

Abiding Presence Lutheran Church and Preschool



Holy Cross Day

Sunday, 9:30 am, September 14, 2025

Monday, 7:30 pm, September 15, 2025

Ministers - The People of God

The Reverend Robert Schoepflin, Pastor

The Reverend Dr. Toby L. Tobias, Pastoral Associate

Ms. Kathy Pucci, Deacon

Mr. Gavin Schwen, Deacon

Dr. Thomas Zatorski, Director of Music

Ms. Lisa Pecchio, Soloist

Dcn. Kathy Pucci, Ms. Vivian Isakson, Mr. Art Isakson, Mr. Robert Cubbon, Ms. Lisa McCaffrey, Assisting

Ms. Juliana Napodano, Acolyte

Mr. Brian Ansink, Dr. William Berg, Ushers

Mr. Robert Cubbon, Ms. Viv Isakson, Ms. Kathy Smith, Readers

Ms. Cosette Minton, Mr. Liam Maynard, Greeters Monday Evening

Ms. Janice Norton, Bread Baker

Ms. Vicky Gill, Altar Guild

Mr. Patrick O'Donnell, Video Production

Ms. Marialaina Sheehan, Preschool Director



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Welcome to Worship!
Holy Cross Day
September 14, 2025, 9:30 am
Abiding Presence Church and Preschool

INTRODUCTION

This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the cross we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

PRELUDE ***“Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund”*** Johann Pachelbel

GATHERING – The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please stand as you are able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

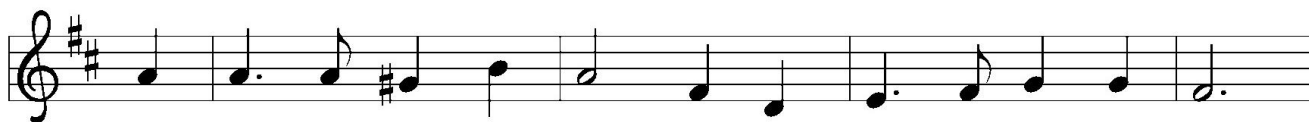
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

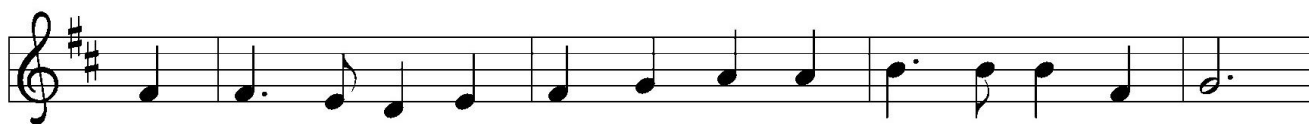
GATHERING HYMN 338 *"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"*



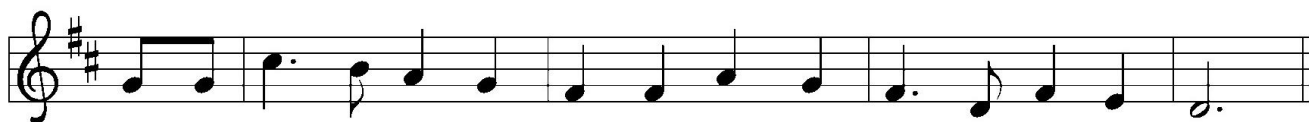
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

GREETING

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

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please sit

WORD – God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Numbers 21:4b-9

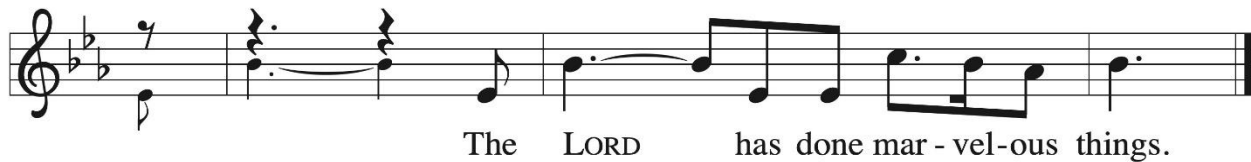
When the people spoke against God and Moses, the Lord sent poisonous snakes against them. Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord ordered him to erect a serpent of bronze on a pole. All who looked at it after having been bitten by a serpent would live.

