

Holy Cross Lutheran  
**SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**Mother's Day**  
May 9, 2021

**AS WE GATHER** One of the marks of great missionaries is that, like God, they show no partiality among persons (Acts 10:34). Today, in our first reading, the Lord guides Peter to show no partiality in sharing the Gospel to the Gentiles, through a vision of clean and unclean food. Though at first, Peter resisted what the Lord was wanting Him to do when commanded by God in the vision to eat unclean food the Lord had provided. But soon Peter sees the Lord's hand that all nations and peoples no matter their past, the Lord wants His saving grace to be proclaimed to all. The Lord also has and will show us, even with our resistance sometimes, to follow His guidance in sharing His promises of grace to our community. His Living Word guides our lives daily. In our Gospel lesson, Jesus reminds the disciples that only by remaining in Him will they bear much fruit. It is only through His Holy Spirit that His will is accomplished living by His grace each moment of life through His love. The Lord bless you as we grow in discipleship through the hearing of His Good News that we show no partiality in loving others in Christ.

**† IN DOMINE JESU †**  
(In the Name of Jesus)

**PRELUDE**

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

**GATHERING HYMN**      **"Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling"**      *LSB 827 vs 1-3*

**INVOCATION**

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

**EASTER ACCLAMATION**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**OPENING SENTENCES**

*Psalm 146:1-2, 5, 10*

P: Praise the LORD!

**C: Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

P: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

**C: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

**C: whose hope is in the LORD his God.**

P: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

**C: Praise the LORD!**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: As penitent people, we ask God for His grace and mercy. Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

**C: Gracious God, in heartfelt repentance we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are sin-stained people by nature. Each day we have sinned and done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your servants. We have not seen people in the loving way that You see them. We have not always been ready to care and quick to help. We do indeed deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within our hearts and lives, lead us into ways that reflect Your goodness and love.**

P: God is loving and merciful. He sees us with loving eyes and graciously hears our supplications. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

**“Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling”**

*LSB 827 V4*

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray together. **Risen and ascended Lord, while we were still in our sins, You chose us, laid down Your life for us, and called us friends. By Your great love for us, inspire us to love one another and to go out into the world to bear fruit according to Your promise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **FIRST READING**

*Acts 10:34-48*

*(People from every nation are accepted by God.)*

<sup>34</sup>So Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), <sup>37</sup>you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.” <sup>44</sup>While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

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

*(The victory of Christ overcomes the world.)*

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. <sup>4</sup>For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? <sup>6</sup>This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. <sup>7</sup>For there are three that testify: <sup>8</sup>the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

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

### VERSE

*Romans 6:9; John 16:33b*

**Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.**

### HOLY GOSPEL

*John 15:9-17*

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

*(Obeying Christ's commands and remaining in His love)*

<sup>9</sup>If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son. <sup>10</sup>Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. Whoever does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life. <sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. <sup>14</sup>And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. <sup>15</sup>And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. <sup>16</sup>If anyone sees his brother committing a sin not leading to death, he shall ask, and God will give him life—to those who commit sins that do not lead to death. There is sin that leads to death; I do not say that one should pray for that. <sup>17</sup>All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death.

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

### HYMN OF THE DAY

**"Lord of All Nations Grant me Grace"**

*LSB 844 (Tune LSB 563)*

### SERMON

**"Withholding...No More! 'Let it Go and Let it Go!'"**

**"Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"**

*Acts 10:47*

## **CONFESSIONS OF FAITH - CATECHISM** *(The Third Article)*

P: We learn from our First Reading today that the gift of the Holy Spirit was given to Gentiles as well as to Jews, which includes all the peoples of the world. Let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the Third Person of the Holy Trinity.

**C: 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.**

P: What does this mean?

**C: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

**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** *(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."

## **THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also, with you.**

**ONE BODY IN CHRIST** *(As brothers and sisters in Christ, as one body we communion with the 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 true faith, to life everlasting. Know that His peace, joy, love and forgiveness is yours now and forever. Amen.

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

## **"Lamb of God"**

*LSB 550*

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Let us pray together. **Lord Jesus Christ, You have again welcomed us at Your Table of grace. Grant that this Sacrament, which we have now received, strengthen us in faith and in loving service to one another. As we have shared in the blessings of Your Table, grant that we live each day as Your people who see those around us as You see them and love them as You love them; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## OFFERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION

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 † give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C: He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## SONG OF SENDING

**"Your Grace is Enough"**

*By: Matt Maher*

## DISMISSAL

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

## POST SERVICE MUSIC

*reprise!*

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**† SOLI DEO GLORIA †**

(To God be the Glory)

# HOLY CROSS HAPPENINGS

May 9 – May 16, 2021

**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.

**ADULT SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS – "LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM.** Please join us from 10:00 -11:00 am for a study of Luther's Six Chief Parts of the Small Catechism. We are using the 2017 newer Catechism that has new updates in teaching about the cultural context we now have in our country and world. We have a few extra copies of the Small Catechism if you need one. Please speak with Pastor Jim.

