

LIVING STONE WORSHIP
† Holy Cross Day †
Sunday, September 14, 2025 at 10:45 a.m.

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Prayer Before Worship

O God, Your Son received sinners and ate with them, rejoicing in their repentance. We ask for Your Holy Spirit to direct and govern our hearts, to lead us to repent of our sins and to receive forgiveness in the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Announcements & Greeting

Call to Worship

Psalm 40:1-11 (ESV)

- L I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.
C **He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.**
L He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.
C **Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.**
L Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust!
ALL **We proclaim your steadfast love and faithfulness in the great congregation! Come, let us worship the Lord!**

Opening Song

"My Feet are on the Rock"

Verse 1

**I can see the clouds rolling.
I can feel the winds they try to shake me.
I will not be moved. My feet are on the Rock.**

Verse 2

**I can feel the waters rise.
I can hear the howling lies that haunt me.
Fear won't hold me now. My feet are on the Rock.**

Chorus

**When I feel my hope about to break,
I will cling to Your unchanging grace.
Let the waters come and the earth give way.
I'll be dancing in the rain.
My feet are on the Rock.**

Verse 3

**I can see the morning light.
I can feel the joy on the horizon.
Here my faith is found. I stand on solid ground.**

Chorus

Bridge

**On Christ the solid Rock I stand.
All other ground is sinking sand.
So stomp your feet and clap your hands.
Our feet are on the Rock. (3x)**

Chorus (2x)

Abbie Parker, Josh Bronleewe, Lindsey Sweat, Matthew Hein CCLI Song #7106247
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Invocation

- P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

- P Let us pray.
Merciful God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, was lifted high upon the cross that He might bear the sins of the world and draw all people to Himself. Grant that we who glory in His death for our redemption may faithfully heed His call to bear the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4–9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food.” Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that He take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live.” So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

John 12:20–33

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

“Now is My soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it,

and I will glorify it again.” The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.” Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not Mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to Myself.” He said this to show by what kind of death He was going to die.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Song of the Day

- 1 **When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.**
- 2 **See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet,
Or, thorns compose so rich a crown?**

- Chorus** **O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross,
Bids me come and die and find That I may truly live.
O the wonderful cross, O the wonderful cross;
All who gather here by grace
Draw near and bless Your name.**
- 3 **Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were an off’ring far too small.
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all. Chorus**

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Sermon

“Defining the Cross” 1 Corinthians 1:18–25

Apostles’ Creed

- C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the ☩ life everlasting. Amen.

Children’s Message

Offering

The offertory is an important time to reflect with thanksgiving on the many blessings God has given us.

Offertory

“Living Hope”

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us.
How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night.
Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written,
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory,
To wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken; I am forgiven.
The King of kings calls me His own.
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Chorus

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!,
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!
You have broken every chain.
There's salvation in Your name.
Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Verse 3

Then came the morning that sealed the promise,
Your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me.
(REPEAT)
Jesus, Yours is the victory!

Chorus (2x)

Jesus Christ, my living hope.
Oh God, You are my living hope.

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Prayer of the Church

- ✠ Thanksgiving for the 10th wedding anniversary of Tim and Katie Eyster (Sept. 12).
- ✠ Celebration of the marriage of Kyle Adam Unger and Alexis Jenna Bouras, son of Tim and Kim Unger (Sept. 13).
- ✠ Thanksgiving for the baptism of Piper Amelia Sontheimer, daughter of Eric and Julia Sontheimer, granddaughter of Pastor David Smith and Joanne Smith (Sept. 13).
- ✠ Harold Hagmann who is hospitalized.
- ✠ Brian Meyr recovering from surgery.
- ✠ Connor Millar healing and recovery from surgery.
- ✠ Comfort for Mike Keathley and family upon the death of his mother, Jane.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Confession of Sins and Absolution

- 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

- 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.**

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. *John 20:19–23*

C Amen.

The 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

Mark 14:22–24

Pax Domini – “Peace of the Lord”

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei – “Lamb of God”

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

John 1:29

Distribution

Song

“The King Is In The Room”

Verse 1

Come open the doors and make way.
The King is in the room, the King is in the room.
Expectant for strongholds to break,
'Cause we know what You can do,
We know what You can do.

Pre-Chorus

We're gonna see lives changed,
souls saved, Broken hearts made new.

Chorus

The King is in the room.
Lord we enthrone You upon our praise.
The King is in the room.
There's freedom and life anywhere You reign.
Jesus, we bow only to You.
We're laying down all of our crowns.
The King is in the room.

Verse 2

Come see all the captives run free.
He's tearing down the walls,
He's tearing down the walls.
There's grave shaking power when we sing
The Name above them all, Your Name above them all.

Chorus

Bridge

Fear has to flee, shame has to leave
before the King, before the King
Chains have to break, dry bones awake.
Prepare the way. (repeat)

Chorus

The King is in the room.
I can't wait to see what You're gonna do.
Every mountain has to move.
Prepare the way. The King is in the room.

“Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)”

VERSE 1

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind but now I see.

Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believed.

Chorus

My chains are gone. I've been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.

Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.

Chorus (2x)

Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine.
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine,
Will be forever mine,
You are forever mine.

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Dismissal

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.
C Amen.

Post-Communion Collect

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty and ever-living God, we thank You for having fed us with the body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ, assuring us thereby that we are truly members of His Body, the Church. And we ask You to help us by Your Holy Spirit that we continue in this fellowship and do the good works You desire us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
C Amen.

Benediction

- 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.

Numbers 6:24–26

Closing Song

“See A Victory”

Verse 1

The weapon may be formed, but it won't prosper.
When the darkness falls, it won't prevail.
'Cause the God I serve knows only how to triumph.
My God will never fail.
My God will never fail.

Chorus

I'm gonna see a victory,
I'm gonna see a victory.
For the battle belongs to You, Lord.
I'm gonna see a victory,
I'm gonna see a victory.
For the battle belongs to You, Lord.

Verse 2

There's power in the mighty Name of Jesus.
Ev'ry war He wages He will win.
I'm not backing down from any giant.
I know how this story ends.
I know how this story ends.

Chorus

Bridge

You take what the enemy meant for evil,
And You turn it for good,
You turn it for good. (3x)

Chorus 2x

Bridge 2x

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We rejoice in the following Baptisms in the Sanctuary this weekend!

✝ **Gideon David Cumming** ✝

Son of Micah and Eleanor Cumming
Sponsors Joshua and Jenna Horst

✝ **Piper Amelia Sontheimer** ✝

Daughter of Eric and Julia Sontheimer
Sponsors Susan Melvin, Dan and Jennifer Bozwell, and Elizabeth Sontheimer

Preacher
Liturgist
Assisting Seminarian
Instrumentalists

Pastor Schudde
Pastor Wade
Jordan Fasnacht
Whitney Wade, guitar
Mark Stoddard, bass
Mark Yaeger, piano
Ben Rudzinski, percussion

Whitney Wade, Tavia Shively, Leslie Rudzinski, Jonny Thompson vocals
Eli Hackman

Sound

Acknowledgments

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