

# **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)**

## **Divine Service One**

**The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**

**July 16, 2023**





## The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023

8:00 and 10:30 AM

### Prayer for the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Holy triune God, through Your Holy Spirit, open our hearts and minds to understand that You, in giving the Church the Bible, were not confronting the Church with riddles for it to solve, but to make men wise unto salvation. Help us to trust that everything that directly pertains to salvation and eternal life is very clearly presented in the Scriptures. Grant that we read Your Word with a childlike faith so that we understand and learn what You are teaching us. May we hold to Your teachings and thus know the truth that will set us free from harmful error, sin, death, and hell. Grace us with the blessed liberty of being Your children and in Your care. We ask all of this in the Son's name. Amen.



**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Cor. 11:17-34), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to speak with the Pastor prior to communing with us for the first time. We thank you for respecting our belief and practice regarding the Lord's Supper.



## Confession and Absolution

### 908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

#### Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

#### Exhortation

*1 John 1:8–9*

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

#### Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

## Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.



## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8*



The LORD is merciful and | gracious,\*  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

**As for man, his days | are like grass;\*  
he flourishes like a flower | of the field;**

for the wind passes over it, and | it is gone,\*  
and its place knows | it no more.

**But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting  
to everlasting on those who | fear him,\*  
and his righteousness to children's | children,**

to those who keep his | covenant\*  
and remember to do his com- | mandments.

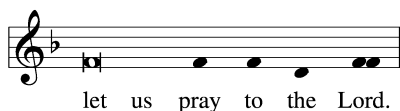
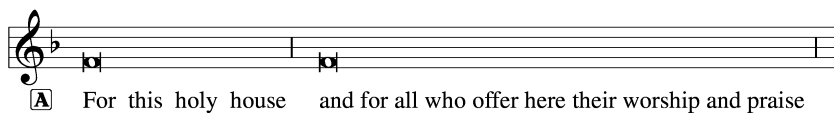
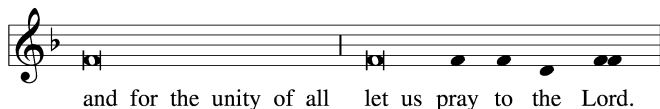
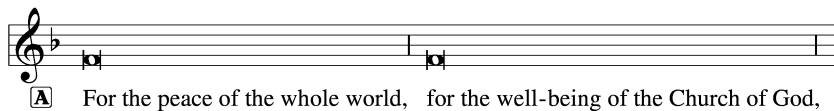
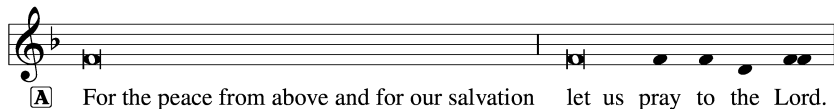
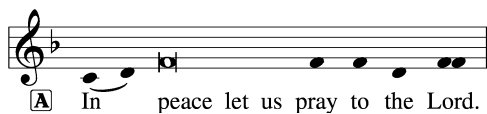
**The LORD has established his throne in the | heavens,\*  
and his kingdom rules | over all.**

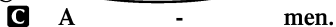
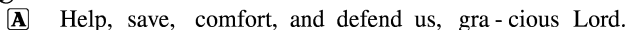
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

The LORD is merciful and | gracious,\*  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

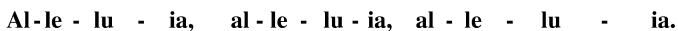
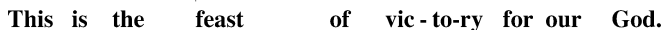
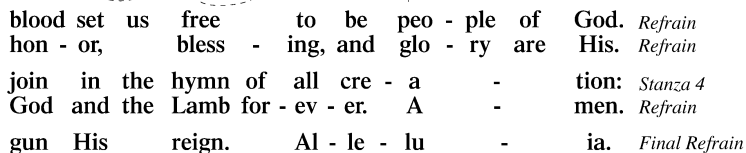
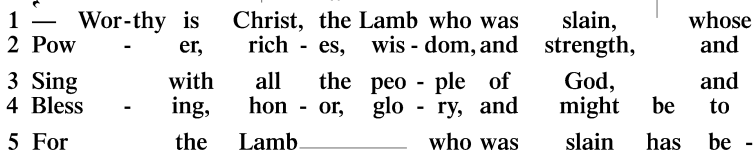
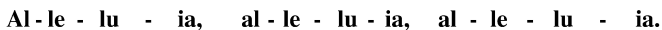
# Kyrie

