

# CROSS OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

3519 SOUTH 600 WEST • NEW PALESTINE, INDIANA • 317-861-0977

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**Welcome Guests!** We are glad you're here. Please fill out the "Grace Notes" insert and place it in the offering to help us get to know you better and to get connected with the ministry we are doing.

**LARGE PRINT bulletins and personal hearing assistance devices are available. The ushers will be happy to help.**



## THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 12, 2026

*Altar flowers today are given by Mark and Cindy Mattes,  
in celebration of Jamie's and Cindy's birthdays.*

*God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.*

### PRELUDE

Ellenberger Arr.

### WELCOME AND INVOCATION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of – or as invitation to – their baptism.*

P: ...in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

### OPENING HYMN

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

#533

### GREETING

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

**KYRIE** ("Kyrie" means "Lord." This prayer calls for God's divine presence during worship.)

**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **G** Christ, have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:

**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **G** Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*This prayer is prayed in Christian churches throughout the world today. We pray it as a sign of unity and hope, shared with all God's children.*

## FIRST READING

**Isaiah 55:10-13** (p. 598)

*God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.*

## SECOND READING

**Romans 8:1-11** (p. 918)

*There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its slavery. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

**"The Grab Bag"**

*"The Grab Bag" is one way of welcoming children – and the Spirit of God through kids – in worship. Each week, a child pulls a surprise from the bag for us to share. We never know what we'll find, but trust God always has something to teach us. **The child who pulls something from the Grab Bag is invited to hold the basket for empty cups during communion, so please send them forward after the Lord's Prayer, with the other acolyte and Communion Assistants.***

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (p. 794)

P: The Gospel according to Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter:

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*“That same day Jesus went out of the house ...”*

P: The Gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

Pastor Teri Ditslear

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

#680

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** (P: ...Lord, in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**)

## THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

*We offer the peace of Christ as a way of preparing to break bread together as family and friends.  
It's a sign that we live in community as believers.*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS

## OFFERTORY

## OFFERING

*Sharing our gifts is a significant act of worship for Christians. At Cross of Grace our offering is a practice in gratitude, sacrifice, and joy. If you are with us as a guest, we hope we've offered something to you this morning. If you choose to share an offering in the name of Jesus Christ, we thank you for your generosity and trust you'll be blessed by your giving. Use the QR code here if you'd like to give via our website.*



## OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Most gracious God,

**C: We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. It begins with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are printed below the notes, aligned with the syllables. The text reads: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The final note of the piece is a half note, followed by a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*We give thanks for the meal and hear the “Words of Institution” – the same words Jesus shared with his disciples when he prayed at the Last Supper.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

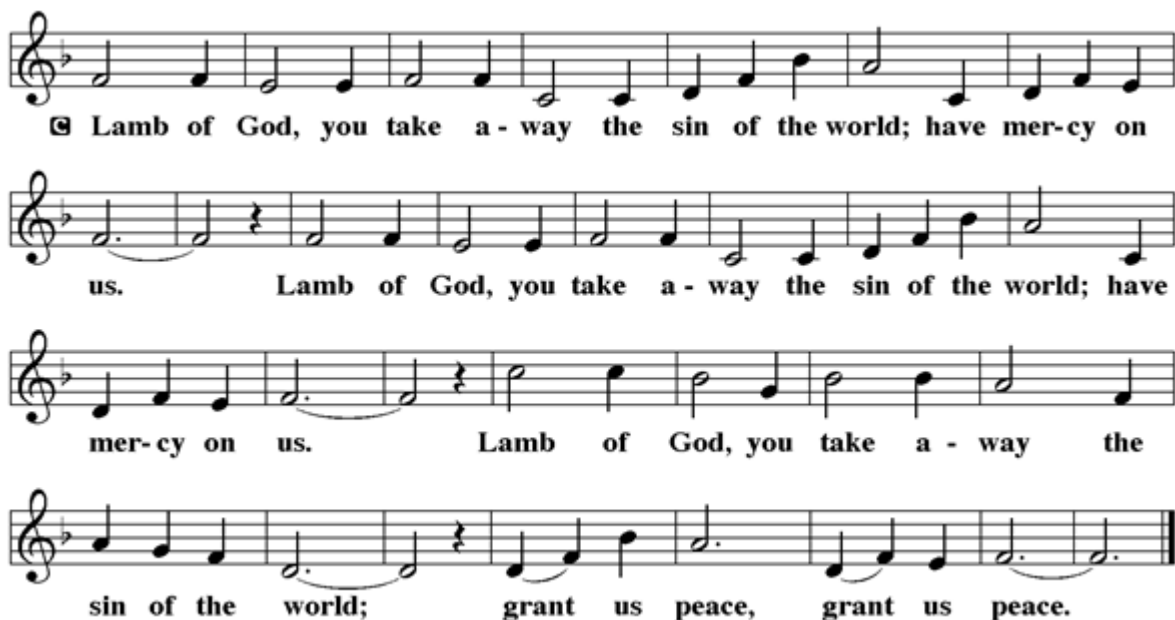
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE MEAL

