

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

204 S. Chase Street, Houston, MN

507-896-3102

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service w/Holy Communion/FB

Sunday October 27, 2024



Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday: 6:00 Bell Practice
6:30 Confirmation/Club 56 (S.S.6:00)

Thursday: Halloween

Friday: Pastor's Day Off

Saturday:

Sunday: 9:30 All Saints Sunday Worship Service w/Holy Communion/Noisy Offering/FB
10:30 Sunday School/Coffee hr.
Daylight Savings Time Ends

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

Ring of the Church Bell

Announcements

Larry Jerviss

Gathering Song: Hymn #793 “Be Thou My Vision”

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

4 Light of my soul, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Prayer of the Day

Together let us pray...

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Choir Anthem

First Reading: Hebrews 4 :12-16

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

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

Psalm 95

¹Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

³For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**

⁷For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!

⁸**"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**

⁹There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test,
though they had seen my works.

¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying,**

'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'

¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.'"

Acts 12 :12-16 Rhoda

Read by Denise Rostad

¹²As soon as he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many had gathered and were praying. ¹³When he knocked at the outer gate, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. ¹⁴On recognizing Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed that, instead of opening the gate, she ran in and announced that Peter was standing at the gate. ¹⁵They said to her, "You are out of your mind!" But she insisted that it was so. They said, "It is his angel." ¹⁶Meanwhile Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the gate, they saw him and were amazed.

Homily

Denise Rostad

Hymn of the Day: Hymn #779 “Amazing Grace”

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me! I once was
lost, but now am found; was blind, but
now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to
fear, and grace my fears relieved; how
precious did that grace appear the hour I
first believed!

3 Through many dangers, toils, and
snares I have already come;

'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.

4 The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures; he will my
shield and portion be as long as life
endures.

5 When we've been there ten thousand
years, bright shining as the sun, we've
no less days to sing God's praise than
when we'd first begun.

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

Pastor Beth Stempinski

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**

Invitation to Communion

Pastor: The Table is set. Who is Welcome?

Congregation Response: **All are welcome.**

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

Communion Hymns: 733, 619, 818, 838

Sending Song: ELW #673 “God, Whose Almighty Word”

1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

2 Christ, who once came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind;
oh, now to humankind
let there be light.

4 Holy and blessed three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might:
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.

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

Postlude

Thank You for helping with the service today:

Organist: Gayle Smith

Choir Director: Jake Olson

Acolytes: Claire Srock, Helen Kulas

Reader: Ellen Hongerholt

Words of Institution: Pastor Beth

Stempinski

Homily: Denise Rostad

Lay Leader: Larry Jerviss

Communion: Susan Ferries, Ruth Ann

Stensgard, Ellen Hongerholt, Larry

Jerviss

Usher: Aaren Kulas, Garrett Reay

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sunday November 3rd All Saints Sunday. Consider bringing a photo of a loved one to place on the altar as we remember those who have died.

Sunday November 3rd Noisy Offering Collection/Daylight Savings.

Sunday November 17th Caring Collection we will be collecting: Cereal, Toilet Paper, Peanut Butter.

Saturday November 23rd WELCA Holiday Bazaar.

Pastor Dana is off today to attend her son's Confirmation.