

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS!

We are glad you could be with us today, especially if you are visiting with us for the first time. We look forward to meeting you and getting to know you. It is our hope that as you worship with us today our triune God will come to you through His Word and inspire you upwards in your life. Please stop by our Guest Welcome Center for more information. We pray that you will consider becoming a part of our Holy Cross family. **Both members & visitors please complete the connection card in the pew pockets or scan the QR code below.** You may place the card in the offering plate as it is passed later in the service.



A WORD ABOUT COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Holy Cross on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, and all festival Sundays. Lutherans believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present "in, with and under" the bread and wine in the Supper and is given to us for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. All communicants should have been baptized in the name of the Triune God and have faith in these words of Christ: "This is my Body given for you. This is my Blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Instruction in this and the Lutheran Church takes place through First Communion, Confirmation, and membership classes or examination with the pastor. If you have not received instruction, contact the church office at your convenience. If you will not be receiving the Sacrament, you may remain in your pew or come forward for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest as a sign that you will not be receiving. The common cup and individual cups are both offered. Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of the individual cups tray. **Gluten-free wafers are available, please request.**

SURVEY QUESTION:

Which of the following would you like to be introduced at Sunday services? Pick up to two.

- A. Altar boys.
- B. Incense on special feast days.
- C. Church bells at start of service and Lord's prayer.
- D. More contemporary music.

ENTER FOR WORSHIP Upon entering the sanctuary please close the door behind you, and find a seat. After you are seated, please use this time to prepare yourself for worship.

FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED We are equipped with a personal hearing assistance system. If you would like a receiver for the service, please see an usher.

WE CAN PRAY WITH YOU If you are in need of someone to pray for you the Elders will be at the Chancel rail following the worship service.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 23, 2023
Lutheran Service Book
Service of Prayer and Preaching, page 260

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements and Survey Question

Please stand if you are able.

Opening Hymn “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

LSB 686

- 1 Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
 Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
 Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
 Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee;
 May I still Thy goodness prove.

- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
 Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
 Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
 Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
 Interposed His precious blood.

- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
 Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
 Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
 Prone to leave the God I love.

Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

4 Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the blood-washed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.

Opening Versicles

LSB page 260

(from Psalm 84:10;25; John 17:17)

P This is the day which the Lord has made;

C let us rejoice and be glad in it.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

C Teach me Your paths.

P Sanctify us in Your truth.

C Your Word is truth.

P From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Old Testament Canticle

“Surely It Is God Who Saves Me”

Surely it is God who saves me;
trusting him, I shall not fear.
For the Lord defends and shields me
and his saving help is near.
So rejoice as you draw water
from salvation’s living spring;
in the day of your deliverance
thank the Lord, his mercies sing.

Make his deeds known to the peoples;
tell out his exalted Name.
Praise the Lord, who has done great things;
all his works his might proclaim.
Zion, lift your voice in singing;
for with you has come to dwell,
in your very midst, the great
and Holy One of Israel.

Words: Carl P Daw (b. 1944); paraphrase of *The First Song of Isaiah* Tune: THOMAS MERTON, by Ray W. Urwin (b. 1950)

Please be seated

Readings From Holy Scripture

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 44:6–8

⁶Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. ⁸Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 8:18–27

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if you are able.

Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may

be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" . . . ³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CATECHISM

Confession

LSB page 326

P What is Confession?

C **Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.**

P What sins should we confess?

C **Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer; but before the pastor we**

should confess only those sins which we know and feel in our hearts.

P Which are these?

C Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?

P What is the Office of the Keys?

C The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.

P Where is this written?

C This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:22–23)

P What do you believe according to these words?

C I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

Apostles' Creed

LSB page 264

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third

day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (from Matthew 6:9-13)

C 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.

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day "By All Your Saints in Warfare" LSB 518 vs 1,20,3

1 By all Your saints in warfare,
For all Your saints at rest,
Your holy name, O Jesus,
Forevermore be blest!
For You have won the battle
That they might wear the crown;
And now they shine in glory
Reflected from Your throne.

20 St. Mary Magdalene (July 22)
All praise for Mary Magdalene,
Whose wholeness was restored
By You, her faithful master,
Her Savior and her Lord.
On Easter morning early
A word from You sufficed;
For she was first to see You,
Her Lord, the risen Christ.

- ▲3 Then let us praise the Father
And worship God the Son
And sing to God the Spirit,
Eternal Three in One,
Till all the ransomed number
Fall down before the throne,
Ascribing pow'r and glory
And praise to God alone.

Sermon

Please stand if you are able.

Offertory "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

LSB 805

- 1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer

LSB page 265

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]. . . let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

P O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Collect for the Word

LSB page 265

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Morning Prayer

LSB page 266

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

New Testament Canticale

LSB page 266

(from 1 Corinthians 15:20a; 5:7b; Romans 6:9-11)

Refrain

C Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

Refrain

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He
lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to
sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.
Refrain
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Blessing (from Psalm 103:1)

LSB page 267

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit,
bless and preserve you.

