, Your  
 give us your faith You call us to join in your life in the world, to

love is the an - swer to our grief and our shame, Glory glo - ry, now and ev - er, glory  
 kingdom is here and coming all of the time, *(chorus)*  
 work love and justice as your hope is un - furled,

glo - ry, hear our praise, hear our praise, To; praise, hear our praise, hear our praise.  
 Your;

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

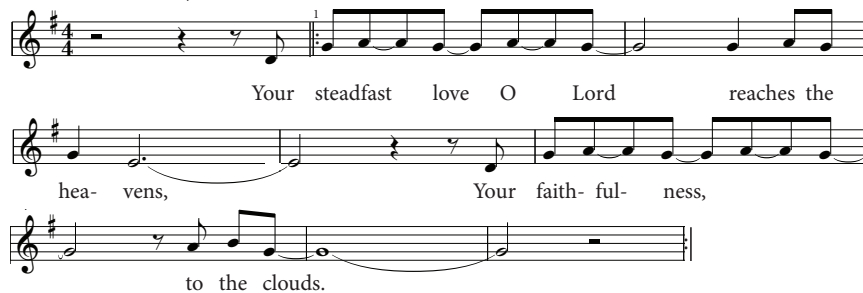
*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### FIRST LESSON                      Jeremiah 20:7-13

O LORD, you have enticed me,  
and I was enticed;  
you have overpowered me,  
and you have prevailed.  
I have become a laughingstock all day long;  
everyone mocks me.  
For whenever I speak, I must cry out;  
I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"  
For the word of the LORD has become for me  
a reproach and derision all day long.  
If I say, "I will not mention him  
or speak any more in his name,"  
then within me there is something like a burning fire  
shut up in my bones;  
I am weary with holding it in,  
and I cannot.  
For I hear many whispering:  
"Terror is all around!  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"  
All my close friends  
are watching for me to stumble.  
"Perhaps he can be enticed,  
and we can prevail against him  
and take our revenge on him."  
But the LORD is with me like a terrifying warrior;  
therefore my persecutors will stumble,  
and they will not prevail.  
They will be greatly shamed,  
for they will not succeed.  
Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.  
O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous;  
you see the heart and the mind;  
let me see your retribution upon them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.  
Sing to the LORD;  
praise the LORD!  
For he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the hands of evildoers.  
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

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

**PSALM 69:7-10, 16-18**



Your steadfast love O Lord reaches the  
heavens, Your faithfulness,  
to the clouds.

Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, I humbled myself with fasting,  
and shame has covered my face. but that was turned to my reproach.  
I have become a stranger to my own kindred, Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;  
an alien to my mother's children. in your great compassion, turn to me.  
Zeal for your house has eaten me up; Hide not your face from your servant;  
the scorn of those who scorn you has be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.  
fallen upon me. Draw near to me and redeem me;  
because of my enemies deliver me.

*In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.*

**SECOND LESSON Romans 6:1b-11**

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

**\*ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia**

Simmons



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, Lord to  
whom shall we turn? Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, to Your  
love, to Your life, to Your Word.

**\*GOSPEL**

**Matthew 10:24-39**

The Gospel according to John **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup> it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

"So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark,

*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.*

tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

**“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”**

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

## SERMON

### \*SONG OF THE DAY

### How Firm a Foundation

ELW796



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 “Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3 “When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 4 “Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!  
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.  
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign,  
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.”  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.”  
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne.”

### \*STATEMENT OF BELIEF

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God: who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE



Lord have mer- cy, Christ have mer- cy, Lord have mer- cy, hear our prayer, hear our prayer.

### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, be with you always.  
And also with you. *Please share a sign of peace with those around you.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERTORY

Albumblatt

Max Reger

### OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day  
you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ,  
give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to  
those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Here at the Table

Simmons



1. Here at the ta- ble you gather us in with your lo- o- ove. Serving forgive- ness,  
2. Here at the ta- ble, we share the feast of your lo- o- ove. Ev-ry one's wel come



6 feeding our faith with your lo- o- ove. CH: We bring our hun- ger, we bring our tears.  
to be re- leased in your lo- o- ove.



11 We bring our hopes and the things we hold dear. You take them all and in mercy unite us as one.



15 3. Here at the ta- ble you ga- ther us in with your lo- o- ove.



21 Serving for- give- ness, feeding our faith with your lo- o- ove, with your lo- o- ove, with your



27 lo- o- ove, with your lo- o- ove.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*In Holy Communion, we receive the gift of Christ's presence in bread and wine (the body and blood of Jesus) through the holy promise that this gift is "for you." All who desire to receive Christ's presence in, with, and through the wine and the bread are invited to this table.*

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

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

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

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you **And also 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

Simmons

1  
Ho-ly ho-ly God, Al- migh- ty in Christ Je- sus, You are  
5  
here, You are here. Ho-ly ho- ly, Christ Al- migh- ty, in Your Spir- it, You are  
9  
here, You are here, You are here.

