



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

September 19, 2021
9:30 am



Binding of Isaac

GATHERING: The Spirit Calls Us Together

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

(Silence for reflection.)

God our comforter:

Like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

Call to Worship

God has called us together for worship.

Here we will experience the grace of God, the love of Jesus.

God sends us out into the world.

United by Christ, we reflect God's love through joyful service to all people.

Let us be renewed and nourished for our mission together.

Gathering Song

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

(Chorus) Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing Your song again,

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,

let me be singing when the evening comes. *(Chorus)*

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,

Your name is great and Your heart is kind. For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *(Chorus)*

And on that day, when my strength is failing, the end draws near,

and my time has come;

Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending ten thousand years,

and then forevermore! *(Chorus 2x's)*

Worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord .

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen, amen.

Hymn of Praise

(Refrain) This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches, wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are his. *(Refrain)*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *(Refrain)*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. *(Refrain)*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

God of promise, You stayed the hand of Abraham and fulfilled the promise you made to him, that he would father a great nation. Keep your promises to us, that we become inheritors of eternal life. Amen.

Special Music

Still, My Soul, Be Still

Jennifer Fitzpatrick

WORD: We Hear God in Scripture & Preaching

Genesis 21:1-3 & 22:1-14...The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. ²Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. ³Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. ¹After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the

wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"⁸ Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son.¹⁴ So Abraham called that place "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

Word of God. Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to John the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 1:29...The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Message Pastor Heather Grell

Hymn of the Day

"The God of Abraham Praise"

ELW 831

The God of Abr'ham praise, who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love--
"I Am the One I Am"-- by earth and heav'n confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.

The God of Abr'ham praise! At your supreme command
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.
I all on earth forsake--its wisdom, fame, and pow'r--
and you my only portion make, my shield and tow'r.

The God of Abr'ham praise! Your all-sufficient grace
shall guide me all my pilgrim days in all my ways.
You deign to call me friend; you call yourself my God!
And you will save me to the end through Jesus' blood.

Your promise you have sworn; I on your oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heav'n ascend.
I shall behold your face; I shall your pow'r adore,
and sing the wonders of your grace forevermore.

Prayers

As each petition concludes: "Lord, in your mercy," Please respond: **hear our prayer.**

Sharing God's Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL: God Feeds us with the Presence of Jesus

Great Thanksgiving

*The Lord be with you. And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them 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.....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.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. **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 & ever. Amen**

COMMUNION

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"

*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..*

"El Shaddai"

*(Refrain) El Shaddai, El Shaddai, El El yonna Adonai
Age to age you're still the same, by the power of the name.
El Shaddai, El Shaddai, erkamkana Adonai,
We will praise and lift you high, El Shaddai.*

Through Your love and through the ram, you saved the son of Abraham
Through the power of Your hand you turned the sea into dry land.
To the outcast on her knees you were the God who really sees,
And by your might you set your children free. *(Refrain)*

Through the years you made it clear that the time of Christ was near,
Though the people couldn't see what Messiah ought to be.
Though your word contained the plan they just could not understand.
Your most awesome work was done in the frailty of your Son. *(Refrain)*

Communion Blessing

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING: Being Loved, God Sends Us to Love

Blessing

Sending Hymn

"Make a Difference"

You gave Your life, to make a difference,
You gave your life to make a change.
You welcomed all to your table, You're calling us to do the same.
(Chorus) *I want my life to make a difference; I want my life to make a change.
I want my life to do some good here; I want my life to make a change.*
Working side by side, no out or inside, together we can make that change.
With a few or many, with a lot or not any,
together we can make that change. (Chorus)
Crossing the great divide, joy and peace will abide,
together we can make that change.
Jesus is our peace, all fighting will cease,
together we can make that change (Chorus)
We're the citizens with the saints, we're the sunshine with the rain,
we're the joy with the pain, we're the change.
You healed the sick and fed the poor, taught us things we can't ignore
Through us You will do more, You're the change. (Chorus 2x's)

Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude

Music Credits

"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"

Words and Music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman

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"The God of Abraham Praise"

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-1799, alt., based on the *Yigdal*, c. 14th cent.

