

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 7, 2025



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS-LCMS

*Welcoming all to walk together
toward abundant life in Christ.*

THEME: BE HEARERS AND DOERS OF THE WORD

⁴⁷ Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like: ⁴⁸ he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. Luke 6:47–48 (ESV)

A WORD TO OUR FRIENDS ABOUT COMMUNION:

Welcome! As members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we're excited to share what Holy Communion means to us. We believe that when we receive the bread and wine, the body and blood of Jesus Christ are truly present "in, with, and under" them—not because the bread and wine change into something else or merely symbolize His body and blood, but because Jesus Himself said, "Take, eat, this is My body" and "Take, drink, this is My blood." Through His divine Word, we trust that we're truly receiving Christ's body and blood along with the bread and wine.

For us, this Sacrament is more than a memorial—it's Jesus coming to us in a real, tangible way. We believe it is Christ truly coming to us and offering His body and his blood in an outward sign of His love for us and as an outward assurance of the forgiveness He won for us by His death on the cross. This is what we believe and confess about Holy Communion, rooted in Scripture and our faith in Christ.

If you're not a member of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and have questions about our Communion practices—or if you'd like to join us at the Lord's Table—we'd love for you to talk with our pastor beforehand. After reading this and reflecting on your own beliefs, please fill out the Pew Card in the pew rack. When the offering plate comes by, place your tithes and gifts in it, then pass your Pew Card to the center aisle for the ushers to collect. May God bless our time together in this Communion service!

COMMUNION OPTIONS FOR THOSE WITH ALLERGIES:

- *Gluten-free communion wafers* are available by taking one from the paten (plate) that is sitting separately in a white container.
- *Grape Juice* (clear liquid) is available in the center of the tray containing individual cups of regular wine (red liquid).

AS WE GATHER

Jesus is blunt about the cost of discipleship. He does not sugarcoat the life He calls us to in the baptismal waters but neither does He diminish His promises, gifts, and blessings that accompany this life of faith. Today He calls us to count the cost, knowing that the way of the Christian is constantly tested and tried by our affection for the things of this life, our vulnerability to the enemies of the faith, and the weakness of our own sinful flesh. Part of that cost is not just in what you desire but also in what you are willing to surrender for the sake of Christ and His kingdom.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC & WELCOME

Welcome

The TOLLING OF THE BELLS

(Please stand)

OPENING HYMN

Church of God, Elect and Glorious

LSB 646 sts. 1–3

(Sung to Thy Strong Word - LSB 578)

1. Church of God, elect and glorious,
Holy nation, chosen race;
Called as God's own special people,
Royal priests and heirs of grace:
Know the purpose of your calling,
Show to all His mighty deeds;
Tell of love that knows no limits,
Grace that meets all human needs.
2. God has called you out of darkness
Into His most marv'lous light;
Brought His truth to life within you,
Turned your blindness into sight.
Let your light so shine around you
That God's name is glorified
And all find fresh hope and purpose
In Christ Jesus crucified.
3. Once you were an alien people,
Strangers to God's heart of love;
But He brought you home in mercy,
Citizens of heav'n above.
Let His love flow out to others,
Let them feel a Father's care;
That they too may know His welcome
And His countless blessings share.



Text: James Edward Seddon, 1915–83

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THE INVOCATION

The sign of the cross T may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. *LSB 151*

C **Amen.** *Matthew 28:19b [18:20]*

T Confession and Absolution T

(Please be seated)

