

Holy Cross Lutheran
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 23, 2020 – 9 AM

AS WE GATHER - This Sunday we transition in our Romans' sermon series from the first two thirds of the letter of the "Righteousness of God in Christ" to the last third of the letter God producing a life of righteousness by transforming our lives through the renewing of our mind. May the Lord overflow in us to bring salvation and the peace to the lives of those who do not yet know Him. The Lord bless your hearing of the Good News today strengthening you always, in all ways.

† IN DOMINE JESU †

(In the Name of Jesus)

PRELUDE

WELCOME "This is the Day that the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it." *Ps. 118:24*

GATHERING HYMN "Take My Life and Let It Be" *LSB 783 vs 1-3*



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al - ways, on - ly for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

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INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and ask His gracious forgiveness.
C: We confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and before one another, that we are sinful human beings by nature and by deed. We have not always put God first. We have used His holy name in ways that do not honor Him. Many times, we have not been thoughtful caretakers of His creation nor have we shared His bounty with others. We have been heedless in word and deed. We have not kept our thoughts, words, and deeds pure and honorable. We sinned in ways we know and in ways we do not even recognize. We have coveted that which is not rightfully ours. We have failed to put the best construction on all things and on all people. We pray Lord God, to have mercy on us, to forgive us all our sins, and to bring us to everlasting life. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

P: The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together. **Heavenly Father, you gave your only Son, Jesus to die for our sin and to transform us to become children of light. Shine your love to lighten our darkness that we would become living sacrifices to those who do not yet know you as the light of the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

† THE LIVING WORD †

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

(The salvation of the Lord will be forever.)

¹Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. ³For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 11:33-12:8

(The apostle Paul calls us to be living sacrifices renewing our mind that we may even be able to do Good to those who may persecute us.)

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” ³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” ³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. ¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

Ephesians 2:19b-20

Alleluia. You are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter. **C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

(Jesus is confessed as the Christ, the Son of the living God, by Peter.)

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord of All Good"

LSB 786

1 Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;
 2 We give our minds to un - der - stand Your ways;
 3 Fa - ther, whose boun - ty all cre - a - tion shows;

Use them Your ho - ly pur - pose to ful - fill.
 Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great de - sign;
 Christ, by whose will - ing sac - ri - fice we live;

To - kens of love and pledg - es they shall be
 Hearts with the flame of Your own love a - blaze—
 Spir - it, from whom all life in full - ness flows;

That our whole life is of - fered to Your will.
 Thus for Your glo - ry all our pow'rs com - bine.
 To You with grate - ful hearts our - selves we give.

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SERMON “Transformed by the “Unfamiliar” Renewing of the Mind. But What Does This Mean?”

“Do not conform any longer to the order of the world but be newly changed by what is unheard of in your mind that you may discern the genuineness of what is God’s will — His good, pleasing and completed will.”
Romans 12: 2

NICENE CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(after petitions, Pastor prays “Lord in your mercy” please pray, “Hear our prayer”)*

(after all the petitions have been prayed, we commend all the prayers with these words)

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

C: Amen.

† CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER †

THE LORD’S PRAYER

P: In preparation for the Lord’s supper we pray the prayer 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.**

THE PREPARATION *(please take your communion vessel in hand for our Lord’s Words of Institution)*

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

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

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

ONE BODY IN CHRIST *(We take Communion as one body together as brothers and sisters in Christ with our invitation of the following words)*

P: Take and eat this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ given into death for all your sin.

P: Take and drink this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior shed for you for the forgiveness of all your sin.

P: The body and blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast, in the one true faith, to life everlasting. Go in peace, joy, love and forgiveness. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray together: **Holy Father, we ask You now, by this blessed food and drink, to deliver Your Church from every evil. Teach us to love You and one another as You have loved us and make us truly one, even as this bread was made from many grains of wheat to become the one body of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

P: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

LSB 783 vs 4-6

4 Take my silver and my gold,
 Not a mite would I withhold;
 Take my intellect and use
 Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
 It shall be no longer mine;
 Take my heart, it is Thine own,
 It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
 At Thy feet its treasure store;
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for Thee.

