

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service Four

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023



**Do nothing from rivalry or
conceit, but in humility count
others more significant than
yourselves.**

Philippians 2:3



The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

8:00 and 10:30 AM

Prayer for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

O Holy God, lest we be too quick to shake our heads in disbelief, wonder, and surprise at how the people of Jesus' day could turn away from Him, help us to see the same tendencies in ourselves. Every time our sinful nature gains control of us, every time we want to be the lord of our lives, we are spurning the Savior sent by You and thus jeopardizing our only possible means of salvation. By nature we chafe under Your will, and we resent Your telling us what to do. Every one of our sins is a rebellious act of defiance. Our desire for control conflicts with faith and following Jesus. Yet You call us to repentance and forgive us for Jesus' sake. May His constant love for us move us to hate sin and love Him more. Let Your Word dwell in our hearts, keeping us faithful to Christ so that we never reject Him who is our one and only Savior. In His Name, which is Love, we pray. 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

913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

Stand

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 ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
G Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
G who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
G But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

- G** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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 147:1–5; antiphon: v. 6



The LORD lifts up the | humble;*
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

**Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.**

The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;*
he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.

**He heals the broken- | hearted*
and binds | up their wounds.**

He determines the number | of the stars;*
he gives to all of | them their names.

**Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*
his understanding is beyond | measure.**

**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 lifts up the | humble;*
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

The word of the LORD came to me: “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 91:11; 103:1



He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.

Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle: Philippians 2:1–18

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand



Alleluia and Verse



John 20:31



Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom

of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



Nicene Creed

C 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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

Sermon

“Getting Along with Others”

Text: Philippians 2:1-18

Stand

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.)*



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]

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

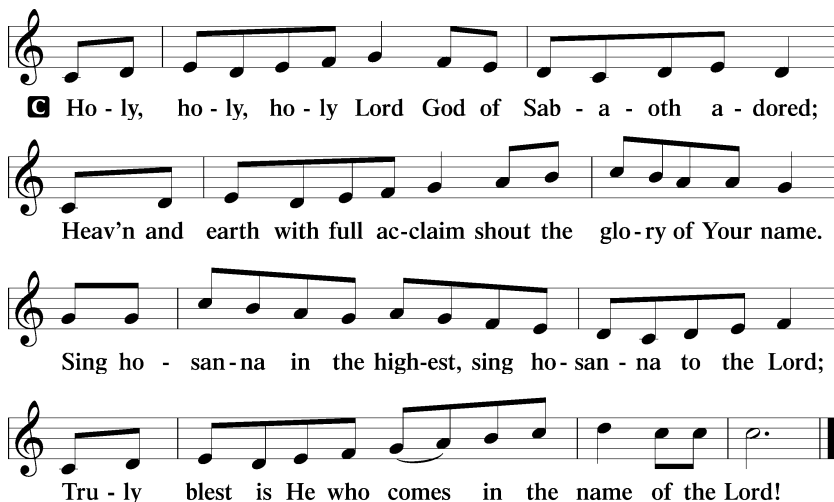
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

- 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 ✝ 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 ✝ 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

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

C Amen.



Agnus Dei

John 1:29

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,

You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;

O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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.

704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

543 What Wondrous Love Is This

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry seen to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



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.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

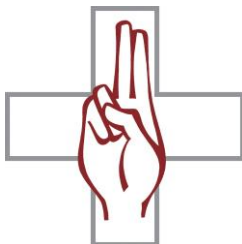
Numbers 6:24-26

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.

C Amen.





Lutheran Women One and All *tune: LSB 892*

1. Lutheran women, one and all,
We have heard the Gospel call.
We by faith have seen our Lord
Crucified and then restored.
We have seen Him pay the price,
For our sins a sacrifice.
Him we Lord and Christ acclaim
And unite to praise His name.
2. Lutheran women, young and old,
Well we know His challenge bold:
Help to take the Gospel light
To a world in darkest night,
By example in the home,
By inviting those who roam,
By our prayers for sinners lost,
By our gifts for missions' cost.
3. Lutheran women, coast to coast,
In the Lord a mighty host,
Let us all united be
In the Holy Trinity,
One in faith, in hope, and love,
Working for the Lord above,
Till, our earthly labors done,
We in heaven shall all be one.

