

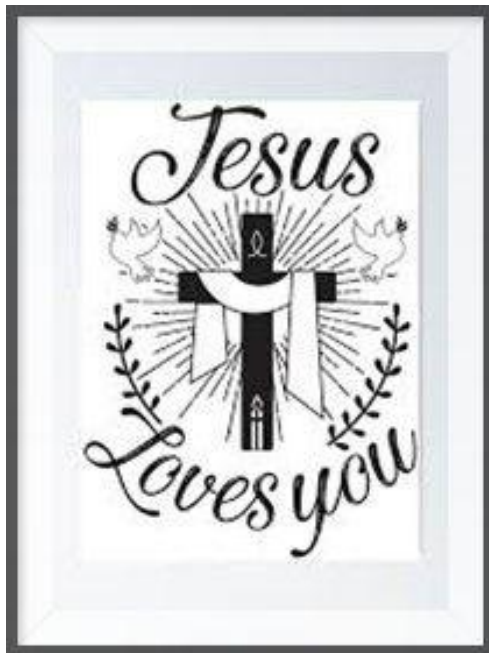
# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

204 S. Chase Street, Houston, MN

507-896-3102

Fifth Sunday of Easter Worship w/Holy Communion/Caring Collection/FB

May 18, 2025



## *Confirmation Sunday*

**Monday:**

**Tuesday:** 6:00 Council Meeting

**Wednesday:**

**Thursday:**

**Friday:** Pastor's Day Off

**Saturday:**

**Sunday:** **8:30 Stone Church** Sixth Sunday of Easter Worship Service w/Holy Communion/FB/ followed by coffee & treats served by WELCA officers.

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 #641 “All Are Welcome” vs 1-3

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:

(Refrain)

**All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: **R**

3 Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us: **R**

## Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

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

## Psalm 148

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the Lord from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.

<sup>2</sup> **Praise the Lord, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup> Praise the Lord, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.

<sup>4</sup> **Praise the Lord, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
who commanded, and they were created,

<sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**

<sup>7</sup> Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;

<sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**

<sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

<sup>10</sup> **wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;**

<sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;

<sup>12</sup> **young men and maidens, old and young together.**

<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name only is exalted,  
whose splendor is over earth and heaven.

<sup>14</sup> **The Lord has raised up strength for the people and praise for all  
faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are  
near the Lord. Hallelujah!**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## Gospel: John 13:31-35

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

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer.

You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

## Sermon

**Pastor Dana Jackson**

### **Hymn of the Day ELW #661 "I Love to Tell the Story"**

1 I love to tell the story  
of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory,  
of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story,  
because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings  
as nothing else would do.

2 I love to tell the story:  
how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it,  
more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story,  
for some have never heard  
the message of salvation  
from God's own holy word. **R**

(Refrain)

**I love to tell the story;  
'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.**

3 I love to tell the story,  
for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting  
to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory,  
I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story  
that I have loved so long. **R**

### **Confirmands**

Bentley Scott Beech, Michael Allen Bills, Helen Dorothy Carlson, Cole Alan Carrier, Caidence Sue Frauenkron, Claire Joy Frauenkron, Mason Aaron Krings, Aaren Jacob Kulas, Toni Juanita Linda Luedtke, Teddi Jo Nastor-Whitney, Natalie Paige Skifton, Keirah Mae Stuttgen.

### **Profession of Faith**

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response:

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response:

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

**I renounce them.**

### **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.**

### **Affirmation in the Presence of Assembly**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant of God made with you in holy baptism:

To live among God's faithful people,  
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,  
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,  
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,  
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Response:

**I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

People of God, do you promise to support these sisters and brothers and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray.

We give thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life.

### **Individual Confirmands are Confirmed with the laying on of hands.**

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism.**

**Together we will give thanks and praise to God  
and proclaim the good news to all the world.**

### **Prayers of Intercession:**

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

### **Caring Collection**

### **Offering Collection**

### **Offertory Hymn# 186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart"**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence,

and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation,  
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

### **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

Invitation to Communion *Congregation Response: All are welcome.*

First Communion – Robbie Carlson and Helen Kulas

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

Communion Hymns: 595, 677, 798, 715, 556

Sending Song: ELW #660 "Lift High the Cross" vs 1,3 & 4

(Refrain)

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ  
proclaim till all the world adore his  
sacred name.**

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
as thou hast promised, draw us all to  
thee. **R**

1 Come, Christians, follow where our  
captain trod, our king victorious, Christ,  
the Son of God. **R**

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
praise to the Crucified for victory! **R**

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

**Postlude**

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**Thank You for helping with the service today:**

Organist: Gayle Smith

Choir Director: Jake Olson

Acolytes: Asher Meyer, Tatum Bartsch

Reader: Jessica Brand

Communion: Jessica Brand, Jenelle  
Lemke, Krin Abraham

Usher: Anna Loomis, Claire Srock,  
Duane Hegland

**Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup> Stone Church Cleaning Day** All are welcome to join us at 9:00 AM to help clean the Stone Church and get it ready for our summer worship season. We enjoy a potluck lunch together at noon. There are jobs available for every ability. We really do have fun together. Many hands make light work.

**Friday May 23<sup>rd</sup> Stone Church 11:00 WELCA Program** After all is cleaned up, we have a special day to celebrate our church. All are welcome to attend our program and lunch. This year our program will feature Sandy Ask as she shares with us her mission work in Cambodia. Please join us for fun and fellowship.



**Memorial Weekend**

**Summer Worship Service begins Sunday May 25<sup>th</sup>  
at the Stone Church at 8:30 a.m. followed by  
coffee and treats served by WELCA officers.**

**Stone Church Sunday June 1st**

**Worship service at 8:30 a.m. followed by Brunch.  
Please bring your favorite Brunch dish to share.**

**Cross of Christ Monday evening June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Worship service at 6:30 p.m. at Cross of Christ.**