

Christian Education Observance The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost August 9-10, 2025

AS WE GATHER

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOLY CROSS is celebrated in accordance with the Lutheran confession that Christ's body and blood are truly given to us with the bread and wine to give forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Missouri-Synod Lutherans united with us in that confession are invited to receive the Sacrament with us. Others who desire to commune should first speak with a Pastor or an Elder.

- For those whose health or circumstance may require it, Holy Cross offers an alcohol-removed red wine (containing less than 0.5% alcohol) located in the center of each Communion tray.
- Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to a Pastor or Elder before the service.
- If you want communion in the pew, please let an usher or Elder know before the service.
- Individual Communion cups: Please do not stack the plastic communion cups in the baskets. Stacked cups stick together and hinder the rinsing process. Thanks for understanding!

ATTENDANCE PADS: We invite members and guests alike to take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. Please provide contact information if you are interested in membership or if you would like to be contacted by the church. After signing, please pass it to your neighbor and then return it to its spot by the aisle.

LIVE-STREAMING of 8 AM SERVICE WEEKLY: Holy Cross live streams the 8 AM service each Sunday on a link at our website (https://example.com). We provide this service for our members who cannot attend worship. The video perspective from the choir loft looks toward the altar and shows all aspects of the service from the sixth row of pews forward. This includes baptisms, children's talks, and communion.

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Those with hearing aids can now download and use a smartphone or tablet app that broadcasts the service to their hearing aids. (Bluetooth connection required)

Step 1. Log in to the Guest Wi-Fi

Network Name: **HC-Guest** Password: **Romans1:16**

You will be prompted to join the "HC-Guest" Wi-Fi network

Step 2. Download the ListenWIFI App

Search your device's app store for the ListenWIFI app by Listen Technologies





TODAY WE CELEBRATE Christian Education, the opportunity to teach the faith we have in Jesus Christ. This gift is not only available to us in great abundance in our free and affluent society, but it is affected by the Holy Spirit of God Himself! Let us pray that everyone here will take the opportunity to grow in faith and in the knowledge of salvation. May God grant us grace to make Christian Education a valued priority for all. In today's service, backpacks will be blessed, Bibles will be given to third graders and catechisms to sixth graders, and teachers for Sunday School, Midweek, and Preschool will be installed. In all services, we celebrate Holy Communion.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS: 9:30AM (usually in the gym)

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30AM Ages PreK to High School (classrooms)

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday, 10AM, Rooms 1&2

TUESDAY ADULT EVENING BIBLE CLASS 6:30PM

2nd & 4th Tuesdays each month

ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday, 9:30AM, Gym

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY:

Second Wednesday, 6:30AM, September through May

CONFIRMATION Grade 6-8, **MIDWEEK** grades PreK-5, **LYF** starts Wed., Aug. 20; Classrooms

20s&30s BIBLE STUDY 6:30PM every Thursday, Rooms 1&2

BASICS — Check with the church office for next round of classes.

TRANSFER FOR LUTHERANS — August 24, 9:30AM, Rooms 1&2

Explanation of Theme:

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

In July, the Called Staff and representatives from the Boards of Education, Youth, Stewardship, Evangelism, and Missions gathered to discuss the theme and focus for the next three years at Holy Cross. Ultimately, the group landed on "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" as the overall theme. Each year will focus on one of the three parts of the Apostles' Creed:

2025/26 - The Things God has made - Genesis 1:31

2026/27 - The Person God has made - Galatians 3: 26-27

2027/28 - The People God has made ~ 1 Corinthians 12: 12-27

Throughout this cycle, notice an intentional focus on each of these themes through the lens of Worship, Service, Fellowship, and Education. A well-rounded Christian life is lived through these four areas. We want our church family to have the opportunity to discover even more about the great God we serve in as many ways as possible.

We look forward to having our whole church family engaged and enriched through this theme and can't wait to share it with you.

