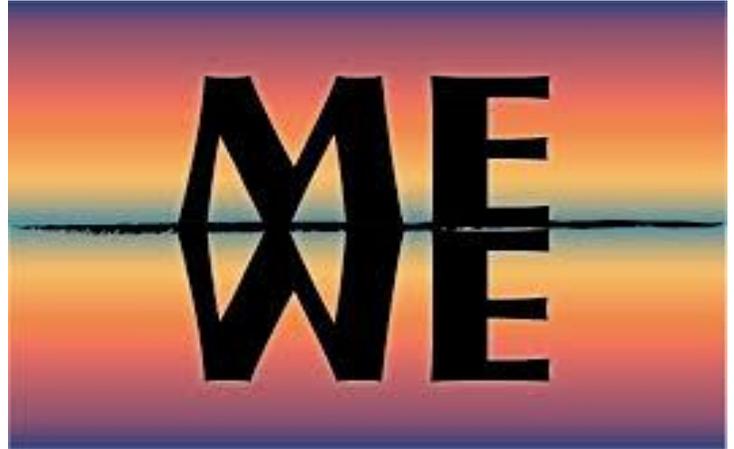


HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH – ELCA
Worship Bulletin Sun, Sept 13, 2020 – 8:30 AM
15th Sunday after Pentecost
ELW Holy Communion Setting Ten
Prior to Worship, please text Prayers
“Text in Church” # 314.329.0487
& Pastor will lift them
in Prayers of the People today



GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

WELCOME

PRELUDE - *Sing Ye Joyfully!*

Linda Tyahla - Soprano; Moira McCracken – Alto; Nicole Aldrich - Piano

arr. by Don Besig

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM *All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.*

Pastor: He is the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Just as God’s work of creation never ends,
so the gifts received in baptism are renewed every day.
Let us give thanks for the life given in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: For water to bathe in, water to drink,
For waters to play in and waters that inspire wonder,
For water that gives life to our planet.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life!

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: For the water from our tap, for rain and snow,
For the mighty Mississippi, Missouri, and Meramec Rivers,
For Creve Coeur Lake and the ponds and waters that are nearby.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place!

We give you thanks, O God, for Your Salvation through water: For delivering Noah and his family through the floodwaters, Leading Your people Israel through the sea into freedom,
For preserving your prophet Elijah through the time of drought,
For guiding Your people across the Jordan into a new land,
For quenching the Samaritan woman’s thirst with living water.

We give you thanks, O God, for Your Salvation through water!

We give you thanks, O God, for the life of all the baptized,
and for all who are gathered together this day:
For Godparents and Baptismal Sponsors, for children and grandchildren,
For our siblings in Christ whom we have not yet met but to whom we are bound.

We give you thanks, O God, for the life of all the baptized!

We give you thanks for life in Christ through your Holy Spirit:

For our entry into Jesus' life, death, and resurrection through these waters,
 For our new birth into a life of freedom and service,
 For our calling to be Your People sent out for the life of the world.
We give you thanks, blessed and Holy Trinity, now and forever! Amen.

GATHERING SONG - *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ELW 834

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see

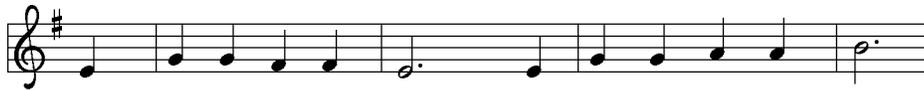
al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE (ELW p. 203)



1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING - Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from Genesis.

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves."

¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM - Psalm 103: 1-13 (Read by Worship Asst. & Pastor)

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

SECOND READING - Romans 14:1-12 (Read by Worship Asst.)

A reading from Romans.

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,
"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS’ MESSAGE - The Mirror of ME - WE

GOSPEL - Matthew 22: 15-22 (Read by Pastor)

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away. The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON - Enemy of Gratitude: GREED!

The assembly is seated.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

CREED *The Apostles’ Creed* – Led by Worship Asst.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Led by Worship Asst.)

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth (especially DIALOGUE GROUPS). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness and greed has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring healing and justice wherever harm and oppression is dealt. Free victims of human trafficking and forced labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war. For those we hold in prayer for mind, body and spirit, especially **Marilyn, Vera, Keith, Luanne, Jean, Merry, Adam, Kelly, Betty, Alvin, Leah, Wayne, Brenda, Cynthia, Diana, Flora, Fred, Jack, Jason, Dennis, Mark, David, Sarah, Sandy, Bob, Tanya, and William.** Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered from Texts sent to Pastor.

Pastor: Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING *Please continue to offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God through*

1) Your established e-giving pledge through Vanco OR

2) through a new mobile App called GIVEPLUS+ is available from your mobile store online

3) send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141

4) Go to our Website and hit "DONATE NOW" <http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp>

The presiding minister instructs those communing at home to gather their bread / cracker / wine/ grape juice elements to hold up during the Words of Institution.

OFFERTORY - Dove of Peace

arr. Gilbert M. Martin

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. *The bread may be broken for Home Communion.*

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen. *The ministers commune after others commune.*

SONG AFTER COMMUNION - I Come With Joy

ELW 482

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assisting minister leads...*

Let us pray.

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING - God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS - 1 PM CST TODAY - ZOOM CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR HENRY ELAVSKY

FOLLOWING IS AN IN-PERSON RECEPTION TO GREET SIONIE & FAMILY IN NARTHEX

(MASKED, SOCIAL-DISTANCED)

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - *O Christ, Our Hope* (See last page)

ELW 604

DISMISSAL *The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE - *Instrumental*

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Worship Assistant	Renate Hawn
Singers	Moira McCracken, Linda Tyahla
AV/Camera Volunteers	Marcus Benson, Patrick Goertzen, Kylie Jost, Donovan Lucas, David Ristau



*The flowers at the altar today are given to the glory of God
and in thanksgiving for the life and service of Henry Elavsky
by Pastor Janice and Dennis Hawley.*

O Christ, Our Hope

1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us
 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry

might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
 of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death, to
 has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
 of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
 ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through

ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
 mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
 all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806-1876, adapt.
 Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561