

Luther Memorial Church

Holy Communion HOLY CROSS DAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 | 10:30 AM

PRELUDE Trio Sonata in g minor | Johan Helmich Roman

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God.

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the altar.

#324 PROCESSIONAL HYMN In the Cross of Christ I Glory

APOSTOLIC 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.

Welcome!

Please silence your cell phone in the nave.

LIVESTREAM BROADCAST

This service is livestreamed on our website at www.luthermem. org and YouTube. Cameras are installed in the nave, and worshipers may occasionally be visible on this broadcast.

PARKING

Free parking is available Sundays in the Grainger Hall parking ramp, one block east of the church, off Brooks Street. For closer access, parking is available in the garage under the church off Conklin Place alley.

RESOURCES

T-coil audio is available in the nave. Ushers can provide hearing assistance and a wheelchair, if needed. Prayer shawls are available in the narthex.

CHILDCARE

Infants and children are welcome in worship. Changing tables are located in the restrooms. The nursery is open but unstaffed today. A staffed nursery is available Sundays 9–11:45 am.

LEARN MORE

If you would like a pastor to call, or want to learn more:

- Please fill out a pew card and place in the offering plate
- Visit us online at www. luthermem.org or Facebook

GLORIA



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

Please sit.

FIRST READING Numbers 21:4b-9

From Mount Hor the Israelites set out, but the people became discouraged on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98:1-4

The choir sings the antiphon, "The Lord has done marvelous things," before and after the psalm. The choir and congregation alternate in the singing of the psalm verses, beginning with the choir.



Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done | marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

O Lord, you have made | known your victory,

you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.

You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

Shout with joy to the Lord, | all you lands;

lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

GOSPEL PROCESSION



Verse (sung by choir): May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL John 3:13-17

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please rise.

#651 HYMN OF THE DAY Oh, Praise the Gracious Power (Stanza 1 sung by choir; stanzas 2–7 sung by all)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

... Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please greet your neighbor: Peace be with you.

MEAL

Please sit.

OFFERING Thou Knowest, Lord, the Secrets of Our Hearts | Henry Purcell

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts;

Shut not thy merciful ears unto our pray'rs;

But spare us, Lord most holy, O God most mighty.

O holy and most merciful Saviour,

Thou most worthy Judge eternal,

Suffer us not at our last hour,

For any pains of death to fall away from Thee.

Please rise.

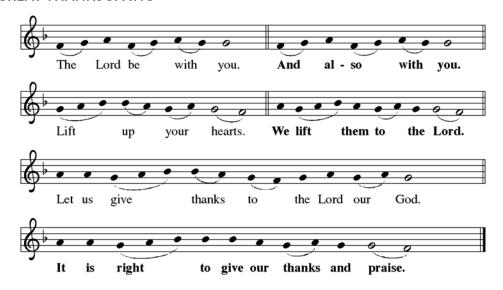
OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

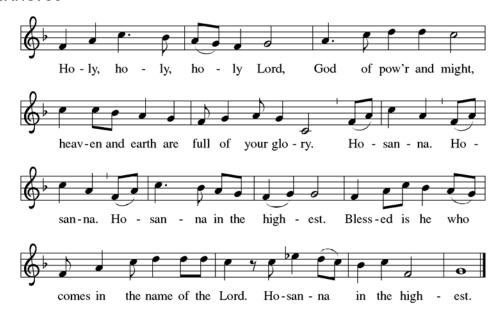
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy... until he comes.



Remembering, therefore... now and forever.

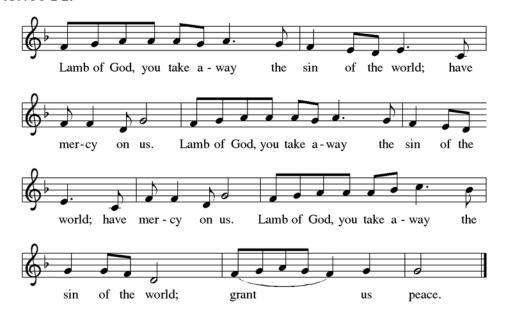


LORD'S PRAYER



Please sit.

AGNUS DEI



THE COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Holy Communion. We receive the Body of Christ (bread*) in our open hands. Christ is fully present in both bread and cup. The Blood of Christ (wine) may be received in any of three ways: by drinking from the first chalice, by dipping the bread (intinction) into the chalice, or by drinking from an individual glass poured from a second chalice. Gluten-free bread is available on request.

MUSIC AT THE COMMUNION Largo and Allegro from Sonata VIII | Johan Helmich Roman

COMMUNION HYMNS

#335 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

#338 Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Please rise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

Please turn and face the cross as the procession approaches the font.

#803 RECESSIONAL HYMN When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE Toccata on *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* | David Cherwien

SERVING TODAY

PRESIDER Pastor John Worzala Dumke

PREACHER Pastor Brad Pohlman

ORGANIST Andrew Schaeffer

ACOLYTES Caroline Schinke, Kendall Oelkers

ASSISTING MINISTER Luis Reynaldo

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS Rolf Wulfsberg, Randy Raasch, Michael Bradley

CRUCIFER Tim Szczykutowicz

LECTOR Peter Mahler

SACRISTAN Karen Harris

AUDIO David Heins

VIDEO Lee Powell

USHERS Jeff Van Fleet, Derren Slinde, Corbin Slinde, Phyllis Pleuss

Our thanks to Karen Snowberg & Ron Nelson, recorders, for playing this morning.

Altar flowers are given by Woody Klipp in honor of Callie Lynn Klipp on her first birthday, Sep. 13, 2025.

Altar flowers are also given by Mary Jean Huston in memory of her father Ralph Eugene Huston.

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