— Charity Smith Director of Christian Education

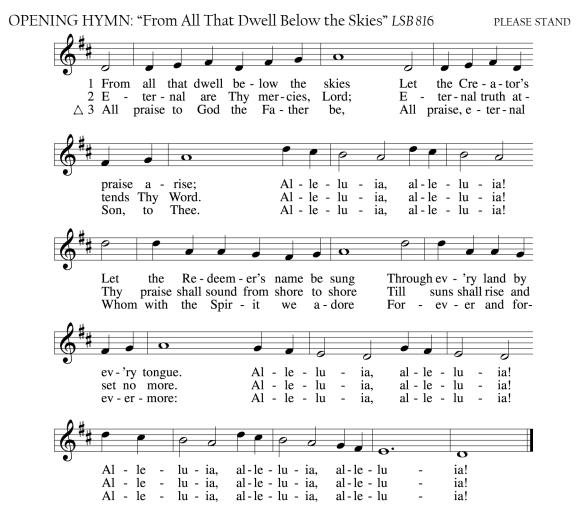
Christian Education Observance The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Service 2 August 9-10, 2025

PRELUDE: How Great Thou Art

Robert Lind

GATHERING OF BACKPACKS

During the opening hymn, all students are invited to bring their backpacks forward to place them on the steps in front of the altar.



Confession and Absolution

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

- m In In the name of the Father and of the m H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 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.

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.
- 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 4. Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.

Service of the Word

INTROIT PSALM 139:13-18

- For You formed my inward parts;
- You knitted me together in my mother's womb.
- P I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works;
- my soul knows it very well.
- My frame was not hidden from You, when I was being made in secret,
- intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
- P Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
- in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there were none of them.
- P How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God!
- How vast is the sum of them!
- P If I would count them, they are more than the sand.

- I awake, and I am still with You.
- ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
- P For You formed my inward parts;
- You knitted me together in my mother's womb.

KYRIE LSB 285

- L O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.
- L O Christ,
- C have mercy.
- L O Lord,
- **C** have mercy.

THIS IS THE FEAST LSB 171





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Let us pray.
 Almighty God, through Your Word and Spirit You most wonderfully created all things, and through the Word made flesh You brought new life to fallen humanity. Grant that in Your mercy we may be conformed to the image of Him who shares fully in our humanity, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 1:1—2:3

A The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapters 1 and 2.

, the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The $^{\prime\prime}$ earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

6And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. 8And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

9 And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. 10God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

14And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, 15 and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. 16 And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." ²¹So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. ²⁵And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷So God created man in His own image,

in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

hus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. ²And on the seventh day God finished His work that He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work that He had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all His work that He had done in creation.

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

EPISTLE: Colossians 1:15-20

The Epistle is from Colossians, chapter 1.

 \mathcal{A} e is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. \sim 16For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities all things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. 18And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. 19For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

- This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God. \mathbf{C}



HOLY GOSPEL: John 1:1-5, 14

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



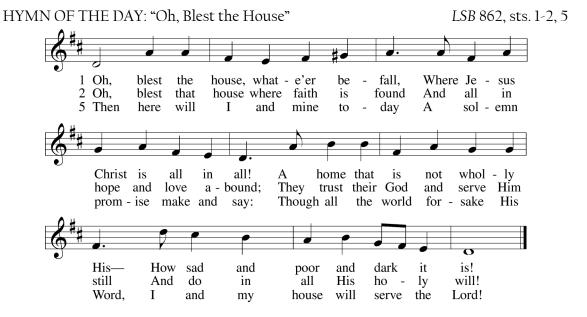
 $\sqrt{1}$ n the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made. 4In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. This is the Gospel of the Lord.



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE





SERMON

FIRST ARTICLE OF THE APOSTLES' CREED

PLEASE STAND

- I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
- A What does this mean?
- I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me \mathbf{C} my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

PLEASE SIT

INSTALLATION

Sunday School Teachers, Midweek Teachers, Volunteers, Preschool Staff

BLESSING AND PRAYER FOR EDUCATORS

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PLEASE STAND

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Additional petitions conclude:

- P Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- Amen.

OFFERING PLEASE SIT

We ask that all worshipers take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. If you are interested in membership, please provide a phone number or email address so that we may contact you.

