

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

✝

NOVEMBER 8, 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

Livestream Producer:
Jamie Gudknecht

Lay Minister:
11/8 Carolyn Border
11/15 Dave Olson

Assisting Minister:
11/8 Phyllis Moser
11/15 Sherry Batterman

Psalm:
11/8 Katie Erickson
11/15 Duane Gudknecht

Ushers:
11/8 Marilee and Dave Jackson
11/15 Sharon Crist and Phyllis Moser

Coffee:
Diana Border and Bonnie Dischinger

Altar Guild:
Sharon Crist and Jamie Gudknecht

Counters:
Sherry Batterman and Diana Border

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

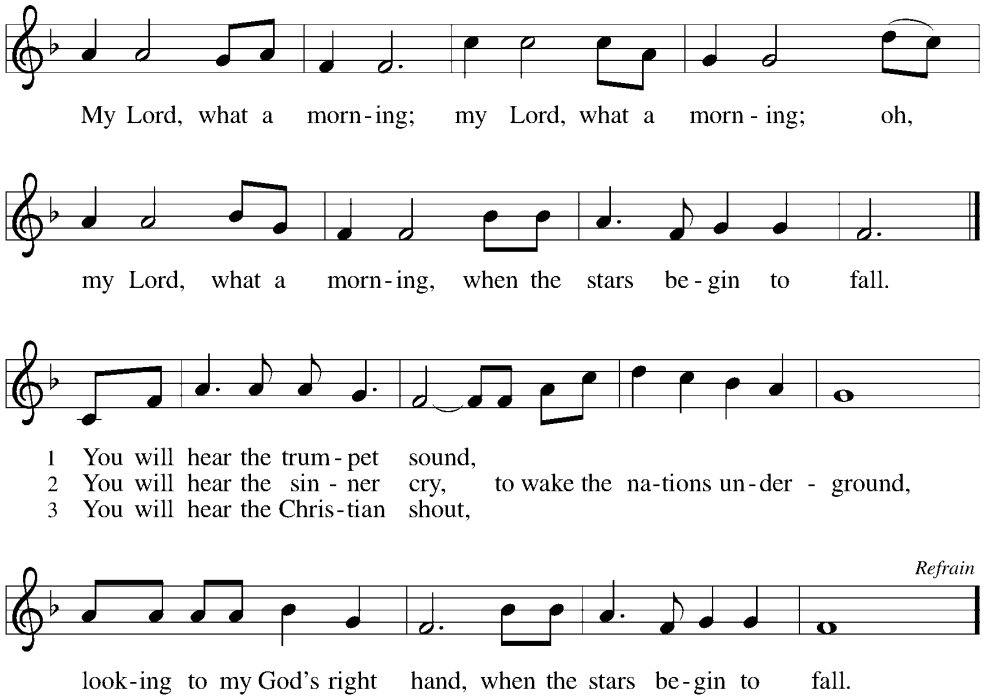
If you would like to provide flowers for Sunday Worship, *sign up on the bulletin board in the back of the narthex, or contact the office.*

GATHER

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

PRELUDE **Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices** **Paul Manz**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** **My Lord What a Morning** **ELW438**



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse.
Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.
Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.
Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.
Turn our hearts back to you.
Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