Mark 10:47





*Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9*



## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:10–13

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.  
"For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;

and it shall make a name for the LORD,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Romans 11:33, 36*



**Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom  
and knowl- | edge of God!\***

**How unsearchable are his judgments  
and how inscrutable | his ways!**

**For from him and through him and to him are | all things.\*  
To him be glory forever. | Amen.**

## Epistle: Romans 8:12–17

So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*





## Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

"Hear then the parable of the sower: When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## 577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

### Sermon

#### **"A Foolish Farmer?"**

Text: Matthew 13:1-23

*Stand*



### Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from  
heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the  
Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the  
living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped  
and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic  
Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

*After each portion of the prayer:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

*Sit*

## Offering

*(Please add your name to the red fellowship  
book and pass it to your fellow worshipers.)*

*Stand*

## Offertory

*Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19*



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.



## Service of the Sacrament

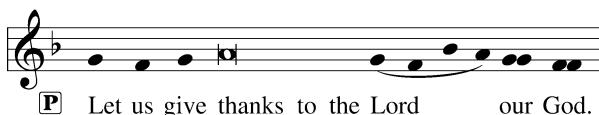
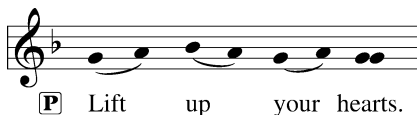


*Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.*



### Preface

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*



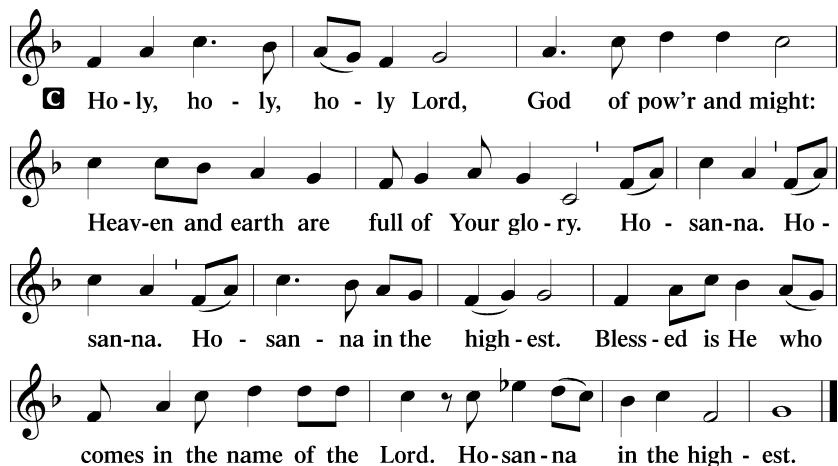
### Proper Preface

- [P] It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose

from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

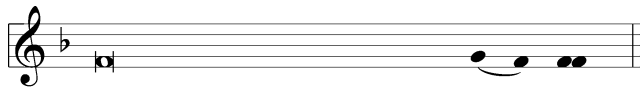
*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;  
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

John 1:29

**C** 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.

Sit

### **Personal prayer before Communing**

*Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen*



### **Distribution**

#### **Personal prayer of thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament**

*Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.*

626 Come, Let Us Eat

641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Stand

Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10]

Musical notation for the hymn 'Thank the Lord'. It consists of four staves of music in a single system, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes.

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.

He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy

with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

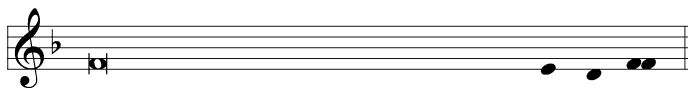
Musical notation for the word 'Amen'. It consists of a single staff of music in a single system, with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The word 'Amen' is written below the notes.

**C** A - men.



## Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.



**G** A - men.

## 921 On What Has Now Been Sown



***Soli Deo Gloria!***  
*(To God alone be the glory.)*

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## Announcements



Assisting Elders:  
8 a.m. – Scott Schlapkohl  
10:30 a.m. – Andy Olson

## Graduation Party



The Ogu family would like to invite you to a graduation party on Saturday, August 5 at 3 p.m., at General's Park in Aurora (1561 Quentin St., Aurora, CO 80011) to celebrate Nche's graduation from ThunderRidge High School in May. (Questions-contact Mavis at 303-960-7528)

