

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

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday September 18, 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, September 18, 2022- Fifteenth 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 793” Be *Thou My Vision*” vs 1,2&4

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.

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.

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.**

Kyrie

ELW p. 138

Hymn of Praise:

“Glory to God”

ELW p. 139

Prayer of the Day:

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

P: The word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 113

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴**The LORD is high above all nations;
God’s glory above the heavens.**

⁵Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

⁶**but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸**enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

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 16:1-13

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

1Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. 2So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ 3Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ 5So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ 6He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ 7Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ 8And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

10“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Jeff Forbes

Hymn of the Day – ELW 686 vs 1,2&4

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| 1 We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. | 2 May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our firstfruits give. | 4 And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be: whate'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee. |
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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**

Blessing

Benediction

Sending Song: ELW # 717 “*Let Justice Flow like Streams*”

1 Let justice flow like streams
of sparkling water, pure,
enabling growth, refreshing life,
abundant, cleansing, sure.
2 Let righteousness roll on
as others' cares we heed,
an ever-flowing stream of faith
translated into deed.

3 So may God's plumb line, straight,
define our measure true,
and justice, right, and peace pervade
this world our whole life through.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord

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; Gene Lundak; Dianne Sherburne; the ongoing war in Ukraine.

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.



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.

Pastor Jeff Forbes-Interim

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.

AT CROSS OF CHRIST THIS WEEK: 9/18/22-9/25/22

TODAY: 9:30 In person Worship at Cross of Christ w/ Holy Communion/FB Live
St. Peter/SC Cemetery Annual Board Mtg./All are welcome to attend after worship today.
10:30 Sunday School/ Coffee Hour

MONDAY: Pastors Day Off
Valley View Aux. Mtg.

TUESDAY: 6:00 council Mtg.

WEDNESDAY: 11:00 Prayer Group

THURSDAY: W/ELCA Trip to Peterson Station Museum

FRIDAY:

SATURDAY:

SUNDAY: 9:30 In person Worship at Cross of Christ/FB Live
10:30 Sunday School/ Coffee Hour

Looking Ahead.....

September 28 Confirmation Orientation
October 3 Annual Circle Mtg.
October 5 Meatball rolling 8AM
October 5 Cross of Christ Fall Supper (Carry Out Only)
October 9 Silver Creek 4-H Mtg.
October 13 Executive Council Mtg.
October 14 & 15 Hobby Huddle

Area Events.....

September 18 North Prairie Lutheran Church Beef Stew Dinner
September 21 Rushford Lutheran Church Women Annual Fall Salad Luncheon
October 1 Rushford Lutheran Men's Club Codfish & Meatball Supper

Schedule Change: Meatball rolling will be on Wednesday October 5th at 8AM

Schedule -Coffee hour Hosts-10:30 AM

September 25 Ruth & Skip Kempter
October 2 Lynn Meyer

Welcome to Cross of Christ Sunday School

Everyone is invited to help us as we begin Sunday School on September 18, 2022, at 10:30AM, after the worship service. Alysia Woodard recently accepted the position of Director of Children's Ministry at Cross of Christ.

You can sign up for Sunday School and help us welcome Alysia in her new role in continuing your child's Christian education. Alysia brings many years of experience to this position as she has been involved helping teach and participating with education at Cross of Christ in the past. We are thankful for Alysia and her enthusiastic outlook and willingness to share the teaching of God's word and his love to all his children.

If you are interested in investing your time to help in any way, it is appreciated.

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
Matthew 19:14*

Confirmation Orientation

CONFIRMATION will be starting soon with Confirmation Orientation meeting on Wednesday, September 28th, at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall for parents and students. It will include an overview of the coming year and informational hand outs. A letter will be sent out to families with Confirmation aged youth. If you want to make sure your child is signed up for Confirmation, you can call the church office and check. .

"All Aboard"

W/ELCA has made plans for a tour of the Peterson Station Museum on Thursday, September 22, 2022. The old Peterson Railroad Depot has been made into a very interesting museum you will enjoy. Plans are to stop at the Rushford Creamery for ice cream on our way home. Men are welcome to join us. We will meet at the church parking lot at 12:45PM. Please call the church office at 896-3102 or Elsie 896-2236 if you plan to attend so that arrangements for transportation can be determined. There is no charge at the museum, but donations are appreciated.

THANK YOU

A Huge Thank You for to all who came and helped out and use their talents that they have been Blessed with to make Cross of Christ's "God's Work Our Hands" a big success.

