

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 5, 2025

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

Weekly Update

1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170
www.HolyCrossHerndon.org



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday, Oct 5, 2025

VISITORS: It is a joy to have you with us this morning. If you are looking for a church family, we hope you will consider Holy Cross. For more information, you can fill out a visitor form in the narthex, speak to an usher, or scan the QR code to the right.



FAMILIES: Children are always welcome at our worship services! There's also a small play area in the Narthex where you can hear the broadcasted service.

FLOWERS: This week's flowers were given by John and Tammy Breene and family, in memory of Brianna Fautley.

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

For additions/changes, email the office: admin@holycrossherndon.org
Names will be removed after one month unless advised otherwise.

OUR CONGREGATION

Juliana Roe Beck | Bonnie Burton | Terry & Linda Butler
Joy Caveney | Joel Flegal | Roy Geiger | Otto Jacobson
Jared Lem | Reed Morgan | Mike Muller | Craig Reichow
Jeremy Shoop | Tuula Toney | Cherie Weatherhead

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Riley Morgan | Thomas Newcomb | Collin Reichow

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

Randy and Shirley Beamer (friends of Pam Darby)
Debbie Bowman (niece of Betty Skelton)
Joy Brown (friend of Kate Flegal)
Symphony Calvillo & her two boys (friend of Kate Flegal)
Jane Campbell (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Don and Liz Gober (friends of Craig Reichow)
Matt Kim (friend of John & Tammy Breene)
Georgia Kirby and Cain Mason (friends of Cherie Weatherhead)
Phyllis Krapf (wife of Dick Krapf)
Phil Kratochvil (brother of Sarah Schultze)
Don Kress (friend of Helen and Gary Wolfe)
Sharon Massen (friend of Craig Reichow)
Lisa Nolf (friend of Jared Lem)
Jim Pollock (godfather of Andrew Barden)
Anne Marie Berardi Rabinowitz (friend of Tonya Elliott)
Dylan Roe (nephew of Mark and Jo Roe)
John Smith (brother-in-law of Cheryl Smith)
Diane Stanley (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Steven Swancutt (brother of Lynn Russo)
Diana Todd (friend of the Russos)
Michelle White (friend and coworker of Kate Flegal)
Bernadette Stevenson Williams (friend of the Roe family)
Laizu Zaman (friend of Jared Lem)

THOSE IN MOURNING

Family & friends of Robert Appel (friend of Dick Krapf)
Friends & family of Scott Freman (friend of the Russos)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Supply Pastor:	Rev. Pam Mitcham
Director of Music and Liturgy:	Jeremy Shoop
Sound Technician:	Bob Thompson
Video Technician:	Sylvia Moran

Serving October 5th: 17th Sunday after Pentecost

Assisting Minister:	Anne Geiger
Reader:	Andrew Barden
Acolyte:	Kate Flegal
Greeter:	Cheryl Smith

Serving October 12th: 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Assisting Minister:	Diana Virgo
Reader:	TBD
Acolyte:	Anne Geiger
Greeter:	TBD

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: OCT 5 – OCT 12

SU 5	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	9:10 am	Nominating Committee Meeting ~ FH
	10:00 am	Worship – 17 th Sunday After Pentecost
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH
TU 7	6:30 pm	Fiber Arts Group ~ Conference Rm
	6:30 pm	Bldg. Use: Boy Scouts Troop 12
W 8	11:30 am	Lunch for the Soul ~ FH
	6:30 pm	Game Night ~ FH
	7:00 pm	ELL ~ Education Wing
TH 9	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
	8:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
SA 11	8:00 am	Bldg. Use: Herndon's Women AA ~ Rm 204
	8:00 am	Herndon Homecoming Parade
	9:00 am	Property Work Day
SU 12	11:00 am	Bldg. Use: Called2Be 7 th Day Adventist
	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – 18 th Sunday after Pentecost
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee
	11:30 am	Stephen Ministry Training ~ Conference Rm
	12:00 pm	Pet Blessing
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH

Pet Blessing

SAVE THE DATE ON YOUR PET'S CALENDAR! BRING YOUR FURRY, FUZZY AND FEATHERED FRIENDS FOR A SIMPLE SERVICE OF BLESSING!