*The meal of Holy Communion – like God's abundant grace – is a gift to be shared with all who will receive it. If you are a guest with us, please accept an invitation to the meal we share. It's an invitation that comes from us because it comes first from the God who sets the table.*

## LAMB OF GOD

*We sing this to connect our meal of Holy Communion to the Passover meal shared by the Jews of the Old Testament. At that time, God saved the Jewish people from death by 'passing over' homes marked with the blood of a sacrificed lamb. Similarly, Jesus, the Lamb of God, is the sign of salvation for the world.*



**☪ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on**

**us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have**

**mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the**

**sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

P: Now may the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

**#547**

## SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE



If you're a guest with us this morning, thanks for being part of our worship. We're blessed by and better because of your presence. Please let Pastor Mark or one of our Partners in Mission know you are here and join us again, soon. Also, take a minute to fill out the Grace Notes insert so we'll know who was with us, even if we miss the chance to welcome you in person.

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## SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY, JULY 12, 2026

**Greeter:** Ben Rice

**Ushers:** Miles & Denise Hercamp

**Acolyte:** Owen Keljo

**Lay Reader:** Lisa Champion

**Comm. Assistants:** Fred & Tammy Fox

**Lawn Mower:** Miles Hercamp & Fred Fox

**Altar Setup:** Connie Mitchell

**Altar Clean Up:** Kristen Anderson

**Bread Baker:** Zina Compton

**Counters:** Lynn Galligan & Betsy Goers

**Cleaning:** Schwartz & Seigert

## **THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GRACE**

### **Sunday, July 12**

- Traditional Worship – 8:30 a.m.
- Groundbreaking Blessing – 9:45 am.
- Contemporary Worship – 10:00 a.m.
- Prayer Shawl Ministry – 1:00 p.m.

### **Monday, July 13**

- Alcoholics Anon. – 7:30 p.m.

### **Tuesday, July 14**

- Kids' Movie Night – 6:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday, July 15**

- Summer Reading AM – 10:00 a.m.
- Food Pantry – 4:00 p.m.
- Summer Reading PM – 6:00 p.m.

### **Thursday, July 16**

- Cycling Club – 6:30 p.m.
- Praise Band – 7:30 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anon. – 7:30 p.m.

### **Saturday, July 18**

- Moms' Nite Out – 7:00 p.m.

#### **GENERAL FUND**

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Avg. Weekly Expenses:        | \$11,477.58  |
| Offering Last Week:          | \$7,784.12   |
| July Total:                  | \$7,784.12   |
| Fiscal YTD Income (05/31/26) | \$587,007.57 |
| Fiscal YTD Expense (5/31/26) | \$538,457.57 |

Our General Fund supports our everyday ministry. 10% of it goes to the ELCA and its mission to start new congregations, fund worldwide missionaries, disaster relief, & more.

*(Our fiscal year runs July 1 – June 30.)*

#### **BUILDING AND OUTREACH FUND**

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Three Year Commitment: | \$1,379,966.39 |
| Offering Last Week:    | \$3,895.23     |
| Given To Date:         | \$628,154.15   |

Our Building and Outreach Fund commitments began anew in January. 10% of these offerings will help Project Rouj build homes in Fondwa, Haiti, even as we grow our own home at Cross of Grace.

*(Please be praying about the building project as we wait to break ground and get to work!)*

**ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 162**

Mark Havel, *Lead Pastor* • Cogan Blackmon, *Pastor*

Jeannie Ellenberger, *Music Minister* • Sheri Bradley, *Contemporary Music Minister*

Amanda Terrell, *Administrative Assistant*

*www.crossofgrace.org • Find us on Facebook and Instagram • churchoffice@crossofgrace.org*