



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN
CHURCH – ELCA “Spirit-Led,
Community-Driven!”
Contemporary Worship
10:30 AM CT
SEPT. 24, 2023
Lectionary 25
Holy Communion Setting Ten

*Please text Prayers “Text in Church”#
314.329.0487 to be lifted up*



GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

MEDITATION MUSIC *He Is Exalted*

Verse He is exalted The King is exalted on high I will praise Him He is exalted forever exalted And I will praise His name	Chorus He is the Lord Forever His truth shall reign Heaven and earth Rejoice in His holy name He is exalted The King is exalted on high SongSelect Logo CCLI Song # 17827 CCLI License # 1787498
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WELCOME & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & ANNOUNCEMENTS by Worship Asst.

INTRO THEME FOR THE DAY... Wisdom in Scenes from Nineveh – Jonah and a Grace-filled GOD

GREETING & PASSING OF JESUS’ PEACE *During this time the minister and All greet each other.*

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.** *The assembly is seated.*

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.

(All respond in Bold) Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, you are the river of life, **you are the everlasting wellspring.**

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Water may be poured into the font by Worship Asst.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,

quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.
Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.
Empower our witness to your resurrection.
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.
Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, **bring refreshment.**
Where despair prevails, **grant hope.**
Where chaos reigns, **bring peace.**
We ask this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY Led by Pastor *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*
Almighty and eternal God, you show your lovingkindness to us your servants...
Because we cannot rely on our own abilities... grant us your merciful judgment...
Help us embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR PEOPLE Led by Worship Asst.
O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life...
We pray for all of those on our prayer list...

Keith DeCamp,
Adam Jackson,
Leah Leimbach,
Preben Christensen,
Sionie Elavsky,
Lois Ristau,
Ginger Prellwitz,
Alvin Leimbach,
Marylyn Bicknell (under hospital care, friend of Pastor Janice),
Beverly (friend of Cathy Mosher),
Peggy Schaefer (recovering from surgery),
Anna Abraham (fighting cancer),
Donovan (recovering from Covid),
Marvin Lucas (tests for health concerns, Donovan's uncle),
Jeff Benson (doing rehab for 8/31 stroke),
Eva's son (diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer, friend of the Kasten's),
Janet (undergoing tests for major neurological problems, friend of the Kasten's),
Wayne (hospitalized for stroke and vision problem, friend of the Kasten's)
Tracy (is out-patient stroke rehabilitation, friend of the Kasten's),
Marilyn Prang (waiting biopsy results, mother of Donna Jackson),
All those affected by war and famine around the world.
Those in Maui for the loss of life, homes, businesses, and destruction
Prayers of Thanks for Gerry and Heidi Rechek for 28 years of marriage on September 23rd!
Prayer of Thanksgiving for a safe and fun vacation, which allowed some appreciated rest and relaxation
for Dennis and Pastor.
Prayers of Comfort...
To the Family of David Lauer (Bud Niebling's cousin),
To the Family of Bernard Lucas (Donovan's cousin).

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

PSALM: Psalm 145: 1-8 Read Responsively by Worship Asst. and ALL (in BOLD) & by Pastor

¹I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

²**Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30 Read by Worship Asst.

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing.

²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Theme Reading: Jonah 3:10 – 4:11 Read by Pastor

The holy story of God's work among God's People! **Glory to you, O Lord.**

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush.

⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." ⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE - Wisdom in Scenes from Nineveh – Jonah and a Grace-filled GOD

Beginning with the Kids' Message - By Pastor

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

AFTER MESSAGE SONG *Mighty To Save* CCLI Song # 4591782 CCLI License # 1787498

<p>Verse 1 Ev'ryone needs compassion Love that's never failing Let mercy fall on me Ev'ryone needs forgiveness The kindness of a Saviour The hope of nations Chorus Saviour He can move the mountains My God is mighty to save He is mighty to save Forever Author of salvation He rose and conquered the grave Jesus conquered the grave</p>	<p>Verse 2 So take me as You find me All my fears and failures Fill my life again I give my life to follow Ev'rything I believe in Now I surrender Bridge Shine your light and let the whole world see We're singing For the glory of the risen King Jesus Shine your light and let the whole world see We're singing For the glory of the risen King</p>
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MEAL - God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

- *Send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141*
- *Go to our Website & hit "GIVE" <http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp> &*
- *Please consider a donation for "ONLINE MINISTRIES"! Holy Cross is grateful for your specific support of Audio and Visual equipment... for cameras and mics... and the subscription fees to offer music, pictures, and Worship over the internet. Thank you for donating so generously!*
The presiding minister prepares (& instructs those communing at home to gather their bread / cracker / wine/ grape juice) elements to hold up during the Words of Institution.

OFFERTORY *Instrumental*

OFFERING PRAYER *After the table is set, Usher brings for the Offering, then the assisting minister leads.*

Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

[Those who are Communing at Home or with Fellowship Cups, please hold the elements up]

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.

And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live!

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

COMMUNION SONG *People Need The Lord* CCLI Song # 18084CCLI License # 1787498

Verse 1 Ev'ryday they pass me by I can see it in their eyes Empty people filled with care Headed who knows where On they go through private pain Living fear to fear Laughter hides the silent cries Only Jesus hears Chorus People need the Lord People need the Lord At the end of broken dreams He's the open door	People need the Lord People need the Lord When will we realize People need the Lord Verse 2 We are called to take His light To a world where wrong seems right What could be too great a cost For sharing life with one who's lost Through His love our hearts can feel All the grief they bear They must hear the words of life Only we can share
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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assisting minister leads.*

Let us pray... Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' Name we pray. **Amen.**

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

BLESSING The God of glory, ✙ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

SENDING SONG You Are Holy (Prince Of Peace) CCLI Song # 2332149 CCLI License # 1787498

Verse You are holy (You are holy) You are mighty (You are mighty) You are worthy (You are worthy) Worthy of praise (worthy of praise) I will follow (I will follow) I will listen (I will listen) I will love You (I will love You) All of my days (all of my days)	Chorus 2 You are Lord of lords You are King of kings You are mighty God Lord of ev'rything You're Emmanuel You're the Great I Am You're the Prince of Peace who is the Lamb You're the living God You're my saving grace You will reign forever You are Ancient of Days You are Alpha Omega Beginning and End You're my Savior Messiah Redeemer and Friend You're my Prince of Peace And I will live my life for You
Chorus 1 I will sing to and worship The King who is worthy And I will love and adore Him And I will bow down before Him And I will sing to and worship The King who is worthy And I will love and adore Him And I will bow down before Him You're my Prince of Peace And I will live my life for You	Ending You're my Prince of Peace And I will live my life for You

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WE ARE GRATEFUL!

Worship Assistants: Bud Niebling/Greg Miller

Singers: Moira McCracken / Cindy Lacks

Organist: Jack Hamill

Contemporary Music Worship Director: Dave Reinking

Praise Band: Brandon Clay, Marty Little, Jason Cooper, Matt Davis

AV/Camera Volunteers: Donovan Lucas, Philip Paul, Carrie Curnutte, Dave Ristau

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God.