**Sunday, October 12
12:00 PM**



2026 Church Council Nominations

It is time to start collecting nominations for HCLC's 2026 Church Council. There are many positions open. Please prayerfully consider serving in one of them. Speak with Jeremy Shoop (MusicDir@HolyCrossHerndon.org) if you would like to place your name in nomination or if you have any questions.

Open positions

Fellowship, Property, Stewardship, Youth

Open positions with incumbents running

Secretary, Treasurer, Christian Education, Worship and Music, Personnel

TREASURERS REPORT – AUGUST 2025

<u>August 2025</u>	<u>Year to Date – 2025</u>
<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>Operating Fund</u>
Income: \$ 18,645.14	Income: \$ 251,484.37
Expenses: \$ 40,466.18	Expenses: \$ 270,775.68
Net Balance:- \$ 21,821.04	Net Balance: -\$19,291.31
<u>Dedicated Funds</u>	<u>Dedicated Funds</u>
Income: \$ 21,061.95	Income: \$ 53,735.54
Expenses*: \$ 30,710.00	Expenses*: \$ 169,726.77
Net Balance: -\$ 9,648.05	Net Balance:- \$ 115,991.23
	*(144,968.05 total cost for completed new bathroom project)

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting – November 16

Following worship – Lunch will be provided

HERNDON HOMECOMING

Two opportunities to help:

1 – Contribute items for our Hospitality Table at the homecoming parade. Items like granola bars, individually wrapped pastries, and mini bottles of water are all welcome. Items can be dropped off at HCLC until 10/10.

2 – Help staff the hospitality table on 10/11. Our table will be across from HMS, at the corner of School and Locust Streets. Please arrive by 8:30 AM. We will be handing out treats until the parade steps off at 9:30 AM.

Help us represent Holy Cross in our community!

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/69u2emnt>

HCLC GAME NIGHT!

BUNCO PARTY!
Wednesday
October 8th
6:30 PM

Get ready for a night of fun, laughter, and fellowship!

Whether you're a Bunco pro or a total beginner, this fast-paced dice game is easy to learn and guaranteed to bring lots of excitement. Come enjoy friendly competition, light refreshments, and great company.

✨ Prizes will be awarded! ✨

Bring a friend (or two!)—all are welcome.

WE NEED CARS FOR TRUNK OR TREAT!

**OCTOBER 26
3:00 – 5:00 PM**

We need people to host cars for our Trunk or Treat event! All you need to do is decorate your trunk [search for Trunk or Treat kits on Amazon] and hand out candy. Please speak with Jeremy Shoop [MusicDir@HolyCrossHerndon.org] if you have any questions or would like to volunteer. This is a great and easy way to support our evangelism efforts at HCLC!



Holy Cross Lutheran Church Welcomes ALL!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church joyfully affirms and celebrates that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all who are seeking God's boundless love and sustaining grace into full community with us at Holy Cross. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down barriers and systems that divide God's children working to be a space committed to racial equality for God's people and to building a community where all are recognized as part of Christ's new creation.



We welcome you, and you are safe with us...
 Whatever your race, ethnicity, or heritage;
 Whatever your relationship status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression;
 Whatever your socio-economic status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your age and life circumstance;
 Whatever your physical and mental ability.
 You are a beloved child of God, you are valued, and you are welcome here.

What to Expect in Worship

Worship services can be intimidating for newcomers. While we try to make worship as accessible as possible for everyone, we know that some aspects can be confusing. Feel free to ask an usher or someone near you for help if you have any questions today. We are happy to help and want all voices to be included in praise to God.

Our worship style is traditional at Holy Cross. A full liturgy is used to focus our praise and prayers to God. Notes are included in the side gutter of the bulletin to explain why we use the various liturgical elements. Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Holy Cross. The table (altar) is not our table, but Christ's table. Just as Christ welcomes all, all are welcome to receive communion at Holy Cross. Pastor will give instructions on how we celebrate communion in a COVID safe manner at that part of the service. Written instructions are also included at that point in the bulletin.

Throughout the year we emphasize each liturgical season differently to mark the passage of time. Liturgical texts change to reflect aspects of that season, some elements are removed or added to reflect the mood of that season, and colors used to decorate the chancel are changed to provide visual reminders of the current season.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Transforming the world & ourselves, together in community, fellowship, and faith.

