



ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST + AUGUST 9, 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. Scott Simmons

Director of Music:

Kenneth Kusiak

Lay Minister:

8/9 Sherry Batterman

8/16 Duane Gudknecht

Assisting Minister:

8/9 Phyllis Moser

8/16 Carolyn Border

Psalm:

8/9 Duane Gudknecht

8/16 Katie Erickson

Ushers:

8/9 Carolyn Border and

Nic Villodres

8/16 Dave and Marilee

Jackson

Coffee:

8/9 No Volunteers

8/16 No Volunteers

Altar Guild:

Joann Nordrum

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.*

GATHER

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

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance

arr. Michael Hassell

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

ELW763



1 My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en-ta-tion,
2 Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv-eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre-a-tion.
It finds an ech-o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv-eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

p.120

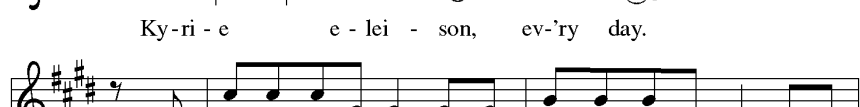
Refrain



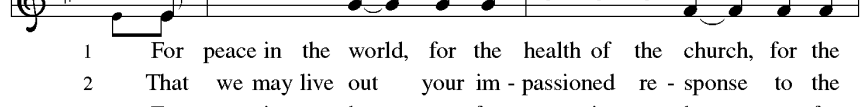
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



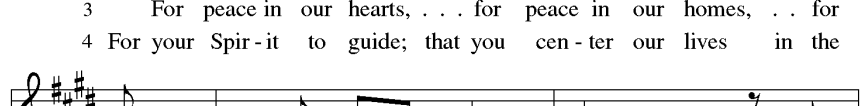
Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



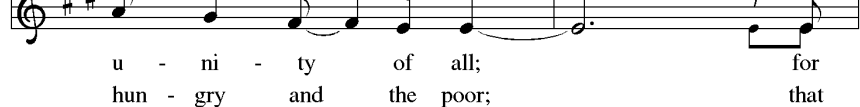
1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



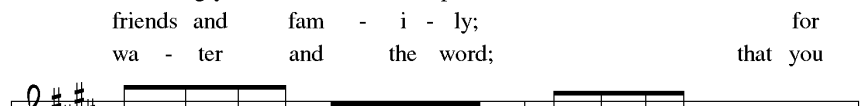
u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

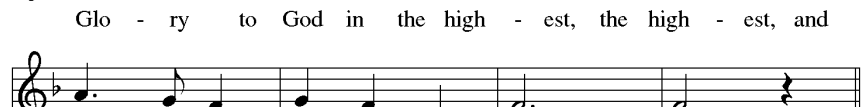
*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

p. 122

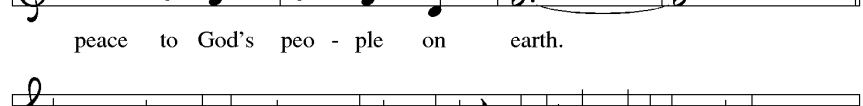
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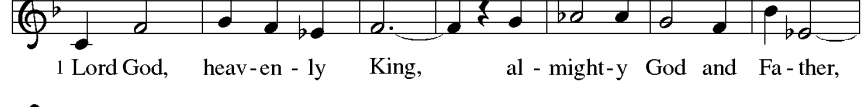
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you



Refrain



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.
Refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
A - men. A - men. A - men.
Final refrain
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid.
Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear,
and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.

