



*Moe Lutheran Church*  
*Holy Cross Sunday - Pentecost 14*  
*September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025*

*The festival of Holy Cross Day originated in the fourth century and 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.*

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin  
in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful and loving God,  
**we are your stiff-necked people.**  
**We trample on the needy.**  
**We grumble about your grace to others.**  
**We turn away from the poor.**  
**Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.**  
**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost**  
**and have been found.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.  
Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.  
You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG: "Lift High the Cross" (Verses 1-3)      ELW 660**

### **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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**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.**

## **FIRST READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24**

<sup>18</sup>For 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. <sup>19</sup>For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." <sup>20</sup>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? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 98:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> O sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvelous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have gotten him victory.

<sup>2</sup> **The Lord has made known his victory;  
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup> He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen  
the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup> **Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *ELW Holy Communion Setting 10, page 205***



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL: John 3:13-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 3rd chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>“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. <sup>17</sup>“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.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON SONG: “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”**

**ELW 335**

## SERMON

### 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.

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY: “We Give Thee But Thine Own”**

*We give thee but thine own, Whatev’r that gift may be.  
All that we have is thine alone, A trust O Lord from thee.*

## PRAYERS:

*The leader concludes each prayer with ... Hear us, O God.  
The congregation’s response is ... **Your mercy is great.***

## 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.

## BENEDICTION.

**CLOSING SONG: “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” (2x thru) ELW 857**

**DISMISSAL:** Go in peace, Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



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