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 5, 2025 ~ 10:00 AM

Luke's gospel, so full of forgiveness, also calls us to lives of total transformation—a tree planted in the sea, slaves served by their master.



WE GATHER



GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

arr. Anna Laura Page

Precious Lord, Take My Hand with In Christ Alone

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the strength of our ancestors, the host of this meal, the builder of the city that is to come.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Pastor: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

Pastor: God our helper,
Assembly: we confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions. Lift our burdens, gracious God. Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin. Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*“Founded on Faith”
 echoes the themes in
 both today's first
 reading and Gospel.
 Habakkuk speaks of a
 people living in the midst
 of injustice and*

uncertainty, yet God assures them: “the righteous live by faith.” Likewise, in Luke 17 the disciples plead for more faith, and Jesus reminds them that even faith as small as a mustard seed holds surprising power.

This hymn gives voice to that same trust: our life together as God’s people is built not on certainty or our own accomplishments, but on faith in God’s promises. Each stanza affirms that Christ himself is the foundation, steadying us through doubt, calling us into humble service, and strengthening us to live with hope. As we sing, we join with Habakkuk and the disciples in confessing that faith—even small, even struggling—is enough when it is rooted in God.

The text’s message of trust is underscored by the tune itself: its strong, steady rhythm mirrors the firmness of faith as a foundation, while each phrase’s musical rise and fall enacts the movement from questioning to reassurance. Together, text and tune proclaim that God steadies us in uncertainty and empowers even the smallest faith to grow into faithful service.

Pastor:

There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

Assembly:

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

(ACS #1048)

Founded on Faith



1 Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
 2 Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
 3 E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
 4 Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
 5 Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow' red to serve,

pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
 Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
 Em - pow' red to serve with gifts, both great and small,
 we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
 we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.

The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
 Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
 we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
 a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
 Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!

Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

Music: FOUNDED ON FAITH, Paul D. Weber

Text and music © 2017 Paul D. Weber, admin. Augsburg Fortress

GREETING

Pastor:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Assembly:

And also with you.

KYRIE

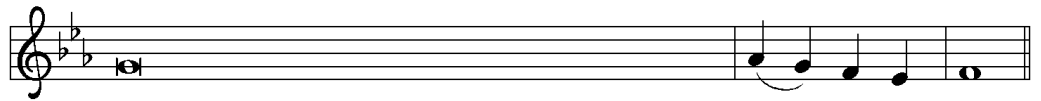
(Setting 1)



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



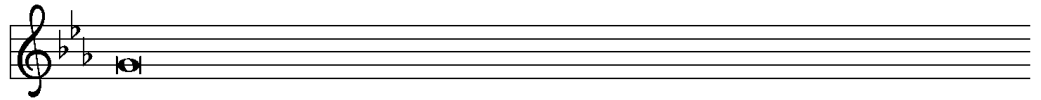
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



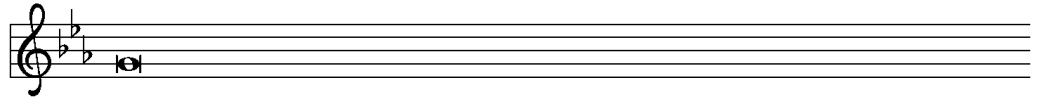
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