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THE SENDING

P: Go in peace and join Jesus on His mission! **C: Amen! We will! Amen!**

† SOLI DEO GLORIA †

(To God be the Glory)

SERVING TODAY THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE 9:00 am

Communion Support:	Jon Dobberstein
Lector:	Mary Deluhery
Ushers:	Denny Case
Acolyte:	Blake Dobberstein
AV:	Jason Eickhoff
Offering Counters:	Wendy Fitzwater & Doug Schulze

Holy Cross Happenings

August 23 – August 30, 2020

WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS!

Welcome to the Lord's House. God bless you as hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.

QUOTE: August 23 "We run to help people in need; we run to deal with emergencies and crises and the problems of every day; we take the Good News to people we love, family and friends and neighbors alike. But there are also times we can sit—and rejoice that Jesus is risen, that evil is conquered, and that God's victory is certain." *Dr. Kari Vo – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

Informal prayer time - We will be having an informal time of prayer at Holy Cross on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 pm. All are welcome. We will be praying for Holy Cross, our nation, Covid concerns and any other prayer requests. We will provide a list of what to pray for and bring along your personal prayers also. Please pray about joining us for all or some of these Wednesday nights.

SS Rally Day – Parking Lot Picnic and Ice Cream Social! Sunday, September 20

Bring your picnic basket, favorite picnic foods and beverages for your own family, lawn chairs and/or a table or your tailgate for a picnic in the parking lot to kick off the SS year here at Holy Cross. Church will provide the ice cream and you are welcome to eat it plain or bring your favorite toppings or treats to enjoy with it. Watch for more SS details in the coming weeks in the Happenings and September Holy Crossings. We look forward to gathering to rally for another year of growing spiritually in our faith in Christ, the Word made flesh!

Haiti Help - Any support you are able to give, pray and possibly give a financial contribution, it would help Haiti greatly and very much appreciated. If you wish to donate towards food you should make that notation in the memo line. If you wish the address to mail in a contribution is as follows:
HLMS, PO Box 22544, Lincoln NE 68542-2544.

Mums for Haiti - Our brothers and sisters in Haiti are starving. Pastor Thomas Bernard, pastor of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Port-au-Prince, said more people are dying from starvation than Covid 19. In order to raise money for food, Holy Cross will be selling mums from Sailer's Greenhouse. Mums will be for sale at \$16 each. They will be available at the church parking lot Saturday, September 12, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. If you are interested in purchasing a mum, contact Bonnie Nowak in person at church or e-mail her at bonnienowak007@gmail.com. Make checks payable to Holy Cross Lutheran and designate flower sale on the memo line. Flower colors available will be red, yellow or orange. Come early to get the color you want. Thrivent Financial is helping to sponsor this event.

McKenna visiting – If anyone is interested in visiting Lohart on Wednesday at 10 am outdoors where they set up a special outdoor distancing, people can meet Pastor, Janean or Nancy and attend with them when they visit. If rain and lightning the visit cannot be done. Please contact the church office if interested.

Holy Communion is celebrated today. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We receive miraculously, in the gift of faith He has given us His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you.

CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS

Attendance – 08-16-2020

Worship: 33 + 20 streamers

Communion: 33 + 1 Drive-up Communion

Responding to God's Grace

Contributions needed each month (General Fund): \$21,982.50

Contributions received in July \$18,540.82

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

Sunday, August 23 12th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion also via Zoom
10:15-10:45 am Drive-up Communion
11:00 am Romans' Bible Study via Zoom

Monday, August 24

Tuesday, August 25

8:00 am Men's Bible Study (preschool room)

Wednesday, August 26

12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due
7:00 pm Informal Prayer (*sanctuary*)

Thursday, August 27

Friday, August 28

Saturday, August 29

9:00 am Church Cleaning

Sunday, August 30 13th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 am Worship W/ Holy Communion also via Zoom
10:15 am Drive-Up Communion
11:00 am Romans' Bible Study via Zoom

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY – AUGUST 30, 2020

Elder/Communion Helper: Brit Weimer
Lector: Pam Hunter
Ushers: Lance Lerum
Acolyte: Morgan Schulze
AV: Judy Weimer
Offering Counters: Meg Batchelder & Michele Lein



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Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng: Praise Music Director: Becca Tutewohl
Office Ministry Assistants: Meg Batchelder and Dorene Oak
Pastor James Jobst: (612) 615-2939