C **Amen.**

- 1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray;
From your sleep awaken!
Be not by the evil day
Unawares o’ertaken;
For the foe,
Well we know,
Is a harvest reaping
While the saints are sleeping.
- 2 Watch against the devil’s snares
Lest asleep he find you;
For indeed no pains he spares
To deceive and blind you.
Satan’s prey
Oft are they
Who secure are sleeping
And no watch are keeping.
- 3 Watch! Let not the wicked world
With its lies defeat you
Lest with bold deceptions hurled
It betray and cheat you.
Watch and see
Lest there be
Faithless friends to charm you,
Who but seek to harm you.
- 4 Watch against yourself, my soul,
Lest with grace you trifle;
Let not self your thoughts control
Nor God’s mercy stifle.
Pride and sin
Lurk within,
All your hopes to shatter;
Heed not when they flatter.

5 But while watching, also pray
To the Lord unceasing.
God protects you day by day,
Strength and faith increasing,
So that still
Mind and will
Shall unite to serve Him
And forever love Him.

Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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THE SUNDAY HERALD

July 24 - 30, 2023

MONDAY	FRIDAY
OFFICE HOURS 9AM – 3PM	<i>OFFICE IS CLOSED</i>
AA 7:00pm	SATURDAY
TUESDAY	Workday 9:00-11:00am
OFFICE HOURS 9AM - 3PM	Worship 5:30pm
Building & Property 7:00pm	SUNDAY
TOPS 8:30 am & 6:00pm	FRIEND DAY SUNDAY
WEDNESDAY	Adult Bible Class 9:00am
OFFICE HOURS 9AM – 3PM	Worship 10:00am
THURSDAY	Gourmet hot dog & ice cream potluck after church service
OFFICE HOURS 9AM-3PM	
Bulletin Assembly 10:00am	

BIBLE READINGS FOR 8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6-9

Epistle: Romans 8:28-39

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

FRIEND DAY

Friend Day is today. There will be a potluck with gourmet hotdogs and ice cream bars, following the worship service.

SAVE THE DATES

Pastor Eric is planning some days to do small jobs around the church building and grounds. The following Saturdays are the dates he would like us to set aside to beautify our church and grounds: **August 26, September 30, October 21.** The hours are from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. If you can give any amount of time on any of the

days, that would be grand. Activities for each day will be announced beforehand. Hope to see you there. Bring yard tools and or equipment.

NEW HOPE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The Food Pantry needs the following items: Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, bar soap, and juice. If you happen to be at a dollar store perhaps you can pick up an item or two off the needs list. Thank you!

FOG (FAMILY OF GOD)

SATURDAY ATTENDEES – We will meet in the Haggerty Hall after church to share some fellowship and assemble the **Lunch Bag Project**, which will be delivered tomorrow afternoon. **SUNDAY ATTENDEES** - check your calendars and see if you can help us on **August 13th** to assemble lunch bags after church. The signup board will be up on **August 6th**. The church will supply cutlery/napkins, moist towelette, baggies, lunch bags, mustard and mayo packets, and the mustard seed devotion. The following needs to be purchased by donors: sliced bread, cheese, and lunchmeat for 50 sandwiches. Along with chips, (somebody already called me and has purchased the chips) cookies, and large bottled water for the 50 lunches. If you have any questions call Roberta Hanka or the church office.

EYEGASSES COLLECTION FOR MOST

We continue to collect used eyeglasses for MOST (Mission Opportunities Short Term). Our summer collection of eyeglasses will be delivered to Council of Lutheran Women at their Fall meeting. The box for these eyeglasses is located by our mailboxes in the hallway. Thank you!

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S TEA

POBLO (People of the Book Luth. Outreach) is sponsoring the Tea on Saturday, August 26 at Cross of Christ Luth Church, 1100 Lone Pine Rd, Bloomfield Hills. Doors open at 1:30pm with program from 2-5pm. The cost is

\$10.00. There will be a sign-up sheet on the UWM board near the back parking lot. Questions, please contact Carol Dehnke at 586-246-2388.

OUT OF THE OFFICE

I will be out of the office from Thursday, July 13th and return on Monday, August 7th. Shirley McClenahan will be filling in for me while I am out of the office. The office hours will be from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm Monday through Thursday. Thank you, Becky

NEW ADDRESS

Shirley Handy has moved. Her new address is 15721 19 Mile Rd. Apt #110, Clinton Township, MI 48038. Her phone number is 586-872-0737

*Now to the King eternal,
immortal, invisible, the only God,
be honor and glory for ever and
ever. Amen (1 Timothy 1:17*