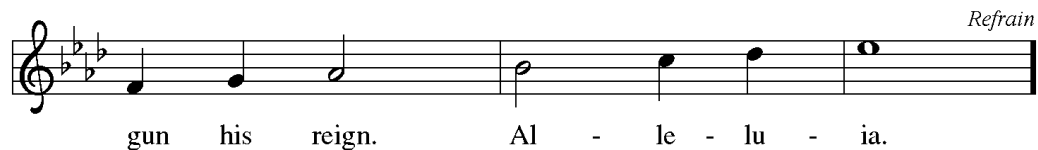
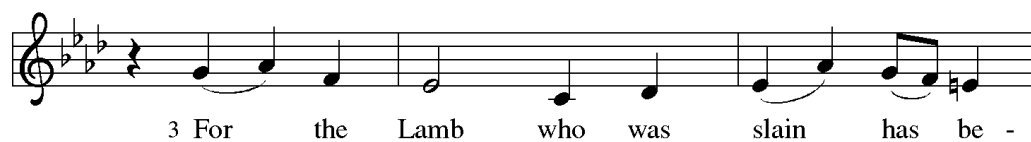
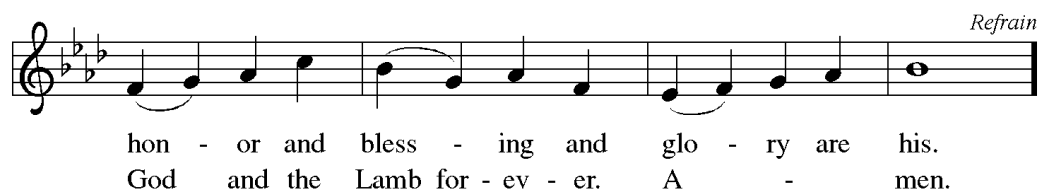
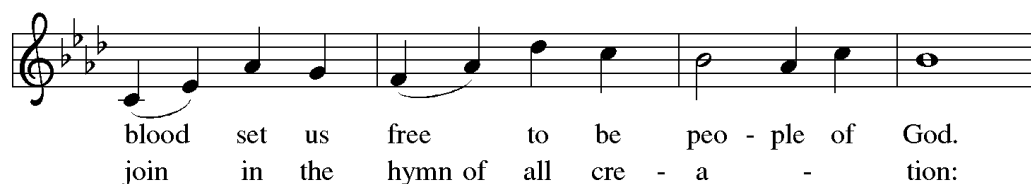
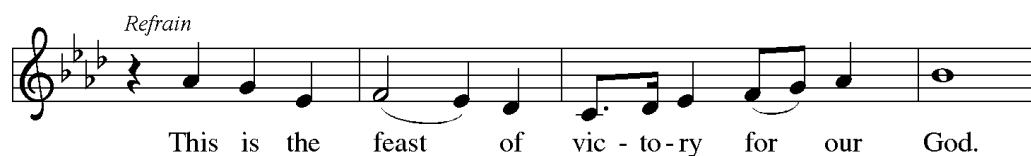
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

(Setting 1)



The prayer of the day is inspired by #138 in the 1967 collection Luther's Prayers. We pray that although, like early Christian communities, we are weak in faith, we look to our benevolent God to strengthen us.

Paul cited Habakkuk's call for faith in God's salvation in both Romans and Galatians, and there it became instrumental in Martin Luther's theological breakthrough. The passage fits with today's Lucan passage by calling us to faith. Today's is the only citation from Habakkuk in the complementary readings of the three-year lectionary.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: Amen.

ANTHEM

Acclamation in g minor
Joyful Ringers

by Karen Thompson

Please sit.



WE HEAR GOD'S WORD



LISTENING WITH CHILDREN'S EARS

FIRST READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.

Reader: A reading from the prophet Habakkuk.

¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

² O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you "Violence!"
and you will not save?

³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴ So the law becomes slack,
and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1} I will stand at my watchpost
 and station myself on the rampart;
 I will keep watch to see what he will say to me
 and what he will answer concerning my complaint.
² Then the Lord answered me and said:
 Write the vision;
 make it plain on tablets,
 so that a runner may read it.
³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
 it speaks of the end and does not lie.
 If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
 it will surely come; it will not delay.
⁴ Look at the proud!
 Their spirit is not right in them,
 but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.
 Assembly: Thanks be to God.

Although the second readings do not always cohere with the gospel and first reading, today's selection from 2 Timothy certainly does. Timothy's faith is praised, and vv. 9-14 is a summary of the faith in Christ's resurrection which constitutes the Christian hope.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: A reading from Paul's second letter to Timothy.

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to

our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.
 Assembly: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Setting 1)

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

Today's extreme description of Christian life—lived by “worthless slaves” whose faith cannot possibly be adequate enough—is surprising in Luke. Yet here is also Luke's promise of mercy: Christ, our lord, amazes us by serving us at table.