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** *1 John 1:8-9*

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

C **Amen.**

T Service of the Word T

HYMN OF PRAISE This Is The Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9

LSB pg. 155



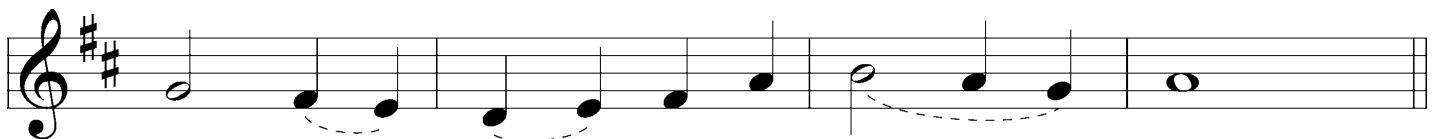
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*

gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

(The Lord's declaration to His people to choose life is inseparable from His covenant of grace that He established with them. Israel's history clearly demonstrates that they spurned the life God had reserved for them through His grace, pursuing death instead. Consequently, by rejecting God's grace, they rejected the length of days God promised to those who love the Lord, walk in His ways, and keep His commands)

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”



L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philemon 1–21

(Paul makes a plea for the freedom of Onesimus and bases his case on grace, love, and friendship. By example, Paul intercedes for Onesimus, just as Jesus Christ intercedes for us. Jesus has called us friend; to whom should we extend friendship in His name? As our friend, His grace and love give us salvation and the hope of eternal life.)

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ²and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.



...welcome him
as you would
welcome me.

PHILEMON 1:17, NRSV

L This is the Word of the Lord.

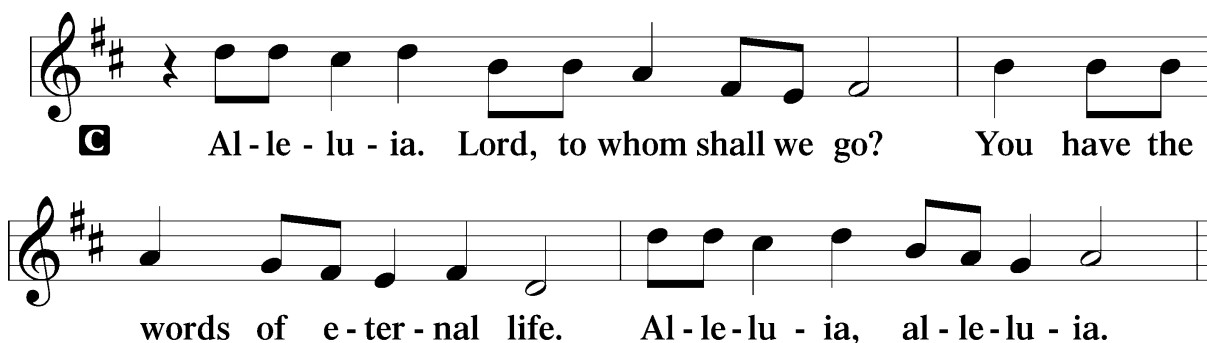
C Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68

LSB 156



HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:25–35

(Jesus illustrates the unconditional nature of discipleship. Consider well the radical demands of following Jesus, and be ready to meet them. Yet, count also the demands our salvation placed on the Son of God, who gave up all things for us. He is your tower and refuge of strength.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.



Carry the cross  and follow me.
Luke 14:27, NRSV

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. *[continued]*

³⁴“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



(Be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

LSB 851

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price, Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice; And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand To the unthankful and the evil With Your own unsparing hand. | 3. Wondrous honor You have given To our humblest charity In Your own mysterious sentence, “You have done it all to Me.” Can it be, O gracious Master, That You deign for alms to sue, Saying by Your poor and needy, “Give as I have giv’n to you”? |
| 2. Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Gladly, freely of Your own. With the sunshine of Your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by You, at length believe That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive. | 4. Lord of glory, You have bought us With Your lifeblood as the price, Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice. Give us faith to trust You boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of all Your graces, With Your love our love renew. |

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, alt.
Text: Public domain

SERMON

Rev. Dr. R. Brian Stolarczyk

(Please stand)

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

COMMISSIONING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs.