[From Mount Hor the Israelites set out,] ^{4b} but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ 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 detest this miserable food.” ⁶ Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the Lord said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98:1-4 (*Cantor sings verses. All sing response.*)

Response



Psalm 98:1

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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- ¹ Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- ² O Lord, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations. **R**
- ³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- ⁴ Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing. **R**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

At the heart of the Christian message is the word of the cross. This proclamation seems foolish to many because it reveals true divine power in the absolute weakness of Christ's crucifixion. True wisdom understands how ours is a God who suffers for and with humankind in the cross.

- ¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,
"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."
- ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God

decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Lector/. Word of God. Word of Life. Congregation/. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL



Gospel: John 3:13-17

After explaining to Nicodemus that one must be born of water and Spirit, Jesus speaks of being lifted up on the cross, with reference to the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert. Here the Son of God is revealed as the source of healing.

The Holy Gospel according to John
Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Please sit

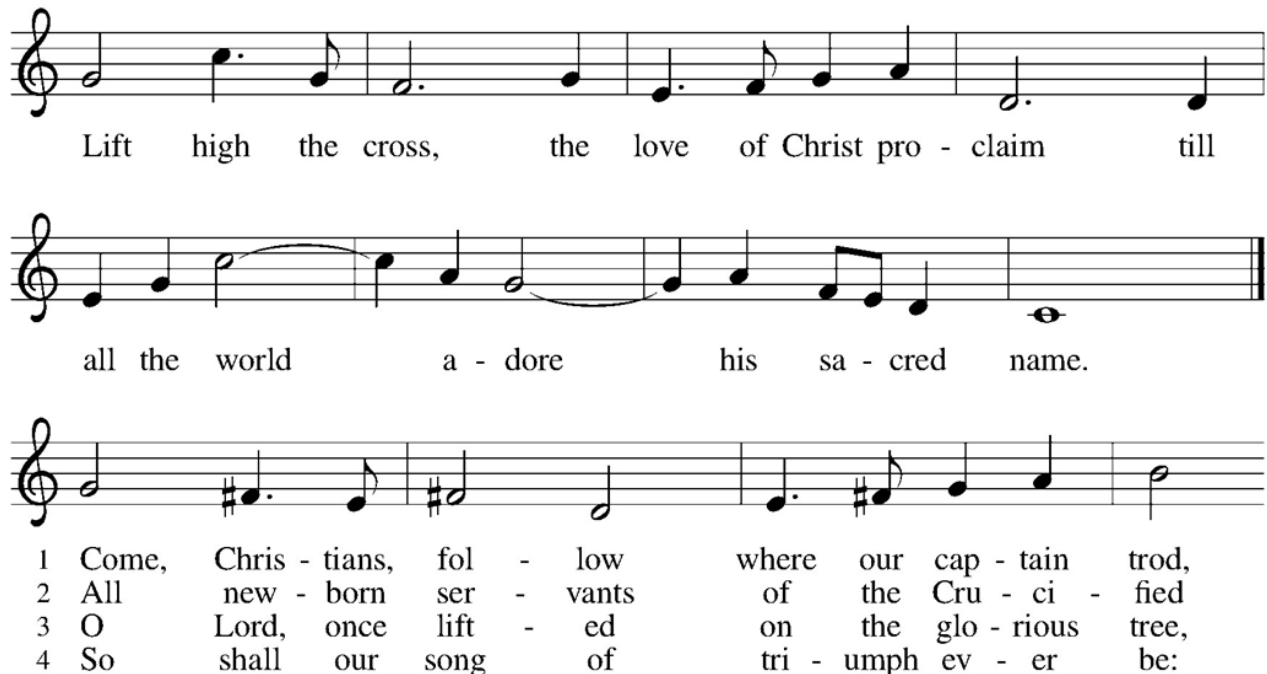
REFLECTION

Pr. Schoepflin

Please stand as you are able

HYMN 660

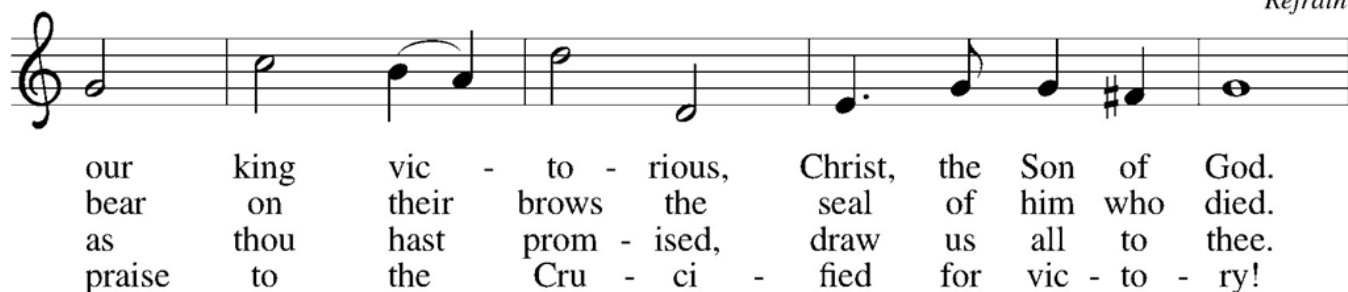