GOSPEL

Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

Pastor: The Gospel according to Luke the 17th chapter.
 Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.
 Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY - Stanzas 1, 2 & 5

(ACS #1047)

“What Is the World Like” picks up directly on Jesus’ words in today’s Gospel about faith the size of a mustard seed. Each stanza imagines how God’s reign breaks into ordinary life through something small, hidden, or surprising: a seed that grows, yeast that leavens, a pearl of great value, a treasure in a field. Just as Jesus reminds the disciples that even the smallest faith carries God’s power, the hymn invites us to trust that God is at work in humble beginnings and quiet acts of service. Singing this hymn, we join in proclaiming

What Is the World Like

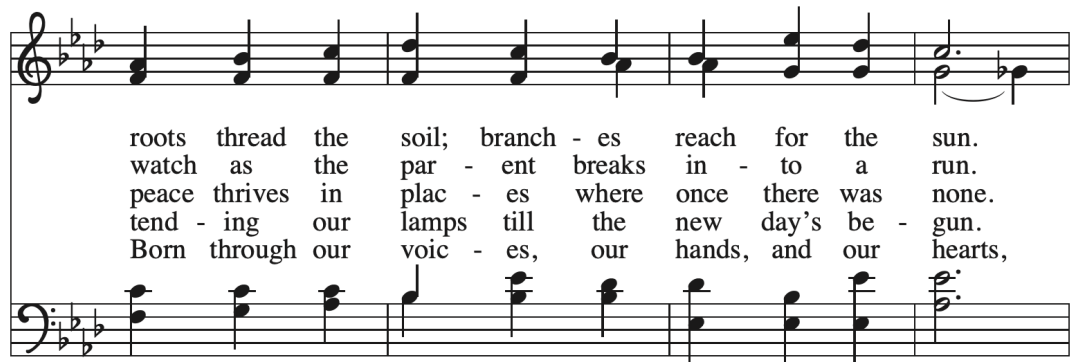
1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,

Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:
 Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;
 No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;
 Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,
 filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.

*that God's kingdom
grows not through
grandeur or strength,
but through the
mustard-seed faith that
takes root and
transforms the world.*

*The hymn was written
by Adam M. L. Tice, a
contemporary
Mennonite hymn writer
known for socially
conscious,
theologically rich texts.
His writing often lifts
up God's reign
breaking into daily life,
justice, and
community, fitting
perfectly with Luke
17's mustard seed
teaching.*

*Sally Ann Morris's
melody has a lilting,
almost conversational
flow. It avoids rigid
formality, which
matches the hymn's
exploration of hidden,
surprising aspects of
God's kingdom. The
tune's warmth and
gentle lyricism mirror
the Gospel's
reassurance that even
the tiniest faith can
carry immense
promise.*



Text: Adam M. L. Tice, b. 1979

Music: NEW WORLD, Sally Ann Morris, b. 1952

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APOSTLES' CREED

Assisting Minister: With the whole church let us profess our faith,
Assembly: **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 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.
 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

We pray for the greater church.

Assisting Minister: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation. Remind your people that faith the size of a mustard seed is enough. God of grace,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for creation.

Assisting Minister: O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field. Ensure the welfare of animal companions whose presence offers comfort, safety, and joy. God of grace,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for justice.

Assisting Minister: O God of nations and communities, you govern and guard the world. Give leaders and people in authority a spirit of making just and righteous laws. Bring peace to countries affected by war and violence, including the Gaza Strip, Israel, Ukraine, and all lands in need of your peace. God of grace,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for those in need.

Assisting Minister: O God of those in need, you care for all who are sick, oppressed, bereaved, lonely, and poor. Come to the help of all in need, including those we name before you now (*the assembly offers names*). Help us to trust that you will come to us at the right time. God of grace,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

We pray for this congregation.

Assisting Minister: O God of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, you nurture our faith. We praise you for those who teach, lead, and learn in this congregation and beyond. Give growth to the seeds of faith watered by faithful examples of baptismal living. Guide the discernment of our congregation and that of our next pastor. God of grace,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

We remember the saints.

The sharing of THE PEACE is an ancient ritual that puts us right with our neighbors before we offer our gifts to God.

Assisting Minister: O God of ages past, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith. May the faith of those who now rest in your merciful arms. Shape our faith in your Son, Jesus Christ. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Assembly:

Pastor: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

Assembly: Amen.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Assembly: And also with you.

Please sit.

OFFERING

For today's offering we invite the congregation to come forward to the altar where they may place their monetary gifts in the offering plates held by the ushers and their food donation contribution at the base of the altar.

