

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 2020 – 9 AM



AS WE GATHER Countless times during Christ's mission in human flesh for the sins of the world, the Pharisees and others tried to test, trap, and trick Jesus, thinking He would suffer a setback to His ministry. Time and time again, Jesus in His divine wisdom and teaching would instead turn those times into a setup for teaching about many things regarding life on earth and the kingdom of heaven. We, too, face times of testing, trapping, and tricking, though not from Pharisees, but from this world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh, and often we face setbacks. We are wise to turn to the one who has set us up for forgiveness, mercy, and a new life through His own life, death, and rising. Rejoicing in His grace, in response to His love, we faithfully, "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21).

† 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

"Alleluia! Let Praises Ring"

LSB 822

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! To God the Fa -
2 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Lamb
3 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Ho -
4 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to our tri -

ther let us bring Our songs of ad - o - ra - tion.
of God we sing, In whom we are e - lect - ed.
ly Ghost we sing For our re - gen - er - a - tion.
une God we sing; Blest be His name for - ev - er!

To Him through ev - er - last - ing days Be wor - ship, hon -
He bought His Church with His own blood, He cleansed her in
The sav - ing faith in us He wrought And us un - to
With an - gel hosts let us a - dore And sing His prais -

or, pow'r, and praise, Whose hand sus - tains cre - a - tion.
that bless - ed flood, And as His bride se - lect - ed.
the Bride-groom brought, Made us His cho - sen na - tion.
es ev - er - more For all His grace and fa - vor!

Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;
Ho - ly, ho - ly Is our u - nion And com - mu - nion.
Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Joy e - ter - nal, Bliss su - per - nal;
Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;

Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry.
His be - friend - ing Gives us joy and peace un - end - ing.
There is man - na And an end - less, glad ho - san - na.
Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry!

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 51:1–3; 96:9–13; Isaiah 45:5, adapted

P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

C: according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

P: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

C: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

P: As we come and bow before the Lord to confess our sins, we admit that we have bowed down to other gods of this world and gods of our own choosing.

C: We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in You.

P: We have failed to rely on You in all times. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, and against others in what we have done and left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart

C: and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in You.

P: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

C: let the field exult, and everything in it!

P: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

C: before the LORD, for He comes,

P: for He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in His faithfulness.

C: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

P: Brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, God is a merciful and loving Father, of whom “there is no other, besides Him there is no God.” He has chosen you in the Gospel, which has come not only in word but with full conviction in power and in the Holy Spirit. Jesus died on the cross to redeem You. Through Him, in His stead, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, 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. **O Lord God, as there is no other like You, help us to give to You the things that are Yours, that we serve only You. Govern all things in this world so Your Church will serve You with conviction in confidence and peace, and that faith, hope, and love be known and shown in our earthly journeys as Your kingdom comes; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 45:1-7

(The Lord uses Cyrus as an instrument of deliverance.)

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:

²"I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things.

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

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

(The Thessalonians' faith and example)

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

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

VERSE

Colossians 2:10

Alleluia. You have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-22

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

(The Pharisees use a political controversy, concerning paying taxes to Caesar, to hem Jesus in about Roman military occupancy trying to cause Jesus to side with Rome or Israel, causing either way his arrest in a lose – lose situation.)

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

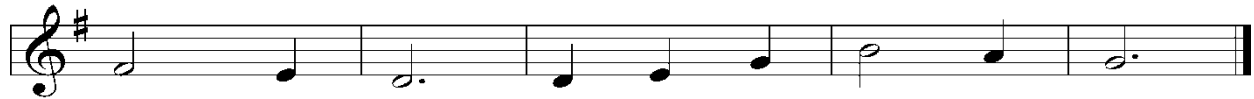
P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful!
 2 When once You vis - it dark - ened hearts,
 3 O Je - sus, light of all be - low,
 4 May ev - 'ry heart con - fess Your name,
 5 Oh, may our tongues for - ev - er bless,



O Con - quer - or re - nowned! O Source of peace in -
 Then truth be - gins to shine, Then earth - ly van - i -
 The fount of life and fire, Sur - pass - ing all the
 For - ev - er You a - dore, And, seek - ing You, it -
 May we love You a - lone And ev - er in our



ef - fa - ble, In whom all joys are found:
 ty de - parts, Then kin - dles love di - vine.
 joys we know, All that we can de - sire:
 self in - flame To seek You more and more!
 lives ex - press The im - age of Your own!

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SERMON "Render Unto Caesar What is Caesar's and What is God's unto God" *Matthew 22:(15-20) 21*

APOSTLES' CREED THE 1st ARTICLE OF CATECHISM

The First Article

P: The First Article of the Apostles' Creed tells us about the creative work and continuing care of God the Father. The explanation, written by Martin Luther, further explains the work of God the Father and our faithful response.

C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?
I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

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 OF THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray together, **We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us in, with, and under bread and wine with the body and blood of Your dear Son. Strengthen our faith in You, and in our love for others in Your kingdom and throughout our community, country, and world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 His favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

SONG OF SENDING

"Cornerstone"

By: Hillsong Worship

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)

THE POSTLUDE

Holy Cross Happenings

October 18 – October 25, 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: October 18 "The Church has confessed from the beginning that each life is created by God, that human life is the supreme gift of the Creator. Human life is not given unconditionally but is given under the condition that we will be responsible for preserving it. The testimony that God respects life above all else is contained in the words of the Gospel: 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life' (John 3:16)." *Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island, Washington – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

October is Pastor Appreciation Month - We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. (1 Thessalonians 5:12-13).