“Lift High the Cross”



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956

Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

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APOSTLES' CREED

**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 (Response: "receive our prayer.")

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need, responding "receive our prayer."

A brief silence.

Sustaining God, guide your church on the way. Give us patience in our journey, and protect us from division and doubt. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, renew the earth. Heal our planet from the venom of greed and exploitation, and direct us to respect all life as a gift from you. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of wisdom, grant discernment to those in authority. Bring low the mighty, and uphold those who work for peace. May they seek the way of the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of grace, alleviate suffering. Comfort the sick and the grieving, especially Karin, Betty, Laurie, Jennifer, Doris, Bill, Jim, Anthony, Karen, Joan, Matt, Grace, Richard, Lucille, Bobby, Mariette, Ella, Jessica, [], those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, guide your flock. Protect us and lead us in the way of truth. Strengthen us in our faith and inspire us to serve others. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, you receive into your loving embrace those who have died. Giving thanks for them, may we find comfort in the cross and live in the hope of resurrection. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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

SHARING OF PEACE

Please sit

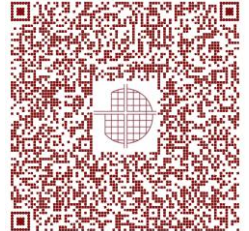
ANTHEM

“God So Loved the World”
Sung by The Choir of the Abiding Presence

John Stainer

OFFERING

**NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE**



Please stand as you are able

OFFERING HYMN (ELW 182)