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

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18

At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

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

Psalm 85:8-13



I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their | hearts to you.
Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land. R
Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.
Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.
The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway. R

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

SECOND LESSON

Romans 10:5-15

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

"The word is near you,

in your mouth and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

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

*ALLELUIA

p.188

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

*GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

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

[Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, tormented by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, I AM; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him,

Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

“You of little faith, why did you doubt?” When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

SERMON

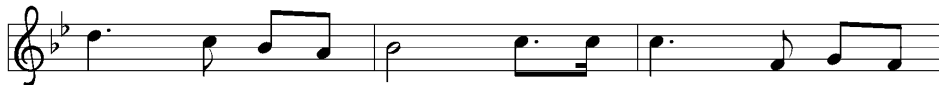
*HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me

ELW755



1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver
2 As a moth - er stills her child, thou canst
3 When at last I near the shore, and the



life's tem - pes - tuous sea; un - known waves be - fore me
hush the o - cean wild; bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy
fear - ful break - ers roar twixt me and the peace - ful



roll, hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal; chart and
will when thou say'st to them: "Be still." Won - drous
rest, then, while lean - ing on thy breast, may I



com - pass come from thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
sov - 'reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
hear thee say to me: "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

*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

Lord in Your Mercy, Hear Our Prayer.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This week we pray for:

*Lisa, Marya, Sheree,
Marie, Mary, Janice, baby
Hayden, Gabby and baby
Creed, Ray and Clara,
Henry, Dawn, Brady, Judy,
Dottie, BettyLu, Bruce,
Kelly, Trudy and Murlyn,
Pastor Brian, Nick,
Joshua, Rose, Dean and
Shirley, Mike, MaryJo,
Jose and family, Lew,
Barb, Lindsay, Ron, Molly,
Bob, Raphael, Nancy,
Maja, Kenny and family,
Niki, the McDonald family,
Dave Olson and family, the
Marilyn Lewinski family,
Zach, and the Rick Novak
family.*

*We offer continued
prayers for family and
friends of Mary Vatne*

*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 tab

MEAL

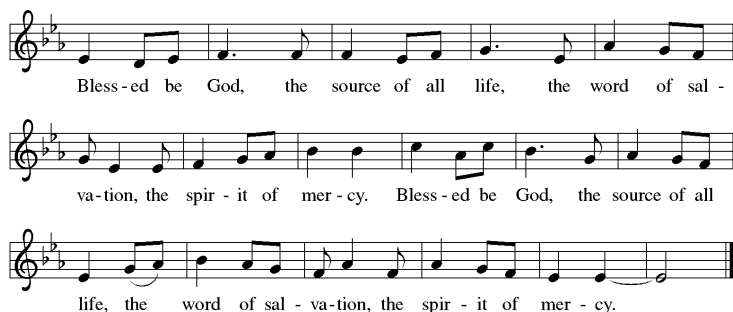
God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY

Es ist gewißlich an der Zeit
[The Day is Surely Drawing Near]

Michael Praetorius

*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS Blessed be God, the Source of All Life ELW209



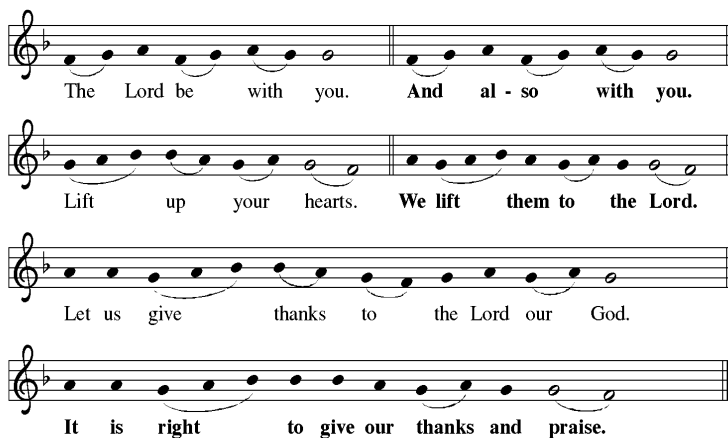
*OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

*DIALOGUE

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*PREFACE

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

p.130



***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.

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.**

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

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.

