



304 South Street  
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The mission of Holy Cross is to communicate the love of God in Jesus Christ to our members, community, and world, as we bring people to their Savior through baptism, make disciples through education, and care for our members and community in acts of love. (Matthew 28:19-20 and 1 Thessalonians 5:11)

November 19, 2023  
8:00 AM Service – Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost



### Those Who Serve Us

Preacher:	Rev. Dale Skeesick
Liturgist:	Rev. Kyle Wright, II Sem. Morgan Garrett
Organist:	Mrs. Joy Elowsky

## **728 How Firm a Foundation**

*Stand*

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

### **Invocation**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### **Exhortation**

*LSB 167*

**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**

*LSB 167*

**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**

*LSB 167*

**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.

**C** Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

**Introit**

*Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1*

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!\*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

**Enter not into judgment with your | servant,\***

**for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.**

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that | you have done,\*

I ponder the work | of your hands.

**I stretch out my | hands to you;\***

**my soul thirsts for you like a | parched land.**

Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!\*

Let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground!

**For your name's sake, O LORD, pre- | serve my life!\***

**In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble!**

**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.**

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!\*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

**Kyrie**

*LSB 168*

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

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

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C** Amen.

**Gloria in Excelsis**

*LSB 170*

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**C** Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

**We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:**

**You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**

**For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Zephaniah 1:7–16*

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is near;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice  
and consecrated his guests.

<sup>8</sup>And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—  
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons  
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

<sup>9</sup>On that day I will punish  
everyone who leaps over the threshold,  
and those who fill their master's house  
with violence and fraud.

<sup>10</sup>"On that day," declares the LORD,  
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,  
a wail from the Second Quarter,  
a loud crash from the hills.

<sup>11</sup>Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!  
For all the traders are no more;  
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the men who are complacent,

those who say in their hearts,  
'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.'

<sup>13</sup>Their goods shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them."

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;  
the mighty man cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>A day of wrath is that day,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 5:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

**Holy Gospel**

*Matthew 25:14–30*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup>So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

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

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

*Sit*

**785 We Praise You, O God**

**Sermon**

*Stand*

**8:00 - 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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

† Prayers for those sick and hospitalized: Rev. Ronald Jansen, Elise Jackson, Tom McDonald, Don Cochran, Lauren Sidwell, Brad Caruthers, Ann Goldsmith

† Prayers have been requested for: Mary Holcomb, Chris Hayes, Joshua Shasteen, Pat Davidson, Della Seim, Gina Fedder, Karen Simpkins, Craig Mincke, Beverly Dunnette, David Wentzel, Barbara Brown, Susan Nielsen, Jim Dziewik, Doris Spanholtz, Andrea Howard

† Long term: Nancy Althardt, Arleen Althardt, Tom Arnotti, Chrissi Bergt, Diane Bohn, Blake Bohnenstiehl, Ron Bopp, Bob & Ann Boulch, Isabella Boyer, Judy Brombolich, Mike Buettner, Sandy Coleman, Steve Crimmins, Redith Dammer, Amy Davis, Dody Doolittle, Pat Eberhart, Kristen Eberhart, Nancy Eckert, Todd Evers, Alicia Flath-Rayner, Dorothy Frey Kenny Gaultney, Gerry Gillespie, Jamie Goforth-Wasser, Courtney Gonzalaz, Theresa Gramlich, Rebecca Guion, Sue Hanratty, George Heuser, Kenneth Korsmeyer, Rachael LaCroix Johnson, Mary Kay Lane, Gary Langley, Cathy Leffler, Tracy Lemp, Julie Libcke, Dorothy Lochmann, Sarah Loesch, Frieda Maack, Krissy Manwaring, Katie Marlowe, Carolyn McDonald, Ruth Meng, Dianna Moore, Bob Parker, Glenda Paulik, Mike Pellegrin, Brandon Ponce, Mary Pratt, Mark Robinson, Chris & Linda Rodenberg, Betty Schaulat, Brody Sedlacek, Carrie Sheerin, Emily Simpkins, Doris Spanholtz, Harper Williams, MaryAnn Wright, Linda Younger, JoLynn Younger

† Our missionaries: Pastor Wilhelm Weber—Wittenberg, Germany , Pastor Nicholas Salifu—Ghana, Africa, Pastor Samuel & Erica Bobby - Latvia

† The Strategic Plan

*Sit*

### **Offering**

*Our offerings serve our church's many missions: helping members of our congregation, the local communities in which we live and our neighbors abroad. Holy Cross families receive financial assistance when in dire need. Hundreds of underserved community members receive wholesome meals monthly from our contributions and our missionaries spread the Gospel worldwide as a result from our offerings. With prayers of thanksgiving for our blessings, we are called to share with others.*



*Matthew 25:40: And the King will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'*

*Stand*

**Offertory**

*LSB 176*

**C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

**Preface**

*LSB 177*

**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.

**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 saying:

**Sanctus**

*LSB 178*

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n 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.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

*LSB 178*

**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**

**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**

**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  $\cdot\text{†}$  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  $\cdot\text{I}$  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**

LSB 180

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

**C** Amen.

### **Agnus Dei**

LSB 180

**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, grant us peace.

*Sit*

### **Distribution**

*Today we are celebrating the Sacrament of our Lord Jesus Christ's true body and true blood. Since reception of the Lord's Supper expresses not only fellowship with the Lord, but also fellowship and agreement with the teachings of the Pastor and congregation, we follow the Biblical practice of closed communion. If you are not a current member of Holy Cross or one of our sister LCMS congregations, please speak with Pastor Wright before communing at our altar. We encourage those not receiving communion to come forward and receive a blessing, signifying this by crossing their arms over their chest.*

### **893 Sing to the Lord of Harvest**

### **806 Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart**

*Stand*

### **Thank the Lord**

LSB 181

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

Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.

He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## **Post-Communion Collect**

**A** 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.

## **Benediction**

*LSB 183*

**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.

## **895 Now Thank We All Our God**

### **Acknowledgments**

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