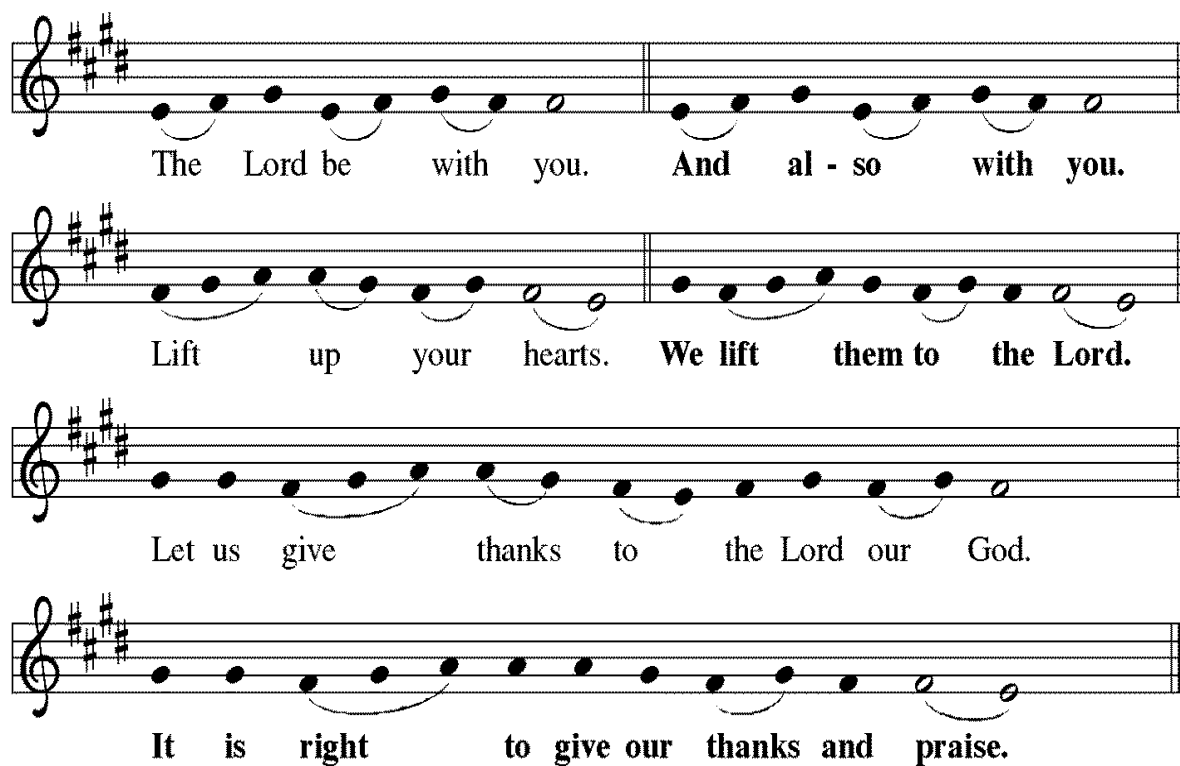
“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

***Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.***

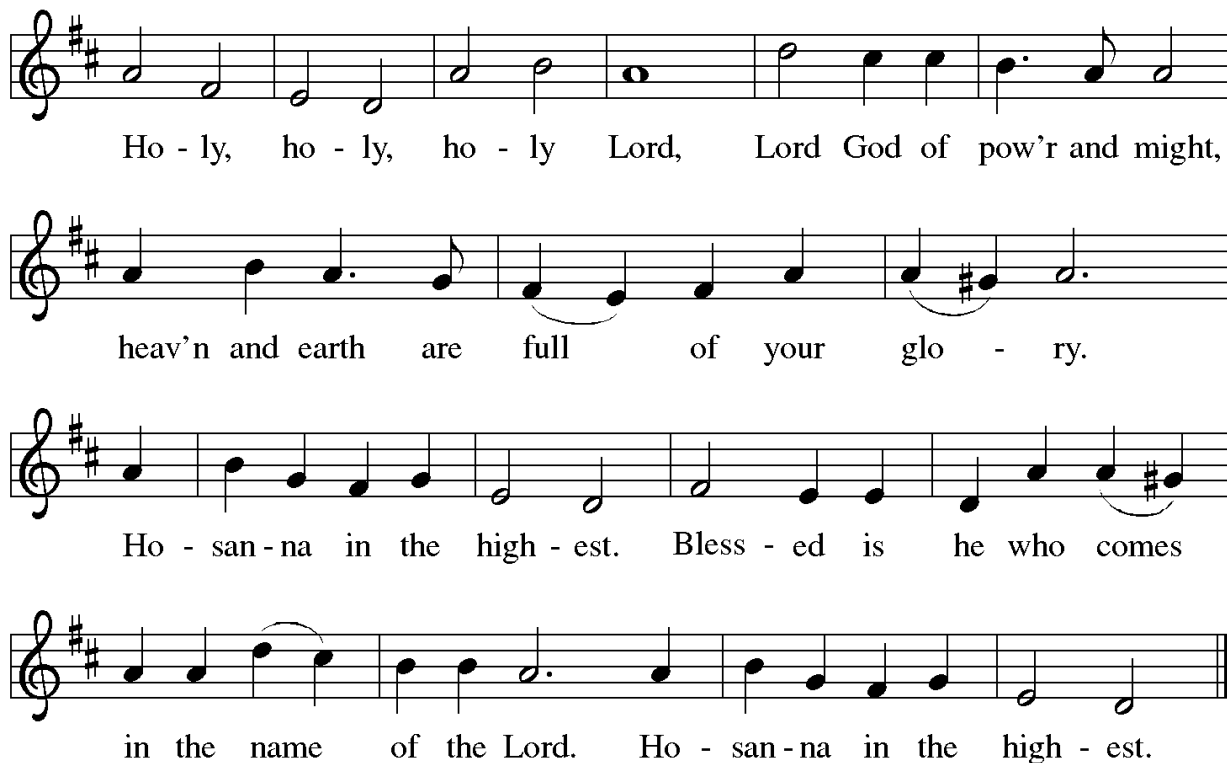
OFFERING PRAYER

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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.
In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

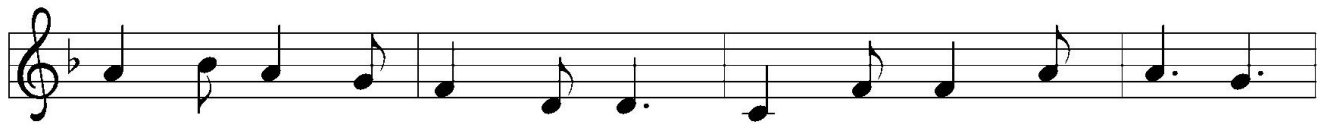
All who believe that along with the bread and wine we receive the true Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ are invited to the Lord's table to receive the Sacrament. The Sacrament will be distributed in one or two continuous lines at the main aisle.

The bread is received in the hand and the communicant then proceeds to a gold chalice for intinction or to a crystal chalice to drink from the common cup, or if so desired, the communicant may receive only the bread.

Please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten free wafer. Please follow the guidance of the ushers.

COMMUNION HYMN 335

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

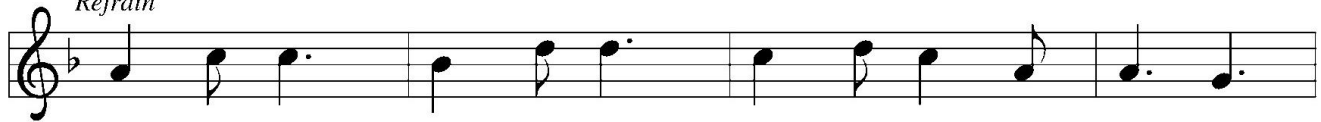


- 1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
- 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
- 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
- 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915

Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

Please stand as you are able

BLESSING

POST COMMUNION HYMN 207 *"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



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

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.
Amen.

SENDING – God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are homebound. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you his peace, In the name of the Father and of the
✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 803 *"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"*



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

SENDING

A: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve

C: All are welcome!

