

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

+ September 17, 2023 +

# THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS + September 17, 2023 +

# "When I Am Lifted Up from the Earth"



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.

Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.

We are so glad to have you worshiping with us today!

LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.

#### **WELCOME:**

"Reflect carefully on this, for it is so important that I can hardly lay too much stress on it. Fix your eyes on the Crucified and nothing else will be of much importance to you."

-St. Teresa of Avila

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>1 Corinthians 10:17: 1 Corinthians 11:26

# **DIVINE SERVICE III**

#### PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.

#### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

## The Royal Banners Forward Go

#455

The congregation stands to face the back of the church. As the processional cross passes, the congregation turns to face the cross.

## **CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION**

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

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **Q** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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: CANTATE DOMINO

Psalm 98:1, 4, 6; Ant. Psalm 98:2



The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;\* he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done | marvelous things!\*
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salva- | tion for him.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;\*
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

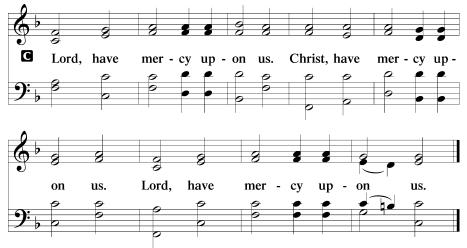
With trumpets and the sound | of the horn\* make a joyful noise before the | King, the LORD!

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 has made known his sal- | vation;\*
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

KYRIE Mark 10:47

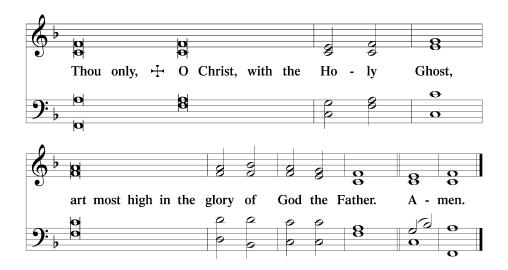
The congregation is invited to sing in parts:



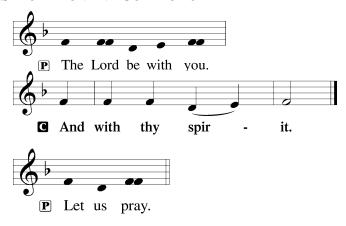
The congregation is invited to sing in parts:







#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



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.



#### **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.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

"Behold, I will lift up my hand to the | nations,\* and raise my signal to the peoples," | [says the Lord.] So must the Son of Man be | lifted up,\* that whoever believes in him may have e- | ternal life.

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

For 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.

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

Please stand and face the cross

#### GOSPEL PROCESSION & ALLELUIA VERSE



Cantor: Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, By which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.



HOLY GOSPEL John 12:20-33

P The Holy 

→ Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.



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.