Elmer A. Kettner

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Soli Deo Gloria!

(To God alone be the glory.)

Announcements



Assisting Elders:

8 a.m. – Steve White

10:30 a.m. – Joe Tabris

All about LWML mites



Mite Boxes™ are used to collect money for missions. Mite money is then used to further God's kingdom through the mission projects selected by delegates at district and national conventions. 75% of the Mite offerings are used for Rocky Mountain District mission projects and 25% are sent to national LWML for national mission projects.

Place your Mite Box™ wherever you can feed it: dressing table, office desk, laundry room, car, kitchen counter, etc. You “mite” want to give a Mite Box™ to family members and friends. Return your filled Mite Box™ to the church on the second Sunday of the month and empty it into the large Mite Box™ on the table in the narthex. Check the LWML bulletin board in the narthex to track accomplishments toward mission goals.

Lutheran Chorale Fall Concert Sunday, October 15

Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, 2:30 p.m.

11453 E Wesley Avenue, Aurora, CO 80014

St. Philip Lutheran Church, 6:30 p.m.

7531 S Kendall Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128

HEART HEART - a Non-Profit

We have been working with this neighborhood group for a few years. Heart 2 Heart provides start-up goods for the homeless who are moving into their own housing. This includes Veterans, sheltered families and battered women, and young people transitioning from foster care. Other organizations find the housing and basic furniture, we provide the start-up needs.

The organization was founded by our neighbor, Linda Garrity, about 10 years ago. Caseworkers provide the names, ages, and needs of the families and a few of us “grandmas and grandpas” put together the orders for these families and load them into the cars for deliveries.

Donations come in from our neighbors and from those who have heard about Heart 2 Heart through word of mouth. Additionally, we scour thrift stores and purchase some new items, especially toys for the kids. One organization provides homemade quilts!

Needed donations include lightly used bedding, towels, books, toys, kitchen items such as pots, pans, dishes, cups, mugs, glasses, silverware, coffeemakers (each Veteran gets one), plastic storage like Glad or Tupperware, baking dishes, spatulas, etc. We do not deal with food, furniture, or clothing. However, we do purchase outfits for newborns, as no baby should leave the hospital in hand-me-down clothing.

If you have something that you no longer need, you can bring your items to church and we will drop them off at Linda's. If you have any questions, please call me, Becky White, at 303-506-8417. Thank you.

Steve and Becky White – 303-979-5978

Petitions and Prayers: According to Isaiah, we pray because God has promised to hear us.



Health concerns:

Dear Lord Jesus, Your promises are ever before our eyes. Bring healing to those who are ill if it be Your will for their lives. Stay with them in this time of infirmity, blessing them with Your peace. Thank You that we can pray in Your name. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- **McKinley Ford**, daughter of Erica and Andy Olson, is having doctor appointments trying to figure out the cause of a low white blood count and a resolution.
- **Becky Ryder** is having hip replacement surgery this Wednesday.
- **Paula Mayer** broke her arm and had surgery. Pray for healing and renewed strength.
- **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)

**May the God of peace be with me and guide me this day. Fill me with the trust that comes from knowing that through no act of my own, my sins have been forgiven in Christ's sacrifice and I will have eternal life. Remind me to be content because everything in this world pales in comparison to Your blessings, Lord; Your Son, Jesus Christ; and the Holy Spirit. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

"Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life October 1, 2023

"The science is conclusive: Human life starts at fertilization. The Bible is conclusive: Life is from God, it begins at fertilization, and God's commandment of 'You shall not murder' (Exodus 20:13) certainly applies to the slaying of an innocent child in the womb. Because that little baby in the womb IS a human being."

*Pastor Paul Clark, President of Lutherans For Life of Michigan
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



***This is my commandment,
that you love one another as I have loved you.***

John 15:12

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

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



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**Tweet others the
way you want to
be tweeted!**