

# ✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Aug 31, 2025

Divine Service, Setting Three

## As We Gather

Entering the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, the traditional site of the birth of Jesus, is one of the most memorable experiences for any Christian pilgrim visiting the Holy Land. First constructed at the commission of Roman Emperor Constantine the Great in AD 326, the church is on the oldest site continually used for worship by Christians anywhere in the world. Although the basilica initially had a grand arched entrance in its first thousand years, it came into a period of disuse and neglect after the conquest of the Holy Land by the Islamic rulers of the Ottoman Empire in AD 1516. In an effort to prevent people from entering the church with horses and cattle, the Christians caring for the building at that time walled up the main entrance, leaving only a very small door. This opening has ever since been known as the “Door of Humility.” It makes a most fitting way for those who come to worship at the site of the manger of the Christ Child to enter that sacred space. Where we worship here and now is also a sacred space. Although we may not have needed to bow down to enter the front door today, bringing an attitude of humility to our worship of our gracious Lord is truly fitting for us.

## 783 Take My Life and Let It Be



- 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.

- 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.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79  
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 75:1–2, 6, 9; antiphon: v. 7*

**P** It is God who executes | judgment,\*  
putting down one and lifting up an- | other.

**C** **We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your | name is near.\***  
**We recount your | wondrous deeds.**

**P** At the set time that | I appoint\*  
I will judge with | equity.

**C** **For not from the east or | from the west\***  
**and not from the wilderness comes | lifting up.**

**P** But I will declare it for- | ever;\*  
I will sing praises to the God of | Jacob.

**C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

**P** It is God who executes | judgment,\*  
putting down one and lifting up an- | other.

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



1 Praise and thanks - giv - ing, Fa - ther, we of - fer For all things  
 2 Bless, Lord, the la - bor We bring to serve You That with our  
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing Food for Your chil - dren, By Your wise  
 liv - ing, Cre - at - ed good: Har - vest of sown fields, Fruits of the  
 neigh - bor We may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, We would work  
 guid - ing Teach us to share One with an - oth - er, So that, re -  
 or - chard, Hay from the mown fields, Bloss - om and wood.  
 with You, Har - vest - ing, mill - ing For dai - ly bread.  
 joic - ing With us, all oth - ers May know Your care.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-84  
 Tune: Gaelic, 19th cent.  
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 Tune: Public domain

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray. O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

### Old Testament Reading

*Proverbs 25:2-10*

- R** The Old Testament Reading is from Proverbs, chapter 25.  
<sup>2</sup>It is the glory of God to conceal things,  
 but the glory of kings is to search things out.  
<sup>3</sup>As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,  
 so the heart of kings is unsearchable.  
<sup>4</sup>Take away the dross from the silver,  
 and the smith has material for a vessel;  
<sup>5</sup>take away the wicked from the presence of the king,  
 and his throne will be established in righteousness.  
<sup>6</sup>Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence  
 or stand in the place of the great,  
<sup>7</sup>for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"  
 than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.  
 What your eyes have seen  
<sup>8</sup>do not hastily bring into court,  
 for what will you do in the end,  
 when your neighbor puts you to shame?  
<sup>9</sup>Argue your case with your neighbor himself,  
 and do not reveal another's secret,  
<sup>10</sup>lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,  
 and your ill repute have no end.

- R** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

**R** The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 13.

<sup>1</sup>Let brotherly love continue. <sup>2</sup>Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. <sup>3</sup>Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. <sup>4</sup>Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. <sup>5</sup>Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

<sup>6</sup>So we can confidently say,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not fear;  
what can man do to me?”

<sup>7</sup>Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup>Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. <sup>9</sup>Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. <sup>10</sup>We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. <sup>11</sup>For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. <sup>12</sup>So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. <sup>13</sup>Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. <sup>14</sup>For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. <sup>15</sup>Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. <sup>16</sup>Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

<sup>17</sup>Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

### Alleluia

LSB 190



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

Luke 14:1–14

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

**P** <sup>1</sup>One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. <sup>2</sup>And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup>And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” <sup>4</sup>But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. <sup>5</sup>And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” <sup>6</sup>And they could not reply to these things.

<sup>7</sup>Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, <sup>8</sup>“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, <sup>9</sup>and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup>But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. <sup>11</sup>For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

<sup>12</sup>He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup>and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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.

*Sit*

## 842 Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and  
2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for  
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and  
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us  
oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;  
Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,  
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in  
Free-ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the  
Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of  
Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your



glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your  
sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards  
toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered  
will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our



love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.  
thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

## Sermon

## Offering

706 Love in Christ Is Strong and Living

Stand

## Offertory

LSB 192



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, through the humiliation of Your Son, You have called us to a place at Your heavenly table. Teach us to treasure this place of honor and so to spurn the foolish honors of this world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Merciful Lord, Your Son has come to us who have offended Him, called us to repentance and offered us His forgiveness. Teach us to trust His love whenever we offend Him and to go to His house to be forgiven by those called to forgive in His name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Almighty God, grant mercy to Your Holy Church here and throughout the world and to all who confess the Christ, that unity of the Church in doctrine and practice may abound. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** O Lord, You have established the family and the home to be a place where we learn, care and extend Your love to one another. We come to You on behalf of Your people, asking that You would visit and bless our homes. Strengthen and restore our relationships through the healing power of forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Righteous judge, bless our nation and those who lead us in this land, and guide those who serve on behalf of this people. Watch over all nations, that justice and peace may reign. Grant courage to Christians to endure in faith in times of test, trial and persecution. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Gracious God, we commend to You all who pass through difficult circumstances: the lonely and the persecuted, the imprisoned and the addicted, those suffering from mental distress and those suffering from bodily affliction [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Comfort them with Your promise that You will never leave or forsake them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Divine Master, You prepare for us a heavenly feast this day. Grant us faith to cherish this banquet of forgiveness, life and salvation and, being honored by a place at Your table, inspire us to spurn all the small and fleeting honors of this world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

### Prayer

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

### Benedicamus

LSB 202

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** **A-men, a-men, a - men.**

## 537 Beautiful Savior



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd  
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is  
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines  
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.  
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904  
Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Announcements

**Adult Sunday School** is at **9am** on Sunday mornings studying Joshua.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory.

The **Ladies Bible Study** meets Wednesdays at **10am** studying Job.

**Church Council** next meeting is **Sept 14** at **8am**.

The next **Men's Breakfast and Bible Study** is Sat. **Sept 6** at **9am**.

August has a **Fifth Sunday!** Join us after service for the potluck luncheon.

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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