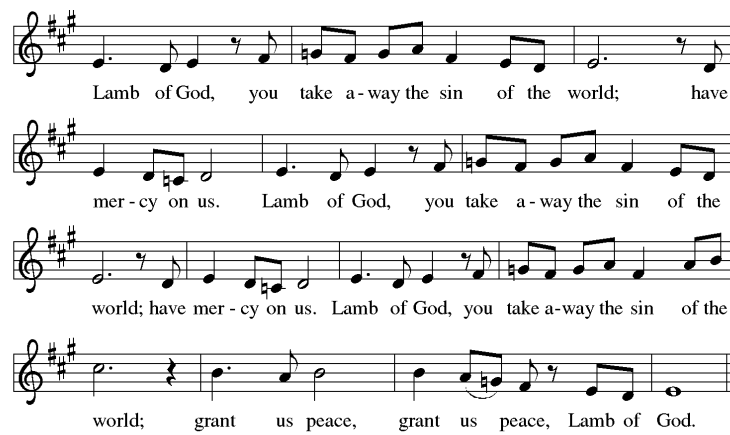
If you require a gluten free wafer, please tell the pastor when you approach to receive the bread. Pre-filled juice cups are available in the silver tray.

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.

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



SONGS DURING COMMUNION

ELW756 — *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

DISTRIBUTION

*COMMUNION BLESSING

*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 mercy and grace.

God look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. Amen.

SENDING SONG

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW774



*DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Gavotte in Rondo Form

Jean-François Dandrieu

John Glenn School Supply Time



School supplies are appearing in stores. Here's the John Glenn wish list. Thanks so much for your continued support!

Spiral Notebooks	Colored Markers
Plastic two-pocket folders	Highlighters
Colored Pencils	AAA Batteries
Glue Sticks	Pencils
Expo Markers (Black)	Kleenex
	Backpacks

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Community Market is coming!

Join us for love, laughter, and unforgettable moments.

	AUGUST	
25	26	27

Date: AUGUST 26, 2026

Location: JOHN GLENN MIDDLE SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

3:00PM - 6:00PM

PIZZA PROVIDED

SET UP BEGINS AT 1:30PM

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP Join us after worship in the community room for fellowship and MAYBE coffee. All are invited.

ADULT EDUCATION resumes today, August 9th, with Conscience and Conversation. 11 am in the community room.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY is on a temporary hiatus. Stay tuned for updates.

CROSS CHOIR—Will return in September. Anyone interested in singing or has questions please contact Ken.

BELL CHOIR—Next bell choir rehearsal will be in August. Anyone interested in ringing or has questions please contact Ken.



Beginning in 2022, the ELCA Council has been reconsidering the 2009 ELCA Social Statement *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*, which opened opportunities for people in same-gendered sexual relationships to serve as rostered leaders (pastors and deacons) in the ELCA.

The second phase of this process is an opportunity for congregational discernment among ELCA congregations.

You are invited to join Pastor Scott during adult education to study, discern, and consider this important issue in our church. We will meet on four successive Sundays in August: 8/2, 8/9, 8/16, 8/23.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, August 9

9:30am

Sunday Worship

10:30am

Coffee Fellowship

11:00-12:00pm

Adult Education

1:00-5:00

Promesa De Dios

5:00 – 9:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

Monday, August 10

Office Closed

Tuesday, August 11

1:00-6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

Wednesday, August 12

1:00-6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, August 13

1:00-2:00pm

Worship at the Shores

2:00-5:00pm

Pastor Scott **office drop-in**

2:30-3:30pm

Board of Lay Ministry

Friday, August 14

1:00 - 6:00pm

Pastor Scott office by appt

7:00pm – 10:00pm

Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, August 15

9:00am – 1:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

1:30pm – 4:30pm

Cross Organ Practice

5:00 – 7:00pm

Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, August 16

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

Cross Lutheran Church, 1945 Prosperity Road, Maplewood, Minnesota, 55109
www.crosslutheranchurch.org office@crosslutheranchurch.org 651-777-1329
Reverend Scott Simmons, pastor pastorscott@crosslutheranchurch.org 612-859-1134
Jamie Gudknecht, administrative assistant office@crosslutheranchurch.org
Carol Hastings, financial secretary carol@crosslutheranchurch.org
Kenneth Kusiak, director of music worship@crosslutheranchurch.org