That we walk with Christ the heavenly way and follow Him where He has led, that by His obedient life, His life-giving death, and His victorious resurrection we receive the crown of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we be wise unto salvation, counting the cost of following Jesus, and by His grace and favor be sustained upon the path of life against all temptations and doubt, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That all the nations and their leaders work for peace, that the elected and appointed leaders of our own land act with integrity in the protection of our liberty and in the pursuit of justice, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That the Lord bless the proclamation of His Word here and in every place and that pastors serve us faithfully in Christ's name, distributing to us the gifts of His grace in the Holy Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That all those afflicted in body or mind find healing and relief and those near death and the grieving find comfort, [*especially . . .*],

and for all whom we name in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we learn gratitude for the manifold and rich gifts which God supplies every day. We praise and thank You for all the blessings You generously give us. We thank You for our families, friends, opportunities, vocations, and possessions. We thank you for all who rejoice this month, [*those celebrating birthdays 80+ years especially . . . Nancy Bird, Carl Cannon, Bill Dismuke, Marvin Fitzwater, Aida Florit, Laurene Johnson, Carolyn Lawson, Ro Miller, Larry Woodruff and those celebrating anniversaries especially . . . Tim & Susan Boisseau, Kevin & Loyda Pippin*],

May we all learn to generously share with those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we receive in repentance and with faith the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given to us in this Holy Communion and that we manifest the unity of heart and mind in all the doctrines taught us by His Word, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we be kept holy and blameless until the day of Christ's coming and be received by the mercy of God into the place of everlasting light and life in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

OFFERING

For those worshipping online, please visit www.lccross.org to find links to our Give+ secured online giving portal and our online Pew Card which is called a Connect Card. Or to fill out the card directly go to <https://forms.gle/X46ym1HuZ9DCsq9s6>



For those worshipping in-person, please indicate your attendance and any requests on the Pew Card. They can be placed in the offering plate during the collection.



OFFERING HYMN

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

LSB 853 sts. 1-2, 4



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord,
2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find,
4 In what You give us, Lord, to do,

When once we heed Your call: To live ac - cord - ing
Your yoke is hard to bear; If world - ly pres - sures
To - geth - er or a - lone, In old rou - tines or

to Your Word And dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,
fray the mind, And love it - self can - not un - wind
ven - tures new, May we not cease to look to You,

That You are Lord of all And will not let us fall.
Its tan - gled skein of care: Our in - ward life re - pair.
The cross You hung up - on— All You en - deav - ored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