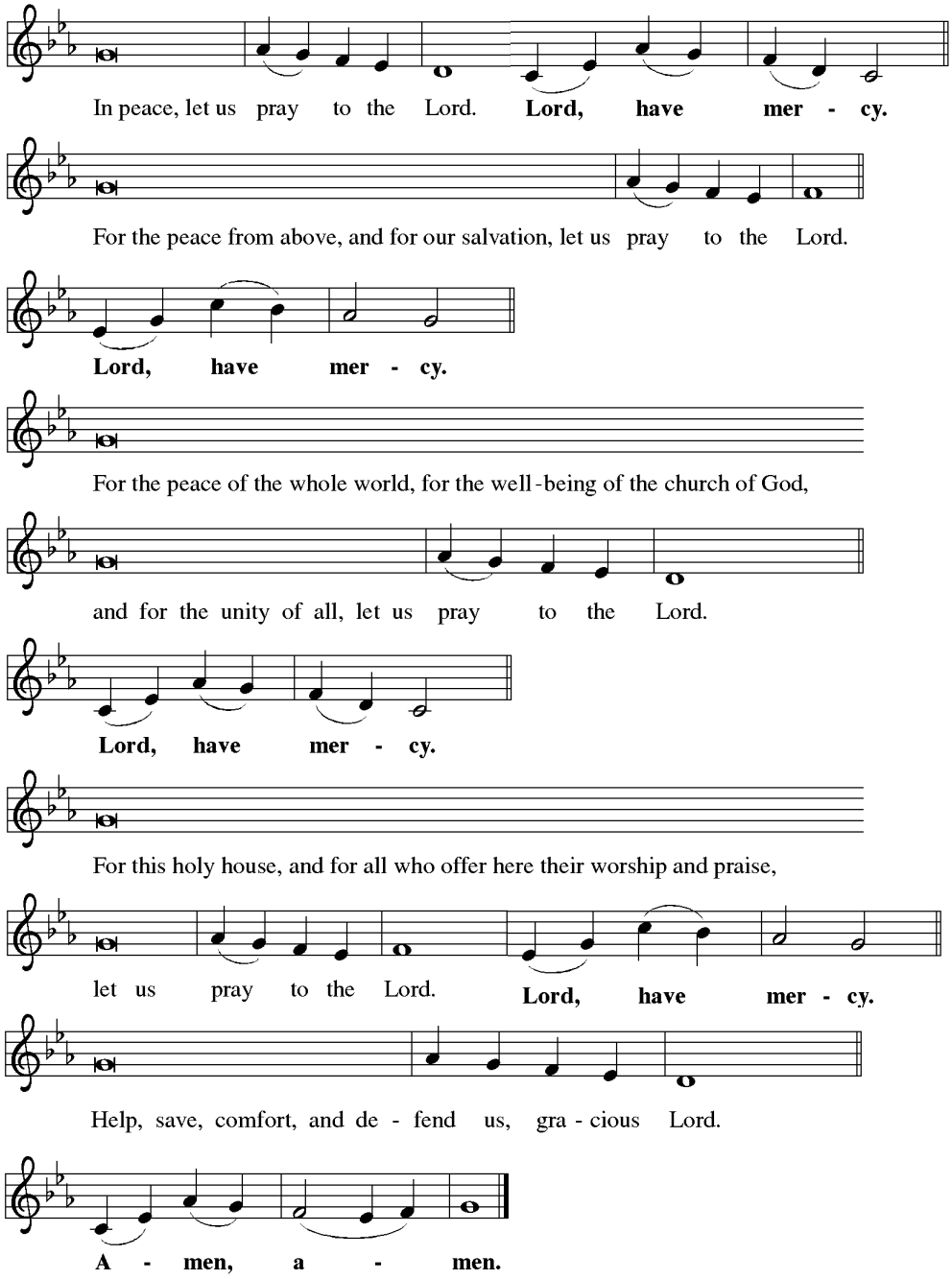
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news:
We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **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.203



***CANTICLE OF PRAISE** p. 204



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God of justice and love, **you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through 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.

Let us share with each other a sign of peace.

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 **Amos 5:18-24**

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why do you want the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, not light,
as if someone fled from a lion
and was met by a bear
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall
and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them,
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

Psalm 70



Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver me;
O LORD, make | haste to help me.
Let those who seek my life be put to shame | and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune
draw back and | be disgraced. R
Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat | over me
turn back because | of their shame.
Let all who seek you rejoice and be | glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great | is the LORD!"
But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick- | ly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry. **R**

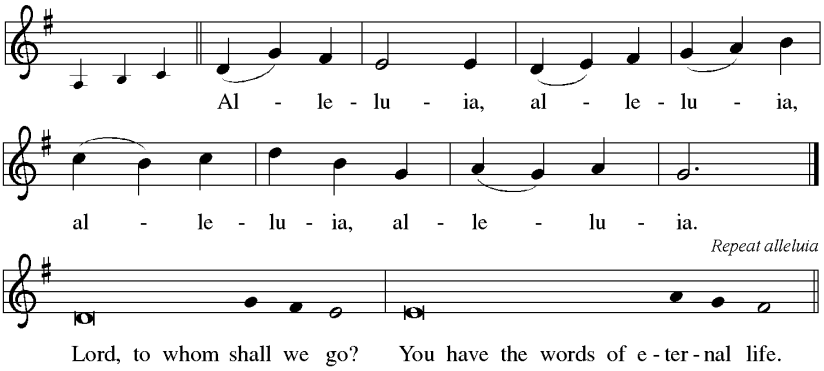
SECOND LESSON Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