Please be seated

**OFFICE HYMN** 

My Song Is Love Unknown

#430

SERMON

Joy He Has Made New

Please stand

#### NICENE CREED

```
I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)
        the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)
        maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)
        and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16)
    And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9)
        the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)
        begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2)
        God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)
        very God of very God, (Col 2:9) begotten, not made, (Jn 1:2)
        being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30)
        by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)
        who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4: Rom 3:23)
        came down from heaven (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)
        and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35)
        and was made man; (Jn 1:14)
        and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25: Jn 19:16-18)
        He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)
        And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)
        and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9)
        and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55)
        And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64)
        to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)
        whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11)
    And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)
        the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)
        who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26)
        who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17)
        who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5)
        And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)
        I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5)
        and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49: 1 Thess 4:13-18)
        and the life + of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30: Mt 10:40-42)
    Amen. (Ps 106:48)
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Us men means all people. Christian: the ancient text reads "catholic," meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition of the prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord: **People: Lord, have mercy.** 

For comfort, health, and recovery: Frank Baker, Hunter Burkhalter, Marie Ferderer & Child, Warren Haas, Carmen Hun, Amy Klager & Twins, Bert Marshall, Max McGuire, Katie Rudsenske & Child, Gary Stoeckmann, Donny Thomas, Lesley Thomas, Crystal Weidner, Charlotte White;

For those who mourn: the family and friends of James Beck, Paul Hansen;

For those who are ill or distressed: Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Bobby Carroll, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;

For college and graduate students: Sara Fields, Will Nelson;

For military servants and their families: Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;

For foreign missionaries: especially Rev. Vance & Linda Becker;

This week's prayer family: Reagan Dodge and his loved ones.

Please be seated

#### **OFFERING**

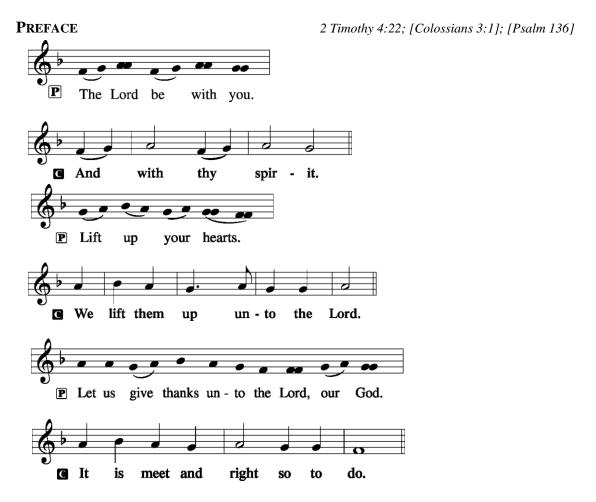
Please stand

**OFFERTORY** Psalm 51:10-12

The congregation is invited to sing in parts:

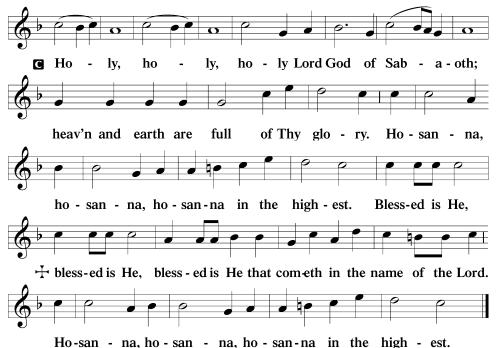


# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



It is truly meet, 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 accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. 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 Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



LORD'S PRAYER Matthew 6:9-13

P Our Father who as

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.



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 John 20:19

**P** The peace 

→ of the Lord be with you always.



AGNUS DEI John 1:29

The congregation is invited to sing in parts.





Please be seated

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died	#429
<b>Upon the Cross Extended</b>	#453
Thy Strong Word	#578

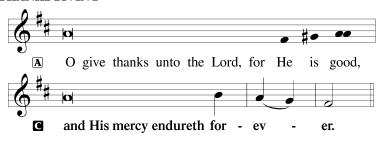
Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32



## **THANKSGIVING**



## **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

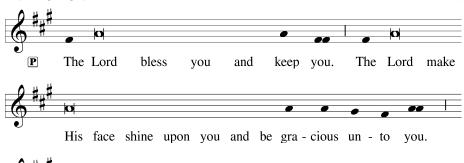
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and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



#### SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS



**BENEDICTION**Numbers 6:24–26





The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



For practical reasons, the LSB did not include all ten stanzas of this hymn; we take the opportunity this holy day to sing some of those not included in the hymnal.

- 1 Sing, my tongue, the glorious battle;
  Sing the ending of the fray.
  Now above the cross, the trophy,
  Sound the loud triumphant lay;
  Tell how Christ, the world's redeemer,
  As a victim won the day.
- 2 He, our maker, deeply grieving That the first-made Adam fell, When he ate the fruit forbidden Whose reward was death and hell, Marked e'en then this tree the ruin Of the first tree to dispel.
- 3 Faithful cross, true sign of triumph, Be for all the noblest tree; None in foliage, none in blossom, None in fruit thine equal be; Symbol of the world's redemption, For the weight that hung on thee!

- 4 Bend thy boughs, O tree of glory! Thy relaxing sinews bend; For awhile the ancient rigor That thy birth bestowed, suspend; And the King of heavenly beauty On thy bosom gently tend!
- 5 Thou alone wast counted worthy This world's ransom to sustain, That a shipwrecked race forever Might a port of refuge gain, With the sacred blood anointed Of the Lamb of sinners slain.
- Δ6 Unto God be praise and glory;
   To the Father and the Son,
   To the\_eternal Spirit honor
   Now and evermore be done;
   Praise and glory in the highest
   While the timeless ages run.

#### Acknowledgments

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**Today's Worship Servants:** 

Celebrant: Rev. George Fields **Elder:** Eric Held Acolyte: Miles Agent, William Held **Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields **Cantor:** Keith Martin

**Interpreter:** Denee Smith

Altar Guild: Michelle Miller, Nancy Teal

Communio Next Sunday: "Commune" with us next Sunday as we gather at the Hansford Home for our monthly dinner and discussion! Jonathan Kettler will be leading us through a crash course on the history of the Bible from Abraham to Jesus (pack your helmet!). If you aren't already on the Communio email list, contact Sister Sara for the video and handout; otherwise, just come with an appetite for learning – and for food, of course!

**Ready, Set, Sing!** Do you make a joyful noise? How about making it in the balcony! Join us for choir this Fall as we prepare for Reformation, All Saints Day, and Christmas Eve. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. – see you in the balcony!

Holy Days on the Horizon: Processions and celebrations usually subside during the season of Pentecost, but not this month! Breaking up our green days are two festive holidays: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (observed today), and the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels (observed next Sunday). Join us for the festivity as we celebrate our Lord's victory over death and the grave!

Readings for next Sunday, September 24th, the Feast of St. Michael & All Angels (observed): Introit Ps. 103:20-22; Psalm 91; Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3; Revelation 12:7-12; Luke 10:17-20.

# This week at Christ Lutheran Church: September 18 – September 24

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. LifeLight

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal **Thursday Friday** 6:30 a.m. Bible & Breaky

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages Sunday

10:30 a.m. Divine Service – The Feast of St. Michael & All Angels

5:00 p.m. Communio



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