Music: Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751-1797

Text and Music Public Domain

"El Shaddai"

Words by Michael Card.

Music by John W. Thompson

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"Make a Difference"

Music and Text: Rachel Kurtz with rap by David Scherer

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Announcements

- ⇒ **In-Person Worship Guidelines** Everyone is required to wear masks. There is an option to commune in your seat instead of coming forward. As always, all of our Sunday worship services are being live streamed on Facebook.
- ⇒ **Our Block Party** is next Sunday, September 26, 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm. A sign-up sheet has been emailed out... new or gently used items that may be used for Bingo Prizes. Find a box in the Narthex to drop off your items.
- ⇒ **Food Pantry** Our first Saturday of the month Pantry is October 2. To assist with the pantry prep Friday, October 1 or the pantry Saturday, October 2, please [CLICK HERE](#).
- ⇒ **Prayer Requests** If you have prayer requests for Sunday worship, email the [Church Office](#).
- ⇒ **Care Ministry** Please contact [Pastor Heather](#) if you are interested in participating by:
 - Visiting members at home or in care facilities
 - Providing rides to church or doctor's appointments
 - Bringing communion to individuals who are homebound
- ⇒ **Prayer Partners** It's that time of year again! We are looking for caring adults to connect with and pray for one of our children at Holy Cross during the school year. Please contact [Kelsey](#) to be a part of this important ministry.
- ⇒ **Panera Night Youth Fundraiser** is today! Eat at Panera Bread on 149th & Maple **TONIGHT** from 4-8pm and 20% of the proceeds will go back to our high school youth group! All you have to do is show them the flyer with our name on it. You pick up a flyer in the Narthex or show them a photo on your phone. The digital flyer can be found on our Facebook page and on our website.
- ⇒ **Pastor Jim** is on vacation through tomorrow, September 20. he is back in the office on Tuesday.

Calendar for Upcoming Week

Sunday, September 19

9:30 am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am High School/Jr High Bell Choir

Monday, September 20

Cross Currents Due
6:30 pm Boy Scouts
9:00 pm CMA Meeting

Tuesday, September 21

1:00 pm Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Council Meeting
7:30 pm A.A. Meeting

Wednesday, September 22

6:00 pm Confirmation & Kings Kids Rhythm Choir
6:30 pm Worship
7:05 pm Radical Ringers, & Youth Group

Thursday, September 23

1:30 pm Centering Prayer Group (Zoom)
6:30 pm Carolon Bell Choir
7:00 pm Alanon
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, September 24

7:30 pm Belles N' Beaus

Saturday, September 25

1:00 pm Oxford Event

Sunday, September 26

9:30 am Worship In-Person & Facebook Live
10:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am High School/Jr High Bell Choir
12:00 pm Neighborhood Block Party

Prayer Requests from our Church Community

Member Concerns

Sharon Kelley as she recovers from foot surgery. **Connie Mertz** as she deals with medical concerns. **Kevin Leahy** as he undergoes cancer treatment. **Marie Pitner** as she recovers from broken wrists.

On-Going Member Concerns

Eddie Nabity at Hillcrest Papillion

Friends and Relatives

Frank Perilo, Sharon Perilo's husband; **Sue Hill**, Pastor Jim's sister; **Amy Churchill**, friend of Barb Kay; **Ronald Gulbranson & Sharon Kelley**, Julie Noteman's brother and sister; **Aaron McDonald**, McDonald's grandson; **Larry Rolles**, Linda Kohrs' daughter-in-law's father; **Diane Aden**, friend of Linda Kohrs.

Grieving:

Julie Noteman and her family as they mourn the death of Julie's great nephew.
Chris Hancock and his family as they mourn the death of Chris' stepfather.