



THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 11, 2026

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

GATHERING SONG

“Psalm 23: Surely Goodness Surely Mercy”

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of, or as an invitation to, Holy Baptism.

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

OPENING SONG

“Great Are You Lord”

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.

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.**

FIRST READING

Isaiah 25: 1-9 (p. 568)

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death – which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone – will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:1-9 (p. 955)

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

"The Box"

Brooks Kitten

*"The Box" is our way of welcoming children – and the Spirit of God through children – in worship. Each week a child brings "The Box" with a surprise for us to share. We never know what is inside, but we trust God always has something to teach us through the gifts that children bring. **The child who brings The Box to worship, is also invited to help hold the basket for empty cups during communion, so please send them forward right after the Lord's Prayer, with the other Communion Assistants.***

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

While children are welcome to stay in worship, they are also welcome to join other kids and adult leaders in the Fellowship Room for a time of learning and fun, just for them, so parents can focus on the sermon in a way most kids don't care to. Kids return during the Congregational Song.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:1-14 (p. 803)

SERMON

Pastor Mark

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

"Made For More"

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INVITATIONS

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 been able to offer 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.



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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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’re 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 we worship. Welcome to the table.

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

P: Now may God 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.**

SENDING SONG

“Build Your Kingdom Here”

SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

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, Pastor Cogan, 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.



Please recycle your bulletin
in the bin by the front doors.

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

Greeter: Jerry Bishop

Ushers: Lisa Fox & Dawn Becker

Acolyte: Kinch Waldrep

Lay Reader: Joelle Hathaway

Comm. Assistants: Stephanie Smith & Tonya Reid

Children’s Church: D. Lecher & K. Worrel

Nursery: Cj Ehle

Altar Setup: Zina Compton

Altar Clean Up: Darlene Seifert

Bread Baker: Mary Ann Schwartz

Counters: Dawn Becker & Corey Lecher

Cleaning Crew: Champion, Ehle, Kuffner

Refreshments: Walsman, Beth Greene, Oakes

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GRACE

Sunday, October 11

- Traditional Worship – 8:30 a.m.
- Christian Ed. Opportunities – 9:45 a.m.
- Contemporary Worship – 10:45 a.m.
- Sweat Equity Demo – 12:00 p.m.
- Prayer Shawl – 1:00 p.m.
- Bells of Grace – 5:30 p.m.
- Alleluia Ringers – 7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 12

- Men's Sermon Talk – 12:00 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anon. – 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 13

- Choir Rehearsal – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 14

- Groceries of Grace – 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 15

- Praise Band – 7:00 p.m.
- Alcoholics Anon. – 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 16

- Craft Fellowship – 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 174

GENERAL FUND

Avg. Weekly Expenses: \$10,645.91
Offering Last Week: \$6,191.26
October Total: \$6,191.26
Fiscal YTD Income (09/30/26) \$161,182.22
Fiscal YTD Expenses (09/30/26) \$143,165.19

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: \$3,275.60
Given To Date: \$812,144.88

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!)

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