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Tune: Public domain

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

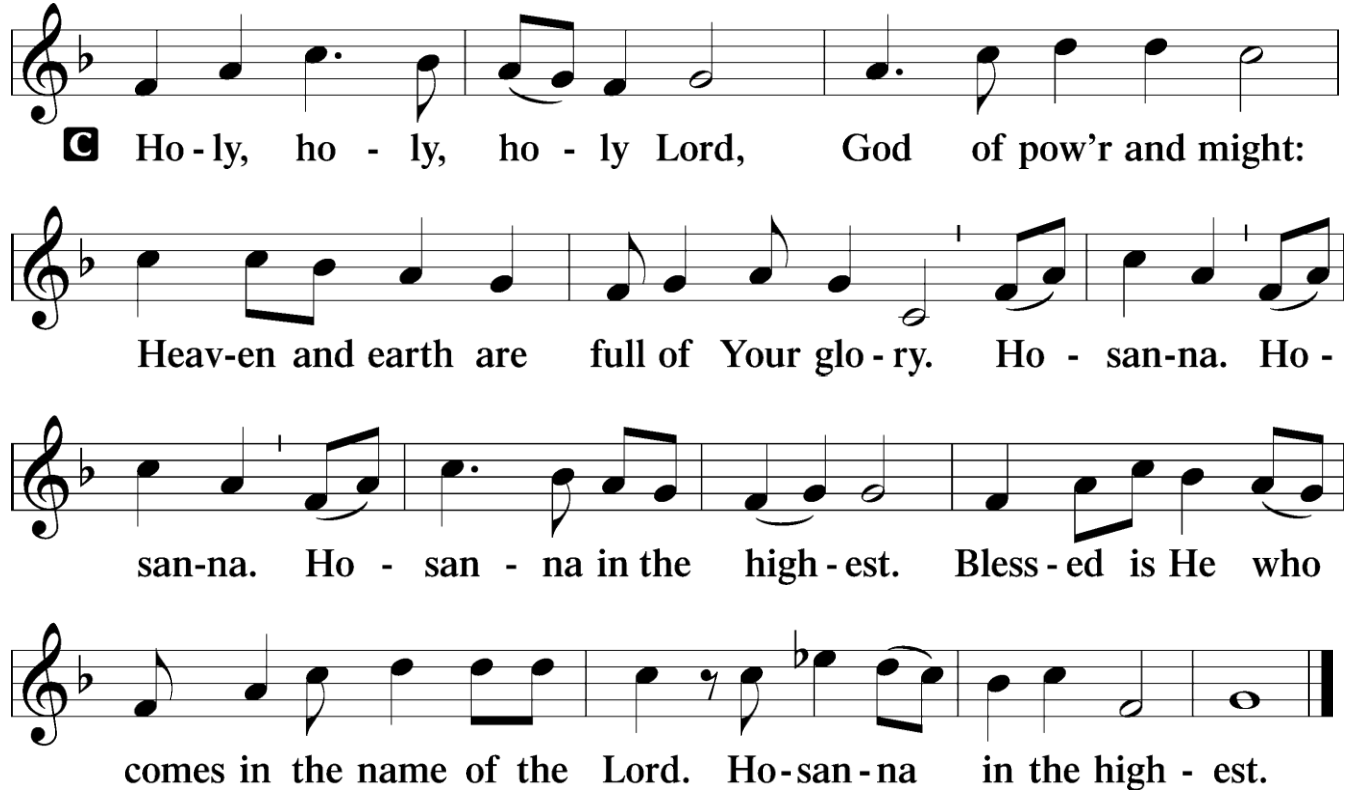


PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 161



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.



LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Mathew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

(Only by the almighty creative Word of God are we able to believe that the blessed sacrament delivers what God promises, the forgiveness for our sins. Mt. 26:28)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My **T** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is My **T** blood in the new testament which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



DISTRIBUTION

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins. **Amen.**

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart **T** in peace.

C **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

From God Can Nothing Move Me

LSB 713

(Sung to Arise, O Christian People - LSB 354)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. From God can nothing move me; He will not step aside But gently will reprove me And be my constant guide. He stretches out His hand In evening and in morning, My life with grace adorning Wherever I may stand. | 3. The Lord my life arranges; Who can His work destroy? In His good time He changes All sorrow into joy. So let me then be still: My body, soul, and spirit His tender care inherit According to His will. |
| 2. When those whom I regarded As trustworthy and sure Have long from me departed, God's grace shall still endure. He rescues me from sin And breaks the chains that bind me. I leave death's fear behind me; His peace I have within. | 4. Each day at His good pleasure God's gracious will is done. He sent His greatest treasure In Jesus Christ, His Son. He ev'ry gift imparts. The bread of earth and heaven Are by His kindness given. Praise Him with thankful hearts! |

(continued)

5. Praise God with acclamation
And in His gifts rejoice.
Each day finds its vocation
Responding to His voice.
Soon years on earth are past;
But time we spend expressing
The love of God brings blessing
That will forever last!
6. Yet even though I suffer
The world's unpleasantness,
And though the days grow rougher
And bring me great distress,
That day of bliss divine,
Which knows no end or measure,

And Christ, who is my pleasure,
Forever shall be mine.

7. For thus the Father willed it,
Who fashioned us from clay;
And His own Son fulfilled it
And brought eternal day.
The Spirit now has come,
To us true faith has given;
He leads us home to heaven.
O praise the Three in One!