## 7 Parables of St. Mathew 13

K M D X A T O U A F Q Y E Y G N Y M A O A F F Y  
D P U W T S A X U V O W E N F J V K N N P M A N  
Y T R W K C Q R F G X W S M J X B E K L Z D E X  
I S E Q V I Y W E H I I U G L C V W T X N B H Z  
H M E Z E K C K R G S S O L O A Z K M W I K M E  
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X H Y O O H J D X N B F M H S D W U H I A H A X  
F I A H S L F S T E N E R O V X Q E N E S P M I  
C I W X W M K N I O E K F U N L W G P C N E Y A  
S G B S A M G E G F V J U S D G D Q H D R R X T  
O Y N O E R V V D L A G C E O O H O U C V U R G  
J S I N M W H E A T W D U H M E T Q H B N C D Y  
J E C X E T J S Y J R E Z O P Y N A Y Y L V L U  
J S L V E E B E P M R C H L X A N V S X Q V R B  
A A Z A H J T H L U C Q D D B T S E L U F O O O  
F I S E X V E R S B Q H K E J H Z S S T M P W X  
D F L A H T C A I O A O J R R Z D S K Q F U Z V  
R P G E E E E O J H F R F H R V B E F D E A M Y  
W J V N D R D J E O T J A Q I U F L U Z R X F U  
M O O Q T A D S W V O M Q P I O A S G K Z N C S  
U U Z B V Q Q L M F L E A V E N X X R G R V N J  
U R P D H Y S Q B V R I J U H G O L D S U H K V

thirteen  
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treasure  
mustard  
wayside  
tare

seven  
new  
scribe  
pearls  
world  
kingdom  
seeds  
wheat

matthew  
householder  
vessels  
merchant  
leaven  
fowls  
sower  
Parable



## July/August Mission Project

For the months of July and August, we are introducing a local Denver

based organization formerly known as Street's Hope. They are now called Voluntad (/bolun'tad/ - referring to free will.)

### **Voluntad: The ability to choose with freedom and dignity**

Street's Hope/Voluntad provides survivor-informed services to support and empower survivors of all forms of human trafficking. Street's Hope/Voluntad works to bring awareness and education to our community in the fight against exploitation and human trafficking. We envision a world where all people can choose the direction of their own lives, free from exploitation.

**Voluntad.org | 720-420-9951 | Admin@Voluntad.org**

## **Street's Hope/Voluntad Services to Human Trafficking Survivors**

### **5 Ways YOU Can Help**

#### **1. Educate Yourself and Others.**

Being well-informed will make you a better agent of change. Read information from trusted sources like [polarisproject.org](http://polarisproject.org) and [combathumantrafficking.org](http://combathumantrafficking.org). Visit our Education page at [voluntad.org/resources](http://voluntad.org/resources) for other informative materials, and watch our Facebook and Instagram page for information and updates.

#### **2. Choose Empathy.**

Be compassionate. Recognize that you may not understand the complexity of someone's situation. A spectrum of choice and exploitation impacts the lives of the most vulnerable people, and many factors play a role in where someone lands on that spectrum. These factors can be both the cause and effect of human trafficking.

#### **3. Understand Vulnerabilities.**

Human trafficking is the business of monetizing the vulnerability of other humans. Vulnerability is created through economic, racial, and gender-based inequality. These vulnerabilities, whether personal or political, set the stage for exploitation in all its forms and call survival in question. The need to survive impacts the ability to freely choose.

#### **4. If You Need to Report.**

Call 866-455-5075 or text 720-999-9724 for the Colorado Human Trafficking Hotline or call 888-373-7888 or text HELP to 233733 (BEFREE) for the National Human Trafficking Hotline.

#### **5. Support Street's Hope/Voluntad.**

Find out how



## 5 Things You Can Do

### 1. Become a Voluntad Ambassador.

You have the voluntad to make a difference for human trafficking survivors. To learn more and to become an Ambassador email Kaylee at Admin@Voluntad.org.

### 2. Directly Support Survivors.

Where to donate? Visit our Website at [Voluntad.org/donate](http://Voluntad.org/donate). Does your employer have a gift matching program?

### 3. Keep Our Resource Bank Full.

Donating items on our needs lists provides survivors with hygiene products, clothing, necessities to make a house feel like a home, and more. To see and collect items that are on our needs list go to [voluntad.org/outreach-needs-list](http://voluntad.org/outreach-needs-list). You can also purchase items on our Amazon Wish list at <https://a.co/j6u6rip>.

### 4. Donate While You Shop.

Link your King Sooper's card to King Soopers Community Rewards and choose Street's Hope (YY482) as the organization you would like to support.