***ALLELUIA** p.205



***GOSPEL** **Matthew 25:1-13**

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

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

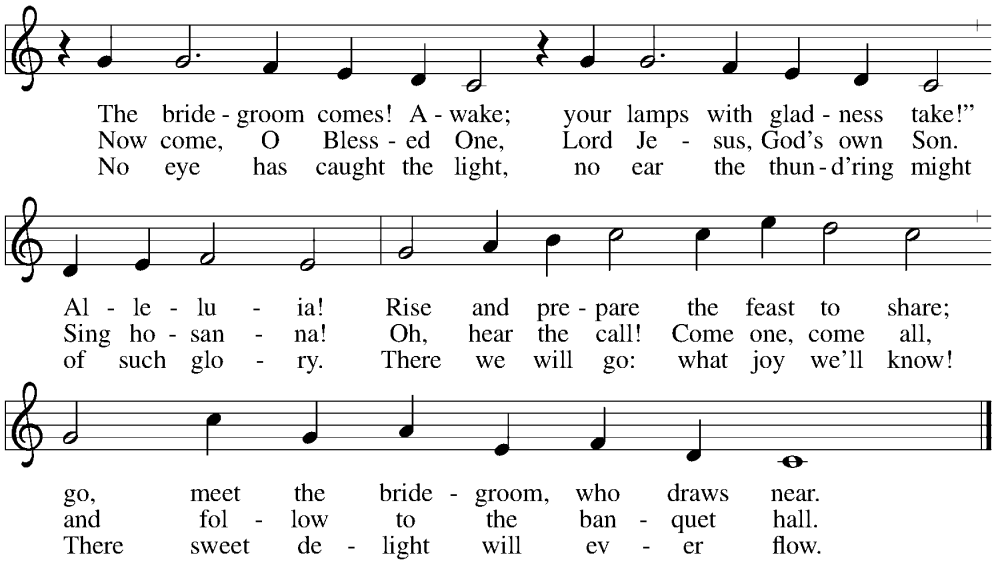
[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY** **Wake, Awake for Night is Flying** ELW436





***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**

Merciful God, **receive our prayer**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY **Jerusalem, My Happy Home** **Charles Callahan**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

This week we pray for: Marv, Nancy, Ray and Clara, Sheree, Lisa, Marya, Marie, Janice, Bob and Pru, Niki, Gabby, Creed and baby Ryker, Brady, Judy, Dottie, BettyLu, Bruce, Laura, Kelly, Trudy and Murlyn, Pastor Brian, Nick, Joshua, Rose, Dean and Shirley, MaryJo, Barb, Lindsay, Molly, Bob, Raphael, Niki, Jodi, Phyllis, Luther, Ostby Family, Tim, Allison, Rick Novak family and Barb Brynildson family.

We offer continued prayers for family and friends of Mary Vatne and Bob Brynildson.

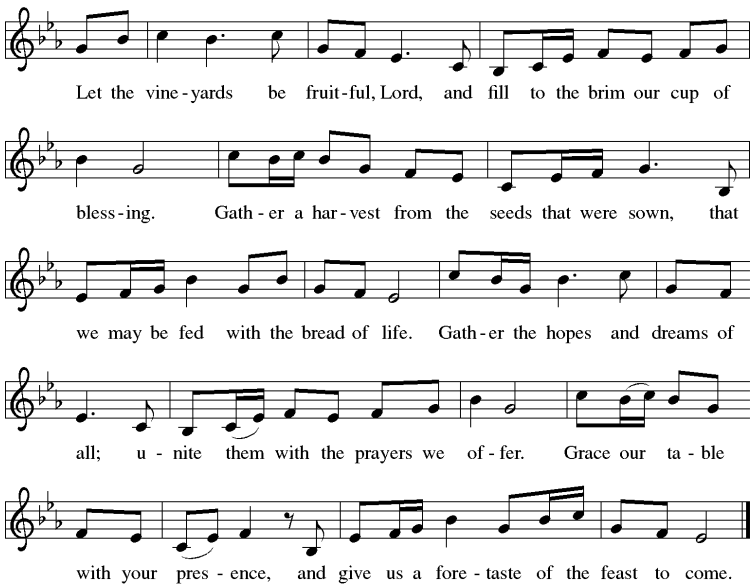
If you have a name to add or remove from this prayer list, please contact Jamie Gudknecht or Pastor Scott.