## \*PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, in his death, resurrection and ascension, opened his arms to all, inviting all believers to participate in the sacred story, that...

## \*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.**  
**Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.**

## \*PRAYER OF THANKFULNESS

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.  
Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**  
Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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.

## LAMB OF GOD

*Communion hymns: ELW740 — What a Friend We Have In Jesus*  
*ELW783 — Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

## DISTRIBUTION

### \*COMMUNION BLESSING

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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

### \*COMMUNION PRAYER

**Incarnate God, you are among us at this table. May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts the mystery of your presence. Move us to discover the wonders of your love in the everyday moments of our lives, through Christ born in us. Amen.**

### \*SONG OF THANKSGIVING “Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,  
give thanks be-cause he’s giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son. *(repeat)*  
And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say, “I am  
rich,” be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Last time

*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.*

# SENDING

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

## \*CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING

### \*SENDING SONG      Hearts, Hands, and Voices

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

We have a call that draws our souls to - geth-er that was  
there be - fore we came and will be there for - ev - er:  
We have a need to reach out for each oth-er whe-ther old or young,  
weak or strong, in Christ's own love we be - long to - geth-er.  
1 The hands that hold, the hands that guide, the hands that ease our hurt-ing in - side. The  
2 The voice that sings, the voice that laughs, that light - ens our un - cer - tain path. The  
hands that reach for bread and wine, that brings God's peace in these trou-bled times.  
voice that in-spires the voice that in-quires, what does God's love mean to me?  
Will we stand in he night will we be God's light? Will we find the strength we lack? Will our  
hands be will-ing will our voi-ces be strong to ing the dark-ness back? We have a  
call that draws our souls to - geth-er that was there be-fore we came and will be there for-ev - er.  
We have a need to reach ut for each oth-er Whe-ther old or young,  
weak or strong, in Christ's own love we be - long to - geth-er.  
We will clap our hands, (clap clap) Clap our hands, (clap clap) and pray with one an -  
oth-er. We will sing our song, praise the Lord, and love each oth-er.

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## \*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen Christ. **Thanks Be To God.**

## POSTLUDE

### Scherzo (Sonatina No. 4)

Joseph Haydn



It is that time of year again! We will be packing meals at the Feed My Starving Children site in Eagan. It will be Saturday, July 18th. Last year, Cross Lutheran assembled 23 boxes producing 4,968 meals which went to Liberia and Haiti.

Plan to meet at the Eagan site, 900 Lone Oak Road, Suite 136, at 9:15am. Lunch will be provided following our packing session at the home of Rita and Jim Gaubert, 1382 St. Andrew Boulevard, Eagan.

They do have "sit down" jobs available if standing does not work for you. We can also arrange carpools for those not wanting to drive.

Please sign up in the Narthex if you will be attending. Questions? Contact Rita at 651-343-7024 or email at [rkdgaubert@gmail.com](mailto:rkdgaubert@gmail.com)

## ***COMMUNITY MARKET DATES 2026-2027***

August 26th (Open House)	January 20th
September 23rd	February 24th
October 21st	March 17th
November 18th	April 21st
December 16th	May 19th

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

**ADULT EDUCATION Heaven and Hell**—continues today. Join Pastor Scott at 11 am in the community room to explore these important Christian concepts. Today we look at Luther and Reformation thought.

**FLESHPOTS OF EGYPT** on Tuesday, April 20th, at 6:30pm

**THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY** meets Thursdays at 10:30 am. All are welcome.

**CROSS CHOIR**—We will rehearse briefly immediately after service **today**. Sunday, June 21st. This will be our final rehearsal until choir recommences in September. Anyone interested in singing in the fall or has questions please contact Ken.

**BELL CHOIR**—Next bell choir rehearsal Thursday, July 9th, 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.



## Tuesday Singalong

Next Singalong is June 30th  
at 6pm under the portico.  
Bring a lawn chair!

### THIS WEEK AT CROSS

#### Sunday, June 21

9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

11:00am-12:00pm

Adult Education

1:00-5:00

Promesa De Dios

5:00 – 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

#### Monday, June 22

Office Closed

6:30pm

Fleshpots of Egypt

#### Tuesday, June 23

1:00-5:30pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

#### Wednesday, June 24

1:00-6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

#### Thursday, June 25

10:30am

Bible Study

1:00-2:00pm

Worship at the Shores

2:30-5:00pm

Pastor Scott Office

#### Friday, June 26

1:00 - 6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

7:00pm – 10:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

#### Saturday, June 27

9:00am – 1:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

1:30pm – 4:30pm

Cross Organ Practice

5:00 – 7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

#### Sunday, June 28

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

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