

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

November 8, 2020 – 9AM



**AS WE GATHER** Including today there are only three Sundays left in the church year. These Sunday's our scripture lessons will be about the end of time and what it will be like when the Lord returns. We hear in our epistle lesson extremely encouraging words from the apostle Paul concerning our everlasting life. Paul tells us, "We will always be with the Lord." What comforting words! What encouraging words! You have the assurance that when Jesus returns, you will spend everlasting life in His gracious presence.

**† IN NOMINE 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**

**"Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"**

LSB 904

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered  
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from  
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and

all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night  
God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;  
ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,

Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,  
With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your  
Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -

sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.  
God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.  
low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

Public domain

**INVOCATION**

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

C: Amen.

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: Indeed, Christ is coming soon to raise the dead and bring us into everlasting life with Him. Yet there are times when we have lived as if Christ's return was not important and not imminent. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

**C: Heavenly Father, we confess that we have ignored You and our neighbors in need. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might be encouraged by Your presence and forgiven of our sin.**

P: God hears your confession and has promised to always be with you. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise 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 † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen. We are forgiven. We look for the return of Jesus.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray together, **O Lord, encourage us with Your presence in Your Word and Sacraments, that we be strengthened for service to You and our neighbors as we await the return of Jesus, through the same 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**

*Amos 5:18–24*

*(The day of the Lord is coming.)*

L: <sup>18</sup>Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD? It is darkness, and not light, <sup>19</sup>as 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. <sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? <sup>21</sup>"I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even 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. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

### **SONG OF REFLECTION**

**"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

*LSB 357 v. 6*

**O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

### **EPISTLE**

*1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

*(We will always be with the Lord.)*

L: <sup>13</sup>But 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. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For 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. <sup>16</sup>For 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.

<sup>17</sup>Then 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. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

P: Please stand for the Holy Gospel in honor of our Lord Jesus and our Verse from Hebrews.

## VERSE

*Matthew 25:13*

**ALL: Alleluia. Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 25:1-13*

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

*(The parable of the ten virgins.)*

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

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"

*LSB 516*



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the  
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with  
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"  
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing  
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in  
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the

cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?  
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.

The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!  
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,  
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might

Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare  
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall  
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly

To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."  
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.  
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Public domain

## SERMON

### "Encouraging Words! We Will Always Be with the Lord!"

<sup>16</sup>For 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. <sup>17</sup>Then 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. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words. 1 Thess. 4:16-18

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** *(after petitions, Pastor prays, "For until Your return," we pray, "come quickly, Lord Jesus."*

*(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."

**PEACE OF THE LORD**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**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 graced us with Your presence in this Sacrament, and we pray that You would continually make Your presence known as we await the return of Your Son; through the same 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**

**"You Never Let Go"**

*By: Matt Redman*

**DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace and join Jesus on His mission!

**C: Amen! We will! Amen!**

**† SOLI DEO GLORIA †**

*(To God be the Glory)*

**THE POST SERVICE MUSIC**

*(reprisal sending song)*

# Holy Cross Happenings

November 8 – November 15, 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: November 8** "Maybe you enjoy showing hospitality to others, whether at home or as part of a joint effort at church. Perhaps you invite people who are lonely or people who are hungry or homeless or far away from home. Perhaps you are reaching out to refugees or to international students. Perhaps you take a casserole to a family with a new baby or buy toothpaste and toilet paper for the local homeless shelter. If so, you are showing hospitality to Jesus. What an honor to be able to do so!" *Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

**Veteran's Day Remembrance** – Wednesday, November 11 please give thanks in prayer to the Lord for the many men and women who have and are serving in Armed Forces. Please check the Synod website if you want to make an offering to the Armed Services ministry of the LCMS. Thank you to all who have and are currently serving our country. God Bless You!

**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.**

**Immanuel Lutheran Church** – Is hosting a Turkey Dinner Drive-Thru and Thanksgiving Pie Orders Drive-Thru Please see their website or call 952-492-6010 for more information. [www.immanuel-fishlake.org](http://www.immanuel-fishlake.org)

**Adult Sunday Morning Bible Class** The Bible study is cancelled for this Sunday, but will resume next week November 15<sup>th</sup>. 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!

**Thanksgiving Service** Tuesday, November 24 we will have a Thanksgiving service at 7:00 pm.

**Christmas Decorating Lights** – Anyone wishing to help in putting up outside Christmas lights we are planning to do this Sunday, November 8 around 12:30 to 1 pm. 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.

**The 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.

**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, 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:** Judy Weimer  
**Ushers:** Denny Case  
**Acolyte:** Daniel Vannett  
**AV:** Rostina Vannett  
**Offering Counters:** Dave Albrecht & Doug Schulze

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15, 2020 9:00 am**

**Communion Support:** Brit Weimer  
**Lector:** Mary Deluhery  
**Ushers:** Dinah Gilberts  
**Acolyte:** Jonas Petrie  
**AV:** Vivian Jobst  
**Offering Counters:** Carol Albrecht & Pam Hunter

**THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 8</b>	<b>Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost</b>
	9:00 am	Worship w/Holy Communion also via Zoom
	10:15-10:45 am	Drive-up Communion
	10:15-11:00 am	"Nahum" Bible Study is cancelled for today, will resume Next Sunday, November 15
		Sunday School
	11:00 am	"Sanctuary" Course on Mental Health live & via zoom
	12:30 pm	Church Light Decorating outside
<b>Monday</b>	<b>November 9</b>	
	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting via Zoom
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>November 10</b>	
	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>November 11</b>	
	12:00 pm	Happenings Articles Due
	7:00 pm	Informal Prayer ( <i>sanctuary</i> )
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>November 12</b>	
	9:30 am	Circuit Meeting/Pablo
<b>Friday</b>	<b>November 13</b>	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>November 14</b>	
	9:00 am	Church Cleaning
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>November 15</b>	<b>Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b>
	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 – 11-01-2020

Worship: 45 + 15 streamers = 60  
Communion: 41 + 2 Drive-up = 43  
Bible Study: N/A – Voter's Meeting  
Sunday School: 6 kids & 3 teachers  
Sanctuary Class: N/A

### Responding to God's Grace

Contributions needed/month (General Fund): \$21,982.50  
Contributions received in October \$18,196.57



14085 Pike Lake Trail NE, Prior Lake, MN 55372 Phone: (952) 445-1779  
Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng: Praise Music Director: Becca Tutewohl  
Office Ministry Assistants: Meg Batchelder and Dorene Oak  
Pastor James Jobst: (612) 615-2939