VOLUNTARY: Farth and All Stars

Harald Rohlig

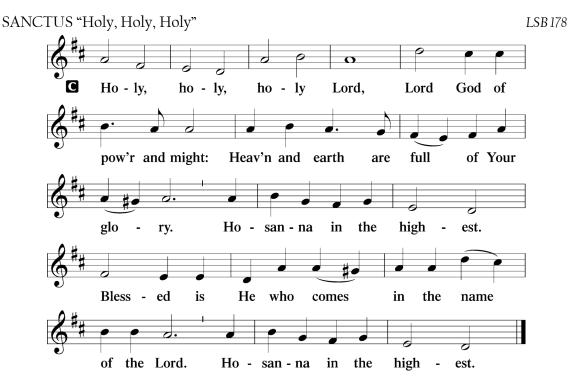
Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE LSB 177/PLEASE STAND

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

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:



LORD'S PRAYER LSB 179

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

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."

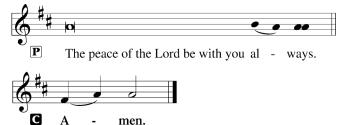
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

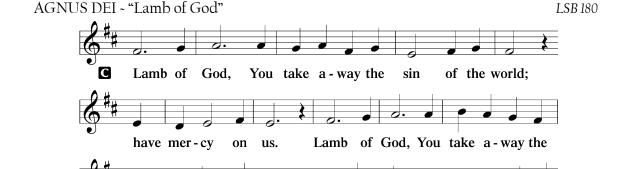
PEACE OF THE LORD

sin

of the world:

LSB 180





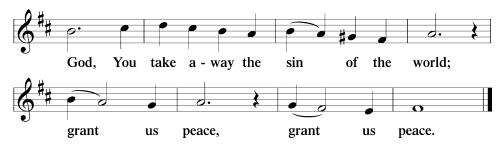
have mer-cy

on

us.

Lamb

of



DISTRIBUTION PLEASE SIT

Please see notice on page 2.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

LSB 801 How Great Thou Art LSB 817 Earth and All Stars LSB 795 Voices Raised to You We Offer

DISMISSAL PLEASE STAND

- 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

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

- 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.

THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

ALL SERVICES

All students this year, from preschool to college, are welcome to come to the altar for a blessing and a prayer as they begin a new school year, whether they brought a backpack or not.

- Let us pray: God of all knowledge and wisdom, these students and backpacks remind us that a new school year has begun. We pray your blessing on them and upon all students, young and old, as they begin a new year. Help them discover and develop the aifts you have given them. And as they grow in knowledge, help them also grow in kindness and compassion, learning respect for themselves and for others. We ask your blessing on parents and all those who care for these students. Strengthen them to surround these students with encouragement, support, and love. In Jesus' name we pray.
- Amen.
- May the Lord Almighty bless the backpacks of these students, the ones here and the ones that are not, and bless also all of these students who use them, in the name of the Father, the & Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

All students may return to their seats during the closing hymn.

CLOSING HYMN: "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

See next page

SILENT PRAYER & CHIMES

POSTLUDE: Improvisation on "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"



Serving in God's House Today August 9-10, 2025

Preacher		Pastor Andrew J. Gimbel
Liturgist		Pastor Jason P. Kohm
Director of Christian Education		Charity Smith
Organist		David Gilson
Elders	Saturday, 5PM	Jerry Lancour, Paul Helvey
	Sunday, 8AM	Ed Belter, Joe Snyder
	Sunday, 10:45AM	Bruce Richardson, Ken Haffer
Ushers	Saturday, 5PM	Refer to Elder
	Sunday, 8AM	Refer to Elders
	Sunday, 10:45AM	Jennifer Reed

COVER: Designed by Charity Smith using Canva

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible,

English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of

Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

8945 Veterans Memorial Parkway O'Fallon, MO 63366 (636) 272-4505 + www.hcross.com Email: secretary@hcross.com

> Rev. Andrew J. Gimbel Rev. Jason P. Kohm Pastoral Team

Charity Smith
Director of Christian Education

David Gilson
Director of Music

Dani Richardson Interim Preschool Director

With the help of God, Holy Cross Lutheran Church grows disciples and transforms hearts for Christ.