Let's remember that pastors are given to us to help us learn God's word and to carry out God's will on Earth. Where would we be without them!? Who would we ask when we have tough questions? Who would we turn to when faced with illness or grief? Who joins with us in the celebrations of baptism and marriage? Why, of course, our pastors! During the month of October think of ways you can thank, support, and show appreciation for the work Rev. Jobst does for you and others at Holy Cross.

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child - Ready to pack a shoebox for a child that might otherwise not have a Christmas gift? We have **50 pre-printed shoeboxes** in the Commons as well as peel & stick labels. On the reverse side is information concerning how to pack a shoebox along with gift ideas and what not to include for gifts. **Step 1:** Pickup shoe boxes and labels, **Step 2:** Purchase age-appropriate gifts, **Step 3:** pack shoebox and apply label, **Step 4: Return** to church **as you fill them** ~ **NO LATER than Sunday, Nov. 15th.**

Adult Sunday Morning Bible Class This group will meet in the sanctuary for space. The OT book of Nahum will be led by Rev. Robert Nowak. The teaser for you to participate... Robert "finds it fascinating and so much like the world we live in today"! Come for ancient history, Assyrian empire origin information, and more!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING LIGHTS – Anyone wishing to help and donate LED Christmas lights only, light timers and electrical cords for our decorating the Church lot would be greatly appreciated. You can start bringing them in as soon as possible for we will be decorating in early November before the cold weather is upon us. If you have any further questions, please contact Ralph Wagner or Rostina and Rich Vannett for more information. Thank you for your help.

Informal prayer time - We will continue the 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.

Church Clean-up – Will be held Saturday, October 24, 2020 at 9:00 – 12:00 pm. Please bring any yard tools to help rakes, garbage bags etc. If it is raining clean-up day will then be moved to October 31, 2020 at 9:00 am. Please consider volunteering. The more the merrier! Thank you. Any questions please contact Denny Case.

Sunday, October 25th – Reformation Sunday and Pumpkin Carving (2 Categories) Contest! ALL AGES are encouraged to participate in a Pumpkin Carving Contest & Reformation Activities! **Wear red on this day to remember the Reformation that started over 500 years ago!** We hope to sing a Reformation hymn or two, have a Catechism Pop Quiz and vote for your favorite carved pumpkin! There will be **prizes!!!....** you have to JOIN US to win! The two categories for pumpkin carving are **Most Creative** and **Christian-themed**. Bring your carved pumpkin(s) to church on Sunday morning to fellowship together after worship.

Calling All Thrivent Members - If you would like to add your name to a list of Thrivent members at Holy Cross, please contact Bonnie Nowak at bonnienowak007@gmail.com or call her at 952-406-0667. If you have ideas for future projects that could be funded by Thrivent Action Team grants, please share that information with her as well. For more details regarding this, please read the article in the October newsletter.

The new Sanctuary Course ("Please join us today at 11 am in the front of the sanctuary or online using our Zoom link for the 'Sanctuary' class on mental health understanding and support for our families and community. Pastor Jim will facilitate the class.")

New Opportunity - Haiti Lutheran Mission Society has announced, "We have the opportunity to have up to \$10,000 in matching funds (from a generous donor) for the outreach of the HLMS between now and October 31, 2020." Those donating should write "matching funds" on the memo line. As with all donations to HLMS, 100% of all monies donated goes to missions.

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.

MOR (Ministry of Reconciliation) – MOR is a local counseling and prayer support ministry in Prior Lake. Because of social distancing their office space is limited and have asked and received permission to hold a prayer support and reconciliation training here at Holy Cross. They will meet Thursday evenings in the Fellowship Hall from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm M (Note: Masks and social distancing will be required as well as helping disinfect the area at the end of each evening of the chair and table spaced used).

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, 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.

SERVING TODAY THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE 9:00 am

Communion Support:	Jon Dobberstein
Lector:	Jason Eickhoff
Ushers:	Denny Case
Acolyte:	Jonas Petrie
AV:	Dinah Gilberts
Offering Counters:	Meg Batchelder & Michele Lein

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 25, 2020 9:00 am

Communion Support:	Brit Weimer
Lector:	Judy Weimer
Ushers:	Lance Lerum
Acolyte:	Allie Wagner
AV:	Rostina Vannett
Offering Counters:	Doug Schulze

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

Sunday	October 18	20th Sunday after Pentecost
	9:00 am	Worship w/Holy Communion also via Zoom
	10:15-10:45 am	Drive-up Communion
	10:15-11:00 am	Bible Study in Sanctuary on book of Nahum NO SUNDAY SCHOOL DUE TO MEA
Monday	October 19	
Tuesday	October 20	
	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 pm	Prior Lake La Leche League
Wednesday	October 21	
	12:00 pm	Happenings Articles Due
	7:00 pm	Informal Prayer (<i>sanctuary</i>)
Thursday	October 22	
	6:30 pm	MOR Prayer Training
Friday	October 23	
Saturday	October 24	
	9:00 am	Church Cleaning
	9:00 am	Church Fall Clean-Up
Sunday	October 25	REFORMATION SUNDAY
	9:00 am	Worship W/ Holy Communion also via Zoom
	10:15 am	Drive-Up Communion
	10:15 am	"Nahum" Bible Study in Sanctuary / Sunday School
	11:00 am	"Sanctuary" Course on Mental Health live and zoom

CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS

Attendance – 10-11-2020

Worship: 31 + 12 streamers = 43
 Communion: 31 + 2 Drive-up = 33
 Bible Study: 13
 Sunday School: 7 Kids + 4 teachers

Responding to God's Grace

Contributions needed/month (General Fund): \$21,982.50
 Contributions received in September \$20,017.57



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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