Text: Ludwig Helmbold, 1532–98; (sts. 1–2, 6): tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt.; (st. 3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5): tr. Gregory J. Wismar, 1946; (st. 7): tr. Joseph Herl, 1959

Text (sts. 1–2, 6): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship; (sts. 3–5, 7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000907

DISTRIBUTION HYMN Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways *LSB 707*

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do His will!
- 2 Order my footsteps by Thy Word
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear.
- 3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget Thy way,
Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy commands
'Tis a delightful road
Nor let my head or heart or hands
Offend against my God.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Text: Public domain

1. Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive
us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.
2. Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.
3. Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.
4. Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. Lutheran Book of
Worship, 1978, alt.

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(Please stand)

THANK THE LORD *(Sung)*

LSB 164

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and **T** give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

1. Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.
2. Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
Be Thou still my strength and shield;
Be Thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.



Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Peter Williams, 1722–96, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. William Williams, 1717–91
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SILENT PRAYER & PARTING ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

We are a STEPHEN MINISTER church!



Acknowledgments

Scripture explanation from Engelbrecht, Edward A. The Lutheran Study Bible. St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House, 2009.
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Pastor: Rev. Dr. R. Brian Stolarczyk ~ Winter Assistant Pastor: Rev. Jerry Menk
Organist: Stephen Kopp III
Flute Soloist: Raymond Stolarczyk ~ Trumpet: Luke Stolarczyk
Handbell Co-Directors: Bill & Ronna Trueman ~ Vocal Choir Director: Arnie Piering
Clarinet: Bill Trueman ~ Drums: Chris Wrightsman
Saxophone: Cheryl Domingo ~ Trombone: Arnie Piering

September 7, 2025

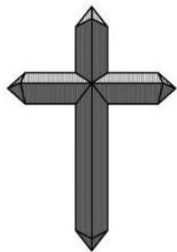
Welcoming all to walk together toward abundant life in Christ

The **ETERNAL LIGHT** this month is provided to the Glory of God by
Diane Barton in memory of her mother, Vivian Barton.

The **FLOWERS** on the altar this week are provided to the Glory of God by
Gloria Brown in celebration of Bill Dismuke's 90th birthday (09/10) and Lisa Brown
Swaba's birthday (09/28).

WORSHIP SERVANTS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Bell Tollers | Sue Richard, Bill Trueman |
| Elders on Duty | Mark Keck, Chris Trapp |
| Communion Assistants | Brian Daily, Jerry Kecken |
| Usher/Greeters | Dorothy Christman, Gary Fleming |
| Altar Servers | Cathy McCabe, Lori Nelson |
| Safety Team | David Aiken, Mark Keck |
| Streaming Team | Gloria Cvelbar, Wayn Nelson, Marita Noe, Luke Stolarczyk |



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES:

7:30AM & 10:30AM

OFFICE HOURS:

By Phone: Monday – Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm
(941) 627-6060 ~ Fax: (941) 627-5467

By email: secretary@lccross.org

Find us on the Web: www.lccross.org

Subscribe to our YouTube Channel or Like us on Facebook.

IF YOU HAVE any comments, questions or suggestions, please contact:

Head Elder

Jim McCabe:

847-471-1421

In case of Emergency you may reach

Pastor Stolarczyk: Cell: 941-979-7490

**LCC ATTENDANCE REPORT &
WEEKLY INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT 2025**

| Week Of: 08/31/2025 | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|--|
| On-Site Attendance 42/73 | Weekly Contributions | | |
| | Income: | \$3,745 | |
| | Expense: | \$ 11,170 | |

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR EXTENDED VACATION

Please be advised that Jennifer, our Parish Administrator, will be on a leave of absence for the entire month of September. During this time, she will not be available for work items via text, voicemail, or email.

You can always text her to just say hello!

If you have any urgent matters that need attention, please reach out Bill Heffernan 630-240-0075.

She will resume her office duties on Monday, October 6th.

Thank you for your understanding.



**"If anyone
would come after me,
he must deny himself and
take up his cross
and follow me."**

MARK 8:34, NIV