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Crucifer”

Setting by Larry Shackley

IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE: Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Anthony, Jean B., J. Bauer, Margaret Belt, Rich Bender, Karin Bergesen, Betsey Berry, Betty Bose, Brenda, Bobby Burns, Annabelle Carini, John Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Christel Clausen, The Colozzi Family, Nancy Couture, Mitch Crowley, Jackie DeVille, Avery Doino, Mary Donnelly, Elaine, Wayne Ericksen, Wendy Erlandson, Paul Farber, Felix, Ralph Gallo, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Frank Gonzalez, Kristen Bruce-Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Charlie Hoffman, Jennifer Hoffman, Josephine Hoffman, Manda and Herbert Holzmman, Jennifer Howard, Viv Isakson, Joanne, Joe, Cliff Johnson, Brian Kennedy, Judy Korsh, Erik Krisch, Kristen, Terry Lago, Douglas Lozel, Marissa Luethi, Loretta Lusteg, Laurie Mandel, Mel, Stancy Mentnech, Herb Menzel, Doris Meyer, Katy Monte, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Debra Morsello, The Murphy Family, Steven N., Kim Nallan, Robert Nedwick, Lucille Ochal, Pamela, Rose P., Patrick, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Keith Philcox, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Joan and Matt Reilly, Grace Revere, Lynn R., Bill Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Ruth, Jordan S., Sal, Susan Salerno, The Seale Family, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Suzanne Stoklosa, Stan Stone, Annette Swanson, Gavin Tarsio, Todd, Peter T., Anna T., Theresa Tyers, Michael Wagner, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Jason Ericksen, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler, Rachel Williams.



THE BREAD AND WINE are offered in loving memory of Desmond O'Brien. Love your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Daily Bible Readings for Year C (September 14 – September 21)

From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 9/14	<i>Lectionary 24</i> Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-1	<i>Holy Cross Day</i> Numbers 21:4b-9 Psalm 98:1-4 1 Corinthians 1:18-24 John 3:13-17
Mon 9/15	Psalm 73 Amos 7:1-6 1 Timothy 1:18-20	
Tues 9/16	Psalm 73 Jonah 3:1-10 2 Peter 3:8-13	
Wed 9/17	Psalm 73 Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6 Luke 22:31-33, 54-62	
Thurs 9/18	Psalm 113 Exodus 23:1-9 Romans 3:1-8	
Fri 9/19	Psalm 113 Ezekiel 22:17-31 Romans 8:31-39	
Sat 9/20	Psalm 113 Isaiah 5:8-23 Mark 12:41-44	
Sun 9/21	<i>Lectionary 25</i> Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	<i>Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i> Ezekiel 2:8-3:11 Psalm 119:33-40 Ephesians 2:4-10 Matthew 9:9-13

Monday, September 15, 2025
7:30 pm

PRELUDE

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

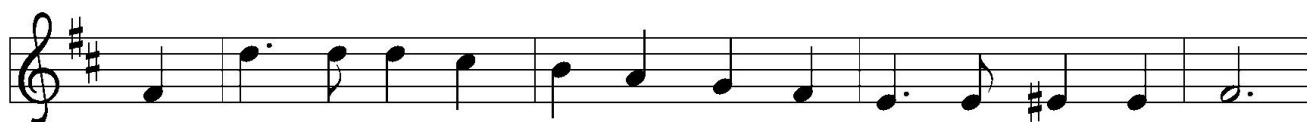
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

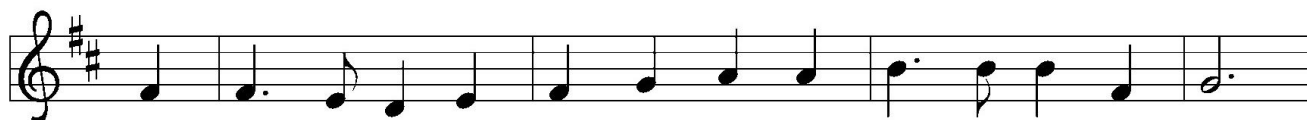
GATHERING HYMN 338 *“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”*



