

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

Will you be attending our Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service on November 22, 7:00pm?

- A. Yes
- B. No

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.

The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 12, 2023
Lutheran Service Book
Service of Prayer and Preaching, page 260

Prelude

**Welcome, Connection Card/Survey Announcements and
Sharing of the Peace**

Please stand if you are able.

Opening Hymn “God Bless Our Native Land” LSB 965

1 God bless our native land;
 Firm may she ever stand
 Through storm and night.
 When the wild tempests rave,
 Ruler of wind and wave,
 Do Thou our country save
 By Thy great might.

2 So shall our prayers arise
 To God above the skies;
 On Him we wait.
 Thou who art ever nigh,
 Guarding with watchful eye,
 To Thee aloud we cry:
 God save the state!

Opening Versicles (from Psalm 84:10,25; John 17:17) LSB page 260

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 Canticule

“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

Amos 5:18–24

¹⁸Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why would you have the day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light, ¹⁹as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. ²⁰Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand if you are able.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CATECHISM Table of Duties of Citizens (from Luther’s Small Catechism)

Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s. (Matt. 22:21)

It is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing. Give everyone what you owe him: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. (Rom. 13:5-7)

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Saviour. (1 Tim. 2:1-3)

Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good. (Titus 3:1)

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. (1 Peter 2:13-14)

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

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

LSB 717

- 1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.
- 2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain,
O'er which our traffic runs amain
By mountain pass or valley low;
Wherever, Lord, Thy people go,
Protect them by Thy guarding hand
From ev'ry peril on the land.
- 3 O Spirit, whom the Father sent
To spread abroad the firmament;
O Wind of heaven, by Thy might
Save all who dare the eagle's flight,
And keep them by Thy watchful care
From ev'ry peril in the air.
- 4 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
Our people shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad praise from air and land and sea.

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Sermon

Please stand if you are able.

Offertory Prayer

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 reasonable 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. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, 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

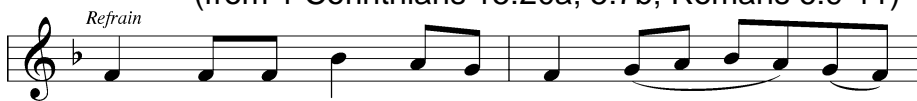
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C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. 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 Canticle

LSB page 266

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



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.



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.**

Closing Hymn "Where Justice Rolls Down"

(Cantor) Chorus

Where justice rolls down like a mighty water
And righteousness grows like an ever-flowing stream
And mercy resounds like the waves on the ocean
Let praises rise high on the songs of the redeemed

Chorus ALL

**Where justice rolls down like a mighty water
And righteousness grows like an ever-flowing stream
And mercy resounds like the waves on the ocean
Let praises rise high on the songs of the redeemed**

Verse 1 Cantor

There is a river that streams from the temple
Begins as a trickle but ends in the sea
As it grows healing it will give
Where it flows ev'rything will live

CHORUS ALL

**Where justice rolls down like a mighty water
And righteousness grows like an ever-flowing stream
And mercy resounds like the waves on the ocean
Let praises rise high on the songs of the redeemed**

Verse 2 Cantor

Wade in the water and feel the strong current
Remember the stagnance of stale life before
God is here leave the past behind
In these clear waters you will find

CHORUS ALL

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Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

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