

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

Second Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, June 19, 2022



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.

Sunday, June 19, 2022- Second Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

ELW p. 94

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Silence is kept for reflection.

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

Gathering Song –ELW 665 “*Rise, Shine, You People 1,3 &4*”

1 Rise, shine, you people!

Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is
centered.

He comes to us, by death and
sin surrounded,
with grace unbounded.

3 Come, celebrate; your

banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers
against the darkness hurling.

To all the world go out and
tell the story of Jesus' glory.

4 Tell how the Father sent the
Son to save us.

Tell of the Son, who life and
freedom gave us. Tell how the
Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
God's new creation.

Kyrie

ELW p. 138

Hymn of Praise:

“*Glory to God*”

ELW p. 139

Prayer of the Day:

Let us pray.

O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world. In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

First Reading: Isaiah 65:1-9

The prophet announces God's impatience. The people's self-absorption is idolatry, and images of practices that displease God fill this reading. Like a vintner who crushes the grape to release the wine, God will use Israel's exile to establish a new community of the faithful.

¹I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,
to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, "Here I am, here I am,"
to a nation that did not call on my name.

²I held out my hands all day long
to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good,
following their own devices;

³a people who provoke me
to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens
and offering incense on bricks;

⁴who sit inside tombs,
and spend the night in secret places;
who eat swine's flesh,
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;

⁵who say, "Keep to yourself,
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,
a fire that burns all day long.

⁶See, it is written before me:
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their laps
⁷their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,
says the LORD;

because they offered incense on the mountains
and reviled me on the hills,

I will measure into their laps
full payment for their actions.

⁸Thus says the LORD:
As the wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, "Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,"

so I will do for my servants' sake,
and not destroy them all.

⁹I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;
my chosen shall inherit it,
and my servants shall settle there.

Psalm: Psalm 22:19-28

¹⁹But you, O LORD, be not far away;
O my help, hasten to my aid.

²⁰**Deliver me from the sword,
my life from the power of the dog.**

²¹Save me from the lion's mouth!
From the horns of wild bulls you have rescued me.

²²**I will declare your name to my people;
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.**

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD, all you off- spring of Israel.

²⁴**For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face
hidden from them;
but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD;
all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD,
who rules over the nations.**

Second Reading: Galatians 3:23-29

For Paul, baptism is a powerful bond that unites people not only with God but with other believers. Those who call themselves children of God experience a transformation that removes prejudices of race, social class, or gender in favor of true unity in Christ.

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

P: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel: Luke 8:26-39

P: The holy gospel according to Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus' mission includes foreigners and his authority extends to the casting out of demons. Some who witness Jesus' work are seized with confusion and fear, but the man who was healed is commissioned to give testimony to God's mercy and power.

²⁶Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—²⁹for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³²Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jeff Forbes

Hymn of the Day – “O Day Full of Grace” (ELW 627) vs 1,2 & 4

1 O day full of grace that now
we see
appearing on earth's horizon,
bring light from our God that
we may be
abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this
dark place;
your name on our hearts
emblazon.

2 O day full of grace, O
blessed time,
our Lord on the earth arriving;
then came to the world that
light sublime,
great joy for us all retrieving;
for Jesus all mortals did
embrace,
all shame and despair
removing.

4 God came to us then at
Pentecost,
the Spirit new life revealing,
that we might no more in death
be lost,
its pow'r over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin
efface
and bring to us all true healing.

Apostle's Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell.**

**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.**

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

Prayers of Intercession

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

Holy Communion

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**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen**

Blessing

Benediction

ELW p. 146

Sending Song – ELW #886 “*Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*” vs 1,2,5 & 6

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

2 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of your name.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Dismissal

Go with Christ into a weary world.

Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We welcome you in Jesus' name to this Service of Worship. We pray that you will be blessed through the hearing of God's Word and our fellowship as people of faith. If you have any questions, please ask our ushers, and please sign our Guest Book in the narthex. If you are a visitor, please introduce yourself to our Interim Pastor as you leave the service. We are happy to have you with us today as we worship together!