### 5. You Have the Power to Tell the Truth.

Follow us on social media & share our page with your friends and followers. [Facebook.com/streetshope@streetsHope](https://Facebook.com/streetshope@streetsHope) & [Instagram.com/voluntaddenver@VoluntadDenver](https://Instagram.com/voluntaddenver@VoluntadDenver).

When making donation from Amazon wish list, use this mailing address:

Street's Hope Voluntad  
PO BOX 9794  
DENVER, CO 80209-0794

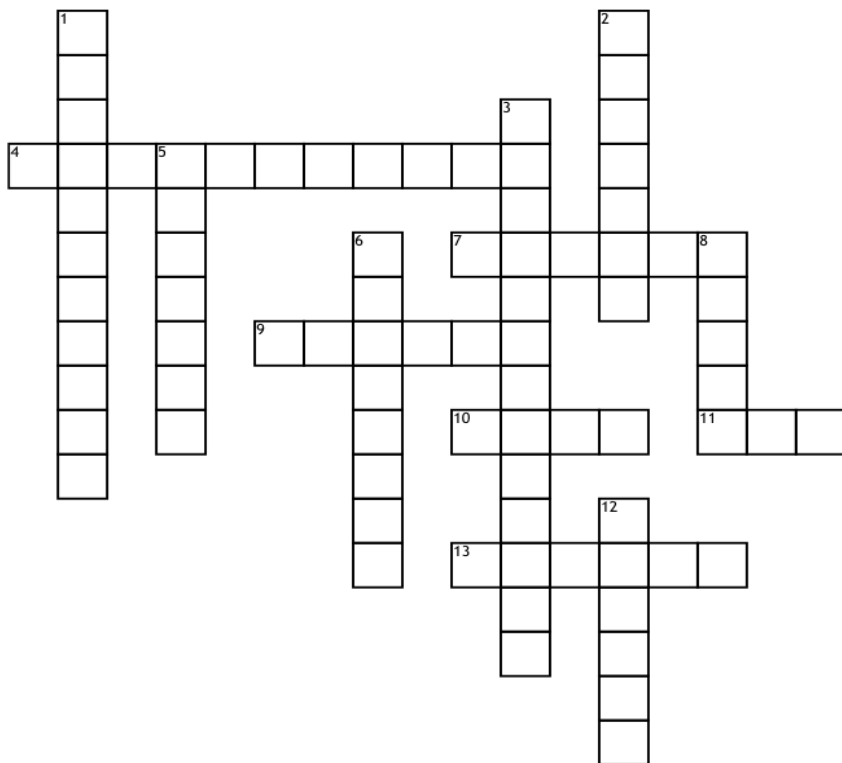
and your own phone number

## About Street's Hope/Voluntad

- For over 15 years Street's Hope/Voluntad has been the only service provider of this type in the Rocky Mountain region. Our goal is to assist vulnerable people to have the chance to make REAL choices.
- Survivors are supported by housing navigators, peer support professionals, mental health professionals, and case managers. Each staff member brings unique expertise and life experience. Staff members support each survivor's journey toward wholeness, agency, and a life lived with dignity.

Over 

- During the pandemic, human trafficking survivors experienced a dislocating impact similar to a natural disaster, exacerbating the exonomic and social hardships that made them vulnerable to exploitatin. Because of this we see an increased need for our services. As compared to the same time frame in 2020, our 24-hour phone line call volume has gone up by 70%! The number of clients in our intensive program has doubled each year since 2019.



#### Across

4. The seed in rocky soil is like the man who quickly falls away from God's word as soon as trouble or ----- come
7. The thorns choke the plant like the deceitfulness of ----- choke God's word
9. Large ----- appeared around Jesus
10. Birds ate the seed that fell on the ----
11. The farmer went to ----- his seed

13. Plants without roots do this -----

#### Down

1. The seed on rocky soil is like the man who hears the word and receives it ----- with joy
2. The seed that fell in rocky soil grew -----
3. The seed sown along the path is like someone hearing God's word and not ----- it
5. Describe the rocky soil

