

# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

204 S. Chase Street, Houston, MN

507-896-3102

Worship Service with Holy Communion

September 17, 2023



**Monday:**

**Tuesday:** 6:00 Council Meeting

**Wednesday:** 11:00 Prayer Group  
6:30 Confirmation (Simple Supper 6:00)

**Thursday:**

**Friday:** Pastor's Day Off  
Hobby Huddle

**Saturday:** Hobby Huddle

**Sunday:** 9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion/FB

10:30 Coffee & Cabinets

*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

## Announcements

## Ringling of the Church Bell

## Gathering Song: "Earth and All Stars!"

1 Earth and all stars! Loud rushing  
planets! Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Oh, victory! Loud shouting army!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!

### Refrain

**God has done marvelous things.  
I, too, will praise with a new song!**

2 Valleys and creeks! Loud flowing rivers!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Cornfields and deer! Loud rumbling tractors!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

3 Farmers and barns! Loud mooing Holsteins!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Apples and hawks! Loud gobbling turkeys!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

4 Ridges and bluffs! Loud bubbling trout streams!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Gathered as one! Loud singing Lutherans!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

5 10,000 lakes! Lefse and hotdish!  
Sing to the Lord a new song.  
Gophers and Twins! High-scoring Vikings!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! **Refrain**

## Bible Presentation by - Education Cabinet

### 3-year-old

Lylah Wieser



Share God's Word

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders

Anika Carrier

Isaac Frauenkron

Amelia Halvorson

Savannah Kildahl

Owen Krings

Holdyn Lund

Jaelyn Seekamp

Henry Woodard

Aubree Diersen

Macsen Hegland-Tarr

### Prayer of the Day:

Let us pray.

**O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

### Choir Anthem

### First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them. R: The word of the Lord.C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: Psalm 103: 8-13

- <sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;  
<sup>9</sup>**you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.**  
<sup>10</sup>You have not dealt with us according to our sins,  
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.  
<sup>11</sup>**For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**  
<sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west,  
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.  
<sup>13</sup>**As a father has compassion for his children,  
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.**

## Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

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

- <sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.  
<sup>23</sup>"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'  
<sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart." P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day: ELW 595 “Jesus Loves Me!”**

1 Jesus loves me! this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
they are weak, but he is strong.

**Refrain**

**Yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
the Bible tells me so.**

2 Jesus loves me! he who died  
heaven's gates to open wide;  
he will wash away my sin,  
let his little child come in. **Refrain**

3 Jesus loves me! he will stay  
close beside me all the way;  
when at last I come to die,  
he will take me home on high.  
**Refrain**

**Prayers of Intercession:**

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

**Caring Collection**

**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.  
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

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

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

**Communion Hymns:** 471, 638, 856, 785, 779,

## **Sending Song: 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.

### **Refrain**

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

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. **Refrain**

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. **Refrain**

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

Reader: Ron Evenson

Choir Director: Jake Olson

Communion: Sandy Fishel, Lyn

Cross Bearer: Makenna Pedretti

Halvorson, Tyler Marshall

Acolytes: Jason Ulmen, Cole Carrier

Usher: Duane Hegland, Makenna

Prayers of intercession:

Pedretti

**Prayer Requests:** Beth Stempinski; Inez Abraham; Mary George's daughter Michelle & and son-in-law Bryce; the ongoing war in Ukraine.

**Items needed for the Little Food Pantry located on the south side near the Memorial Garden:**

**FOOD ITEMS**

Peanut butter

Canned protein (tuna, salmon, chicken, and beans)

Meals in a box (Mac and cheese, pasta, rice or soup kits)

Instant potatoes

Cereal

Crackers

Granola bars

Fruit cups

Pasta

Rice





