

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church
204 S. Chase Street, Houston, MN
507-896-3102

Second Sunday of Easter Worship with Holy Communion/FB
April 12, 2026



Monday: Office Closed
Tuesday:
Wednesday:
Thursday:
Friday: Pastor's Day Off
Saturday:
Sunday: 9:30 am Sunday Worship Service w/Holy Communion/Senior
Recognition/Baptism/FB
10:30 Coffee hr./Last Day of S.S./Club 56
S.C. Preservation mtg.

Cross of Christ Mission Statement: As a fellowship of believers, it is our mission to joyfully proclaim the gospel of Christ in word and deed; inviting people to worship together, nurturing them in the Christian faith, loving one another and serving a world in need.

Prelude

Ringling of the Church Bell

Announcements

Gathering Song: ELW #384 “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!

3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.

2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.

4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!

Prayer of The Day

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Bell Choir “A Simple Prayer”

Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;
²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹“Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³²“This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

R: The Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³ But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸ **I have set the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.

Gospel Acclamation ELW# 142

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 20:19-29

P: The holy Gospel according to John. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, out of fear, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

²⁴But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

²⁶A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." ²⁸Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Dana Jackson

Hymn of the Day ELW #697 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

(Refrain)

**Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee,
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**

2 Through this world of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord,
none but thee. **R**

1 I am weak but thou art strong:
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee. **R**

3 When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. **R**

Apostle's Creed

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Prayers of Intercession:

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

Offering Collection

Offertory "Let the Vineyards be Fruitful"

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen**

First Communion: Aubree Diersen, Owen Krings, Dakota Tinderholt

Invitation to Communion

Congregation Response: All are welcome.

The Distribution (*Please sign the pew pad.*)

Communion Hymns: 471, 389, 380

Sending Song: ELW #392 “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” vs 1,3&5

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood."

3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation
has redeemed us by his blood."

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Thank You for helping with the service today:

Organist: Shelley Jerviss

Choir Director: Jake Olson

Acolytes: Junior Pich, Easton Kildahl

Reader: Ron Evenson

Communion: Nancy Runningen, Ron Evenson, Rae Evenson

Usher: Savannah Kildahl, Aubree

Diersen, Duane Hegland

Announcements

Saturday April 18th Root River Conference hosted by Cross of Christ WELCA.

We would like to invite woman of Cross of Christ to join us at no charge.

Linda Lind will be speaking about gardens of the bible. We will also have the Garden Flutes entertain us. A wonderful lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the program. The registration fee is normally \$15. But a Thrivent Action Team grant will pay that \$15 for you. Please sign up on the clipboard on the Narthex table or call the church to register. You may also register the day of the conference. We hope you can join us for this day of fellowship.

Sudsy Sunday April 19th Caring Collection we will be collecting dish soap, hand soap and laundry soap.

Sunday April 19th Graduation Recognition. Join us as the Seniors receive their Quilts during 9:30 am Worship followed by cake during coffee hour to celebrate.

Sunday April 26th Confirmation Day at 9:30 during worship followed by reception with cake to celebrate our confirmands.

Sunday May 3rd New Member Sunday we welcome all those who wish to join our family here at Cross of Christ to come to our 9:30 am worship service. If you would be comfortable Pastor Dana will invite you forward during the worship service to acknowledge you and offering a blessing. Please email the church office at cofc@acegroup.cc if you can join us on May 3rd.

Coffee hour host volunteers are needed for May 10th and May 17th. Please notify the church office if you are available to host.