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

*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS Let the Vineyards be Fruitful ELW184

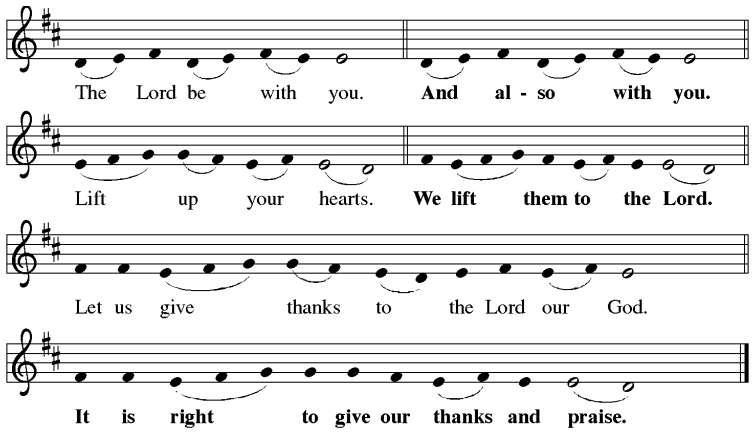


*OFFERING PRAYER

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

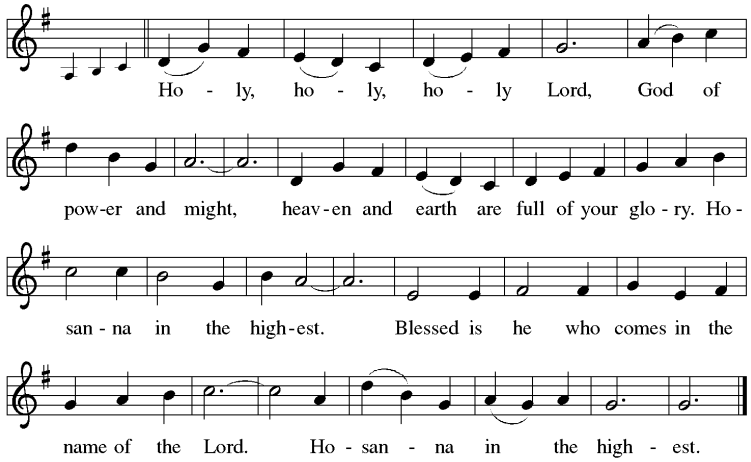
*DIALOGUE p.206



*PREFACE

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY p.207

*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.

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.*

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.

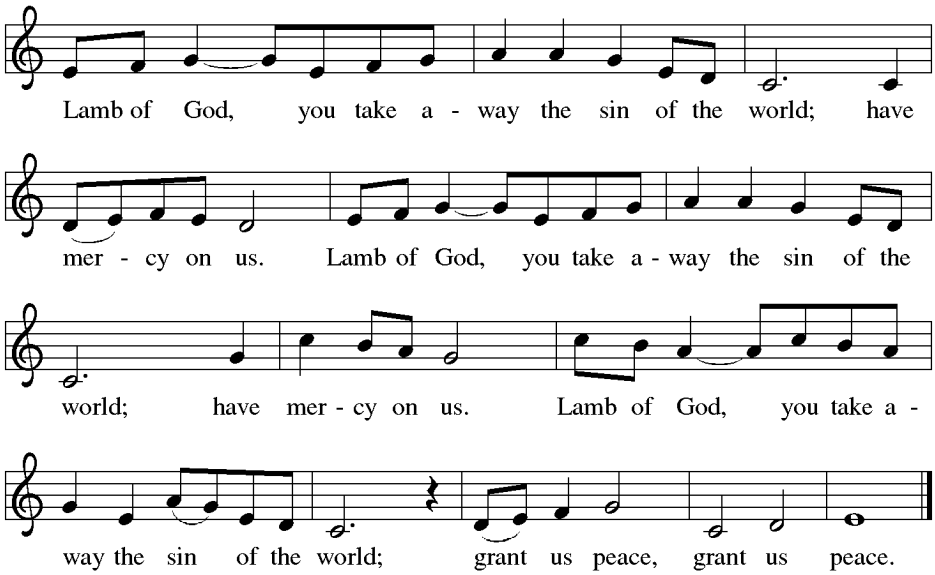
Individual sealed communion sets are also available at the sanctuary entrance.