6. The sun ----- the plants that grew in the rocky soil

8. The seed that fell on good soil is the man who ----- God's word and understands it

12. Seed that fell amongst thorns grew into plants that were eventually ----- by the thorns

# Parable of the Sower

I W G N I D N A T S R E D N U L S E I R R O W V  
A A E O W O L L A H S R E W T S O I L Y C Y Q M  
F M Q A V O V D H W U C E C E R F C Y Q T K S T  
V Y H D L Y I M L L N N W M U Q O U N N U E X A  
P H E R S T T X Z A F O H C R D R U M M E U F O  
O E C G W E H H D A Y R Q Q K A E N B D V U Z Q  
R W C O R Z H N S F C Q N E T C F X S L D T S D  
C I C L F X U C K Z I B W Z T S K I U H E D Q O  
D T K N D B Q I T K N O W L E D G E R E O M S U  
T H Z R A Q N M P A E R W U D E R D N U H M T S  
H E C R N D U K L M N D E K O H C Y S O T Z D Z  
O R L W M Z S N Z X B S J P R S W E S D S U R H  
R E S H M V A O L V F G K E L P S S G C H S V N  
N D X Y U S D I I L B G O R G W X H A Y V C Z F  
S D C O W O S T Q R W J W C J A C T T L F G X E  
C R F W Z H G U T E E I S E Z D T C E O I Q A W  
K I O M O C L C D U M X T I W E P P T K R B H T  
D E G C J M P E Q E H E K V R O L I Q O H R T F  
K F R T K L M S N Z H T A I D X U N O Z E R A T  
B Q D G A Y A R Y T X C R N N R Y T Q V U A P H  
I D V N P J I E C A L S R G F G S L V J Q J J M  
R R T A X U N P B O F F W O Y T D X J J Q O S Z  
D S U S E L B U O R T N K H C I U O M C R J Z Y  
S X D E S I A S S T O M G U R S V I M T Z J K E

PERSECUTION	PERCEIVING	TROUBLE	SNATCHES	UNDERSTANDING
ABUNDANCE	KNOWLEDGE	WITHERED	SCORCHED	HUNDRED
WEALTH	CROP	SUN	PLANTS	THORNS
ROOTS	SOIL	BIRDS	SEEDS	PATH
SOW	FARMER	ROCKY	SCATTER	SHALLOW
WORRIES	FRUIT	CHOKED	KINGDOM	TROUBLES

**Petitions and Prayers:** We confidently call upon God through prayer by first knowing and confessing that we are unworthy to be heard by Him.



### **Health concerns:**

*Lord Jesus, lift the spirits and strengthen the faith of those people who are ill, helping them to look beyond this present affliction. Remind them that You are near, even in this time of pain and suffering. Heal them if it be Your will; if not, give them the strength to endure in faith. We pray in Your name, our only Lord and Savior. Amen.*

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Jenny, Paul and unborn daughter Ivy who has a heart defect and will need surgery upon birth (family friends of Marie McQuarrie)
- Devon Hanson (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell) – mental health issues
- Dillon (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell - health issues
- Roger Frank (brother of Connie Mitchell) cancer
- Mary (relative of Tabris') pray for protection and wisdom for her family concerning special needs.
- Angela (single mother in Illinois) friend of Helen Tabris –waiting for heart transplant
- Jamie (is missing and has mental health issues) and young daughter Jade (is being adopted by family in Colorado)

*\*Heavenly Father, we lift up our hearts in thanksgiving for all of blessings You continue to pour out on our nation and its people despite our many transgressions against Your will. Grant Your wisdom to the leaders of our country that they will make just and honorable decisions and will work for the good of all the people they serve. May we know the peace of Your Son Jesus so that in our times of tribulation our hearts will be cheerful. We pray in the name of the One who has overcome the world as He told us in John 16:33.*

### **“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life July 16, 2023**

“Waiting is difficult; in Christ, we have the now and not yet. But as we learn and relearn to wait on Him, we find joy in His good work and patient craftsmanship in our lives. Though under construction, God works through us to bless the world. May you find great joy in fruit-bearing as you faithfully wait on HIM.”

*Michelle Bauman, Y4Life  
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*



***God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.***

***Psalm 46:1***

## **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**(Missouri Synod)**

**9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.**

**Highlands Ranch, CO 80129**

Sunday Worship Services.....8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes and Sunday School.....9:25 a.m.

Church Office.....303-683-1300

Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, cell.....303-908-3339

Website.....[www.hclchr.org](http://www.hclchr.org)

***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:***

***Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!***



**Check out**

***The Lutheran Hour***

**Sunday mornings at**

**6 a.m. on 850 KOA Radio or  
click on "Listen Now" anytime.**

## **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**



Holy Cross Lutheran is on Facebook.  
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[facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch](https://facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch).



**You can't exercise  
your faith just  
sitting in a pew.**