Prayer Requests: Karen Roth; the ongoing war in Ukraine

Pastor Jeff Forbes-Interim

Pastor's Cell: 507-298-1378

revforbes@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.crossofchristhouston.org>

Church Number: 507-896-3102

Church Office Email: cofc@acegroup.cc

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Vacation Bible School

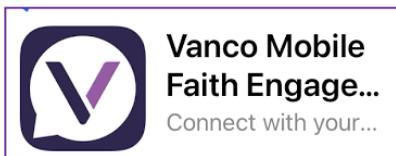
At Knights of North Castle VBS, students will enjoy an interactive, energizing, Bible-based good time as they go on a quest in search of the King's Armor. They will become Knights and discover how to serve God and God's mission for their lives.

After a high-energy opening assembly, the Knights make their way to the Bible Story Station. Interactive Bible lessons reveal Castle Callouts to equip the Knights for an active life with God. The Knights will discover a Banner Verse (Bible memory verse) that will remain with them in their faith long after VBS. The students will expand on what they've discovered by participating in a variety of activities: making their own art projects at the Craft Station, singing new songs at the Music Station, exploring wonders at the Science Station, playing games at the Recreation Station, and enjoying tasty treats at the Snack Station. Along the way, the Knights will hear about our mission project and their response to a call for action!

Join us at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church on Sunday, August 7 through Thursday, August 11 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Dinner will be served before VBS beginning at 5:30.

To register students, volunteer to help, or to find out more about Knights of North Castle, call the church office at 507-896-3102 or visit the church website at www.crossofchristhouston.org.

Confirmation pictures: Confirmation students may pick up their pictures from Ross Himlie on the table in the Narthex.



Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement

To give electronically, please search "Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement" create account or download app.

Contact the church office with any questions.

Ushers Needed: Have you ever wanted to serve as an usher at church? We are looking for families or friend groups to serve as ushers for our services. Two or more people from a family or group can sign up for one or a group of Sundays. Sign up on the sheet in the narthex or contact the church office at cofc@acegroup.cc or 896-3102 or Jim Edwards at 896-2386 to volunteer to usher. Those students in confirmation or going into confirmation next year could use ushering as a service event for their confirmation requirements.

AT CROSS OF CHRIST THIS WEEK: 6/19/22-6/26/22

TODAY: 8:30 In Person Worship Stone Church w/ Holy Communion
10:15 In-Person Worship Cross of Christ w/ Holy Communion
10:15 Facebook Live-Cross of Christ Worship

MONDAY: Pastor's day off
11:15 Meet Up and Eat Up

TUESDAY: 6:00 Church Council

WEDNESDAY: 11:15 Meet Up and Eat Up
11:00 Prayer Group

THURSDAY:

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY: W/ELCA Women's Day Good Earth Village

SUNDAY: 8:30 In Person Worship Stone Church
10:15 In-Person Worship Cross of Christ
10:15 Facebook Live-Cross of Christ Worship

Looking Ahead.....

June 27 & 29 Meet Up and Eat Up
June 29 Prayer Group
July 1 First Fruits

Keep in prayer our military personnel from the Houston Area:

Shawn Feller – U. S. Air Force	Zach Stackhouse – U.S. Army Reserves
Alex Edwards – U.S. Air Force	Jeffery VanGundy – National Guards
Tom & Heather Hegland-U.S.Air Force	Lauren Johnson – U.S. Air Force
Mike Swenson – U.S. Marines	Quentin Johnson – U.S. Marines
John Erickson – U.S. Air Force	Peter Jergenson – U.S. Air Force
Hope Stremcha – U.S. Army	Joey Snyder – U.S. Air Force
Joshua Vix – U.S. Army Reserves	Chris Meyer – U.S. Air Force
Sam Montgomery – U.S. Air Force	Andy Woxland – U.S. Navy
Jacob Rogich – U.S. Marines	Nick Skree – National Guard
Nicole Rogich – U.S. Marines	Victor Henk – U.S. Navy
Jason Hill – U.S. Marines	James Hill – U.S. Air Force
Alex Townsend – U.S. Air Force	Roy Kerrigan – Air National Guard
Gretchen Hill – U.S. Air Force	Jessica Gaustad-Ahlburg – U.S. Army
Victor Henk – U. S. Navy	

Addresses of our military personnel are needed: If you know the address of one of the above military personnel, please call Sharon Knudsen (896-2020) and give her the address. We would like to send greetings to each of our military personnel from the area.