***ANOINTING** After communing, you may receive prayer and anointing with oil in the narthex*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

p.208



DISTRIBUTION

SONGS DURING COMMUNION

ELW785 — When Peace Like a River *It is Well With My Soul*

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

ELW336 — Beneath the Cross of Jesus

ABeneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide
heat and burdens of the day.

Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart,
with tears,two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.

*COMMUNION BLESSING

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Radiant God, **with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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.**

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

SENDING SONG **Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning** ACS949



***DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE **Alleluia! Let Praises Ring** **Wayne L. Wold**

NEXT COMMUNITY MARKET
IS NOVEMBER 18TH

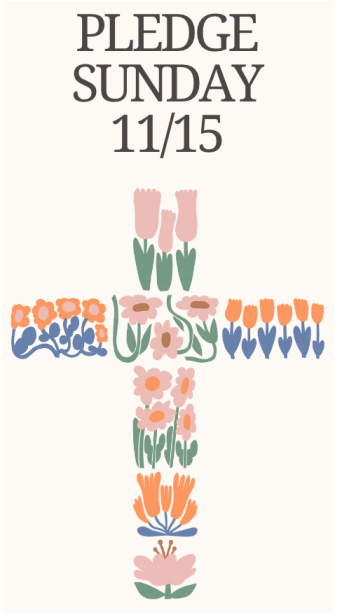
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP Join us after worship in the community room for fellowship and coffee. All are invited.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY returns on Thursday, Nov. 12th at 2:30pm

BELL CHOIR—Next bell choir rehearsal will be Thursday, November 12th from 5-6pm. Anyone interested in ringing or has questions please contact Ken.

CROSS CHOIR—Next Cross Choir rehearsal will be Thursday, November 12th from 6-7pm. Anyone interested in singing or has questions please contact Ken.





Fall Launching Pad Items

Sweatpants
- Sizes: Kids L, XL
- Adults: S - XXL

Fem. Hygiene Products
- Pads

Bar Soap

Ongoing:
- Kleenex, Black ExpoMarkers,
- Coats

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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

ELCA

THIS WEEK AT CROSS

Sunday, November 8
9:30am
Sunday Worship
10:30am
Coffee Fellowship
1:00-5:00
Promesa De Dios
5:00 – 9:00pm
Ebenezer Elim

Monday, November 9
Office Closed

Tuesday, November 10
1:00-6:00pm
Pastor Scott office by appt

Wednesday, November 11
1:00-6:00pm
Pastor Scott office by appt
7:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia

Thursday, November 12
1:00-2:00pm
Worship at the Shores
2:00-5:00pm
Pastor Scott **office drop-in**
2:30pm
Bible Study
5:00-6:00pm
Bell Practice
6:00-7:00pm
Choir Practice

Friday, November 13
1:00 - 6:00pm
Pastor Scott office by appt
7:00pm – 10:00pm
Ebenezer Elim

Saturday, November 14
9:00am – 1:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia
1:30pm – 4:30pm
Cross Organ Practice
5:00 – 7:00pm
Adventista Septimo Dia

Sunday, November 15
9:30am
Sunday Worship
10:30am
Coffee and fellowship
1:00-5:00pm
Promesa De Dios
5:00 – 9:00pm
Ebenezer Elim