MUSICAL OFFERING

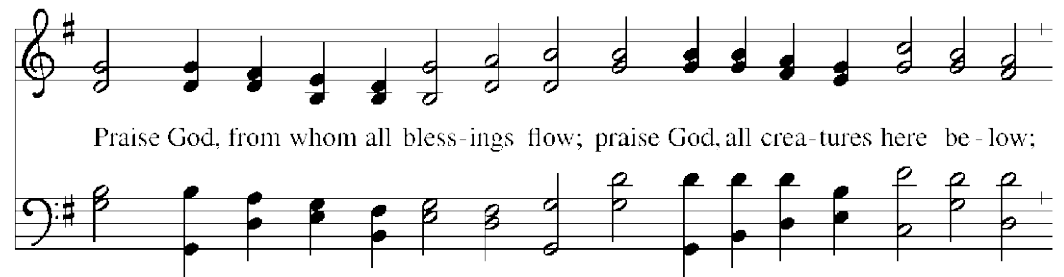
Jesus, Feed Us

arr. Brian Wentzel

Sanctuary Choir

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;



praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assembly: Amen.



WE COME TO GOD'S TABLE



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Assembly: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

(Setting 1)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray with confidence the prayer Jesus taught us.

Assembly: **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,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Please sit.

DISTRIBUTION

*This is Christ's table of welcome. Jesus invites **all** who are hungry and thirsty for unconditional love and acceptance to come to God's banquet. The ushers will direct you forward at the appropriate time. Communion will be by station. The pastor will be in the center with the bread. All the bread we use here is gluten free. On either side will be someone with a tray of red wine and white grape juice. Empty cups can be placed in the basket on either side of the aisle. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, cross your arms on your chest.*

AGNUS DEI

(Setting 1)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(ELW #635)

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in
gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise
may our faith a - bound to call on you when
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you
none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."
we re - jice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"
you are near and seek where you are found:
as you are, with full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: DUNLAP'S CREEK, Samuel McFarland, fl. 1816

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(ELW #759)

My Faith Looks Up to Thee



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Please stand as you are able.

POST -COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
 strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have
 strengthened us and appointed us to be your
 servants. Send us to do good and to share our
 possessions with all in need. We ask this in
 Jesus' name.

Assembly: Amen.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Pastor:

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our siblings in their homes and in hospitals. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Assembly:

Amen.

WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE

SENDING HYMN

(ELW #545)

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der-ness.
 Ev - er faith-ful, ev - er faith-ful to your truth may we be found.
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end-less day.

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” is one of the most enduring English-language hymns of Christian benediction. The text was written by John Fawcett, a Baptist pastor in Yorkshire best remembered for his hymn “Blest Be the Tie That Binds.” Fawcett was deeply concerned with congregational life and pastoral care, and his hymns often reflect themes of fellowship, unity, and God’s sustaining grace. This text first appeared in 1773 in his collection “Hymns Adapted to the Circumstances of Public Worship.”

The tune most often associated with this hymn, SICILIAN MARINERS, is a traditional Sicilian melody brought to England in the 18th century and adapted for congregational use. Its lilting, dance-like quality gives the hymn a sense of joyful sending, reminding worshipers that dismissal from worship is not an end, but a beginning of service in the world.

Sung at the close of worship, the hymn gathers up the community's prayers and sets them forth with confidence in God's guidance and peace.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

arr. Jeffrey Honoré

As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain from applauding during worship and after the postlude.

THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS

William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536

Monday, October 6, 2025

Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, died 1787

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.

Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1986 (TFF)

Friday, October 10, 2025

A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.

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FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

[Ambrose, in The Sunday Sermons of the Great Fathers, I, 350-51.]

Would you know that Christ is the seed? He is the grain of mustard seed, in that the narrative of the Lord's passion is most bitter and most grievous, most bitter unto tears, most grievous unto our repentance. He sows the grain of mustard and so sows the kingdom of heaven. Not only is Christ the seed, but the least of all the seeds, because he came not in power, not in wealth, not in the wisdom of this world. But suddenly he unfolds as a tree the soaring eminence of his might.
—Ambrose

We are so opposed to slavery that we are not inclined to call ourselves "worthless slaves," and thus today's gospel is hard to hear. In a medieval Psalter book is a miniature painting of serfs, whose situation was close to that of slaves. The serfs are hard at work, while the steward is standing ready to chastise them. It is a troubling picture; it is a troubling reading from Luke.



There is a hearing-assistance system (induction loop) in the Sanctuary for those with hearing impairments. Please ask an usher for instructions.

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