**CLEAN UP DAY** – Will be held Saturday, May 15 starting at 8:30am, if it is raining it will be postponed until the following Saturday, May 22, 2021. Please volunteer to help clean up the yard and church. More helpers make for quicker time.

**INFORMAL PRAYER TIME** – We will continue the informal time of prayer at Holy Cross on Wednesday evenings @ 7:00 pm.

**Church Picnic Sunday, May 23!** Our Pray & Play Event for May will be the church picnic. Pray for great weather so we can hold this outdoors! Plan to bring your own picnic foods and drinks and we can gather in small groups. Bring some outdoor game equipment to share (corn hole, frisbees, baseball/softball and glove toss, badminton...) so dress appropriately. If we have enough willing children/youth and adults we can again, have our kick ball game in the parking lot. (If I remember correctly, the adults won last time.???) 😊 Plan for a fun time, invite a friend or another family to join us. There will be registration for SS in the fall of 2021 as we look forward to more in person meeting with great anticipation!

**HOLY COMMUNION:** Starting Sunday, May 9, The Lord's Supper will continue to be offered to the congregation with the communion kits receiving the Lord's supper at your seated location. However, we will now also offer communion at the front of the sanctuary from the Pastor and Elder(s) for those who desire to come forward. Ushers will come to each pew/chair to motion you forward for communion if desiring to take **continuous flow communion.** Pastor and Elder(s) will disinfect/wash hands prior to distribution. Those wanting to come forward for communion will receive the bread (*the Lord's body*) as in the past from the Pastor distributing the bread into your hands. The Elder(s) will have trays of individual cups placed with an open space per cup of wine (*the Lord's blood*). We do ask that per family group or individual to still space 6 feet from each family group or individual as you are ushered forward. [NOTE: Those staying at their seats will commune first with the kits as the Pastor invites you to take the communion elements. Then, if comfortable in receiving communion by coming forward, please remember to lower your mask as you stop to receive into your hands the bread and then to walk to the Elder to take the wine. Thank you. We hope to include kneeling at the altar in the future, but at this time we still ask for your patience as we return gradually to our regular distribution practice. The Lord's blessings upon your communion with our Risen Savior, Jesus.

**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 SUNDAY MAY 9, 2021 9:00 am**

**Elder/Communion** Dave Albrecht  
**Lector:** Carol Albrecht  
**Ushers:** Denny Case  
**Acolyte:** Jonas Petrie  
**AV:** Vivian Jobst  
**Offering Counters:** Carol Albrecht & Pam Hunter

**SERVING SUNDAY MAY 16, 2021 9:00 am**

**Elder/Communion** Dennis Waderich  
**Lector:** Michele Lein  
**Ushers:** Jason Kruse  
**Acolyte:** Morgan Schulze  
**AV:** Eric Brown  
**Offering Counters:** Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

**CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS**

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

Contributions needed/month (General Fund): \$20,928.50

Contributions received in April \$20,951.57

**SUNDAY, May 2, 2021 9:00 am ATTENDANCE**

Worship:	40	Drive-up Communion:	0
Communion:	39	Sunday School:	1 kids and 1 adults
Zoom:	6	Bible Study:	0

## THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

<b>Sun.</b>	<b>May 9</b>	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter – Mother’s Day</b>
	9:00 am	Worship w/Holy Communion also via Zoom
	10:00 – 11:00 am	Bible study and Sunday school
	11:15 – 11:45 am	Drive-Up Communion
<b>Mon.</b>	<b>May 10</b>	
	7:00 pm	Church Council Meeting
<b>Tue.</b>	<b>May 11</b>	
	8:00 am	Men’s Bible Study
<b>Wed.</b>	<b>May 12</b>	
	12:00 pm	Happenings Articles Due
	7:00 pm	Informal Prayer in Sanctuary
<b>Thurs.</b>	<b>May 13</b>	
<b>Fri.</b>	<b>May 14</b>	
	9:30 am	Cleaning Crew
<b>Sat.</b>	<b>May 15</b>	
<b>Sun.</b>	<b>May 16</b>	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>
	9:00 am	Worship W/ Holy Communion also via Zoom
	10:00	Bible Study and Sunday School
	11:15 am	Drive-Up Communion



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Office Ministry Assistants: Meg Batchelder and Dorene Oak  
Pastor James Jobst: (612) 615-2939