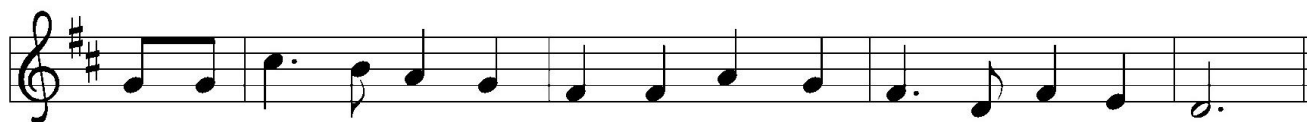
1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
 2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
 3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might-y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
 the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
 I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together:

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gospel: John 3:13-17

After explaining to Nicodemus that one must be born of water and Spirit, Jesus speaks of being lifted up on the cross, with reference to the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert. Here the Son of God is revealed as the source of healing.

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶ “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷ “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

Please stand as you are able

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Response: “receive our prayer.”)

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need, responding “receive our prayer.”

A brief silence.

Sustaining God, guide your church on the way. Give us patience in our journey, and protect us from division and doubt. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, renew the earth. Heal our planet from the venom of greed and exploitation, and direct us to respect all life as a gift from you. May we look to the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of wisdom, grant discernment to those in authority. Bring low the mighty, and uphold those who work for peace. May they seek the way of the cross and live. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of grace, alleviate suffering. Comfort the sick and the grieving, especially Karin, Betty, Laurie, Jennifer, Doris, Bill, Jim, Anthony, Karen, Joan, Matt, Grace, Richard, Lucille, Bobby, Mariette, Ella, Jessica, [], those on our prayer list, and those we name before you, aloud or in our hearts *pause for names*. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

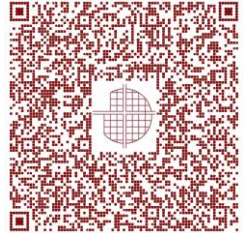
Good Shepherd, guide your flock. Protect us and lead us in the way of truth. Strengthen us in our faith and inspire us to serve others. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Merciful God, you receive into your loving embrace those who have died. Giving thanks for them, may we find comfort in the cross and live in the hope of resurrection. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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

SHARING OF PEACE

**OFFERING NO OFFERING ENVELOPE?
SCAN THE QR CODE TO CONTRIBUTE**



OFFERING HYMN 182

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

***Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.***

OFFERING PRAYER

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. Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he (+) who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

C: Thanks be to God.

AGNUS DEI

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.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Gluten-free wafers are available. When you come forward, please let your Communion Minister know if you wish to receive a gluten-free wafer.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us. The Lord look upon us with favor, and give us his peace, In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN 803 *“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that
love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

SENDING

A: Gathered by Christ, Growing in Faith, Sent to serve

C: All are welcome!

A: Go in peace. Serve in love.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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IN OUR PRAYERS FOR COMFORT AND HEALING ARE: Alie, Rakel Anderson, Annette, Anthony, Jean B., J. Bauer, Margaret Belt, Rich Bender, Karin Bergesen, Betsey Berry, Betty Bose, Brenda, Bobby Burns, Annabelle Carini, John Carini, Fran Casola, Claire, Anthony Ceriello, Christel Clausen, The Colozzi Family, Nancy Couture, Mitch Crowley, Jackie DeVille, Avery Doino, Mary Donnelly, Elaine, Wayne Ericksen, Wendy Erlandson, Paul Farber, Felix, Ralph Gallo, Melinda Geis, Ella Giana, Frank Gonzalez, Kristen Bruce-Gonzalez, Gregory, Thomas H., Ed and June Heidelberger, Charlie Hoffman, Jennifer Hoffman, Josephine Hoffman, Manda and Herbert Holzmman, Jennifer Howard, Viv Isakson, Joanne, Joe, Cliff Johnson, Brian Kennedy, Judy Korsh, Erik Krisch, Kristen, Terry Lago, Douglas Lozel, Marissa Luethi, Loretta Lusteg, Laurie Mandel, Mel, Stancy Mentnech, Herb Menzel, Doris Meyer, Katy Monte, Terry Moore, Jennifer Morrell, Debra Morsello, The Murphy Family, Steven N., Kim Nallan, Robert Nedwick, Lucille Ochal, Pamela, Rose P., Patrick, Richard Pecchio, Dorothy Philcox, Keith Philcox, Jessica Pucci, Ron Pucci, Joan and Matt Reilly, Grace Revere, Lynn R., Bill Roche, Charlotte Roessle, Jim Rogin, Ruth, Jordan S., Sal, Susan Salerno, The Seale Family, Jeff Smith, Jeffrey Starke, Suzanne Stoklosa, Stan Stone, Annette Swanson, Gavin Tarsio, Todd, Peter T., Anna T., Theresa Tyers, Michael Wagner, Peter Weichner, Bill Witte, Kathy Zieran, Erwin Zimmermann.

FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Courtney Burke, Paul Cassuti, John Delano, Jonathan Dixon, Jason Ericksen, Walton Delano Gouldin, Eric Hank, Jr., Michael Hewson, Alycia A. Howard, Claire James, Justin MacDonald, Katie Mayer, Daniel Murray, Richard Mutari, Jay Rosenwald, Jake Sass, Kaitlin Stark, Bryce Michael Wheeler, Rachel Williams.



THE BREAD AND WINE are offered in loving memory of Desmond O'Brien. Love your children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Daily Bible Readings for Year C (September 14 – September 21)

From *EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP*

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

Sun 9/14	<i>Lectionary 24</i> Exodus 32:7-14 Psalm 51:1-10 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-1	<i>Holy Cross Day</i> Numbers 21:4b-9 Psalm 98:1-4 1 Corinthians 1:18-24 John 3:13-17
Mon 9/15	Psalm 73 Amos 7:1-6 1 Timothy 1:18-20	
Tues 9/16	Psalm 73 Jonah 3:1-10 2 Peter 3:8-13	
Wed 9/17	Psalm 73 Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6 Luke 22:31-33, 54-62	
Thurs 9/18	Psalm 113 Exodus 23:1-9 Romans 3:1-8	
Fri 9/19	Psalm 113 Ezekiel 22:17-31 Romans 8:31-39	
Sat 9/20	Psalm 113 Isaiah 5:8-23 Mark 12:41-44	
Sun 9/21	<i>Lectionary 25</i> Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13	<i>Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i> Ezekiel 2:8-3:11 Psalm 119:33-40 Ephesians 2:4-10 Matthew 9:9-13

THE PARISH COUNCIL

***If you would like contact information for the council members listed below,
please call the church office at 631-269-6454.***

Joanne Pittfick, President
Pr. Robert Schoepflin, Vice-President
Brian Ansink, Fellowship
Karen Garone, Finance
Karen Alicata, Treasurer
Karen Garone, Assistant Treasurer
Mark Waldron, Assistant Treasurer
Arthur Wakefield, Assistant Treasurer
Barbara Kaifler, Secretary
Marina Bedrossian, Youth
Rich Doino, Property
Karen Wallin, Social Ministries
Betty Bose, Music and Worship
Aubrey Minton, Christian Education
Paul Farber, Stewardship
Hansen-Wegener, Outreach and Marketing

Sunday Schedule	9:30am In person and Live stream via YouTube	The Holy Eucharist
Sunday school N3 – Grade 5	9:30am In person	
Monday Schedule	7:30pm In person	The Holy Eucharist

ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL
Route 25A & Sunken Meadow Road, 4 Trescott Path
Fort Salonga, New York

Church Office: 631-269-6454 School Office: 631-269-4898

Church: www.abidingpresencechurch.org **email:** abidingpresenceoffice@gmail.com

Preschool: www.abidingpresencepreschool.com email: aplcpreschool@gmail.com

OUR MISSION

The mission of Abiding Presence Lutheran Church, a spiritual home centered in Christ and community, is to share Jesus' love in our words and in our works as we welcome all to the family of God.