

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

November 15, 2020



**AS WE GATHER** We read today about three servants. All three received a good and gracious gift from their master. Two were good and faithful. One was evil and faithless. Two reflected the goodness and faithfulness of their master. One refused to act like his master and was punished for his insolence. Consider Jesus, our good and faithful Master, and all that He has done for us and our salvation. As we follow Him, we reflect His goodness and faithfulness.

**† 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** "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

*LSB 685*

1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience  
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en

am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to  
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He  
con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to  
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,

sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,  
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,  
us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion  
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;

Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and  
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts  
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that  
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence

hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful  
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,  
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,  
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,

Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.  
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.  
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.  
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

## INVOCATION

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

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Indeed, our heavenly Father has done wonderful things for us. He has given us more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Yet, there have been times when we have been ungrateful for God's gifts, times when we have been lazy and selfish with what He has given us, times when we have been unfaithful servants. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

**C: Heavenly Father, we confess that we have not been faithful with all of the good gifts You have given us. 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 restored as Your servants.**

P: God hears your confession and has promised to be with you always. 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 are restored in Jesus.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray together, **Heavenly Father, You are our good and faithful Master. Thank You for the abundance of blessings You have poured into our lives. Strengthen us by Your mighty power, that we might serve You well and faithfully; 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 †

### FIRST READING

*Zephaniah 1:7–16*

*(The Day of the Lord is near.)*

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. <sup>8</sup>And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. <sup>9</sup>On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. <sup>10</sup>"On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. <sup>11</sup>Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' <sup>13</sup>Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." <sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

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

*(Let us live as children of the light.)*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

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

## VERSE

*Matthew 25:29a*

**Alleluia. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 25:14-30*

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

*(The parable of the talents)*

<sup>14</sup>"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup>So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.'

<sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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

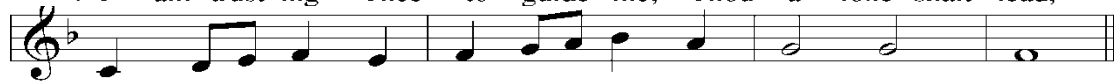
**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**"I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus"**

LSB 729



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;  
 2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,  
 3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;  
 4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.  
 For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.  
 Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.  
 Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

5 I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.  
 Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me  
 Must prevail.

6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.  
 I am trusting Thee forever  
 And for all.

Public domain

**SERMON**

**"ENTRUSTED! RECEIVE JOY!"**

"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.... Well done, good and faithful servant...Enter into the joy of your master.' *Matthew 25:14, 21, 23*

**THE 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.**

**PRAYER 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."

### 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 keep us in the one true faith until life everlasting when we enter into the joy of our Master; 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**

**“Great are You Lord”**

*By: All Sons & Daughters*

**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)*

Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission., Series A, Quarter 4. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

# Holy Cross Happenings

November 15 – November 22, 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 15** "To be sure, our God Father does not give the vocation of a large family to everyone. (And, of course, any quantity of family and offspring He bestows is a great benefit.) But we need not despise proliferation the way the world does. Indeed, we may appreciate and assist our brothers and sisters who engage in this holy (and delightful!) calling. And we may also raise our young ones to cherish procreation and adoption more than any personal preferences or material possessions. The blessings of children always outweigh even the burdens!" *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

**Operation Christmas Child** boxes are due to TODAY! If you were not able to get one and would still like to participate you can build your box online at this special link just for our church, Holy Cross PL:  
<https://build-a-shoebbox.samaritanspurse.org/view/d7129dd3-9a67-48ff-bed2-40e21b907356>

**Service Sunday event:** Today our SS youth and families will be making cards of encouragement to send to members who are unable to attend church in person at this time. All ages are welcome to participate following the worship service and during the SS Hour. We will also be checking out some information on Operation Christmas Child boxes and **what happens after** they are delivered. **Serving others is a super special gift!**

**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** - 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.

**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.

**Holy Cross's Christmas Program** - is planned to be held Sunday, Dec. 13. The continuing saga with the Murdock family and Aunt Agatha is written and ready! What surprises will this Christmas hold??? . . . come and see, or 'tune in' by Zoom to find out! It's sure to be memorable, just like this year has been for all of us! You won't want to miss it!

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

**SERVING NEXT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2020 9:00 am**

**Communion Support:** Dave Albrecht  
**Lector:** Pam Hunter  
**Ushers:** Paige Westrum  
**Acolyte:** Allie Wagner  
**AV:** Dinah Gilberts  
**Offering Counters:** Denny Case & Doug Schulze

**THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS**

**Sunday November 15 Twenty-fourth 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 "Nahum" Bible Study  
 Sunday School  
 11:00 am "Sanctuary" Course on Mental Health live & via zoom

**Monday November 16**  
 5:45 pm Elders & Officers Meeting

**Tuesday November 17**  
 8:00 am Men's Bible Study

**Wednesday November 18**  
 12:00 pm Happenings Articles Due  
 7:00 pm Informal Prayer (*sanctuary*)

**Thursday November 19**

**Friday November 20**

**Saturday November 21**  
 9:00 am Church Cleaning

**Sunday November 22 Last Sunday of the Church year**  
 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 also via Zoom



## CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS

### Attendance – 11-08-2020

Worship: 46 + ? streamers = ?  
Communion: 42 + 6 Drive-up = 48  
Bible Study: N/A – Voter's Meeting  
Sunday School: 8 kids & 4 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