

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS OF VICTORIA

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HOLY CROSS SUNDAY
SECOND SUNDAY IN SEASON OF CREATION

September 13, 2026 – 10:00 AM
Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Season of Creation
Worship in-person and livestream

When we hear the words of forgiveness and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

GATHERING

Prelude
Welcome and Acknowledgement of Lands
Thanksgiving for Baptism
Gathering Song All Creatures, Worship God Most High red book No. 835
Greeting
Kyrie Page 213
Glory to God Page 213
Prayer of the Day

WORD

Children’s Message
First Reading Exodus 14:19-31 ...Thanks be to God.
Psalm 114
Second Reading Romans 14:1-12 ...Thanks be to God.
Gospel Acclamation Page 216
The Gospel Reading Matthew 18:21-35 ...Glory to you, O God.
...Praise to you, O Christ.
Sermon
Hymn of the Day Our Father, We Have Wandered red book No. 606
Prayers of the People Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.
Peace Sharing The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

In the church community we give our time, our gifts, and our resources.
We collect an offering as one way of giving.

Offering of Gifts
Offering Song If We Live, We Live to the Lord blue book No. 1025
Offering Prayer
The Creator be with you. ...And also with you.
Lift up your hearts. ...We lift them to our God.
Let us give thanks to Creator, our God. ...It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy Insert
Thanksgiving Prayer
The Lord’s Prayer Page 112
Lamb of God Insert

All are welcome at Christ’s table. The wine is served in individual glasses and the common cup. Red grape juice is in the centre of the trays. Gluten-free bread is available by asking the server. You may commune with bread or wine alone or ask for a blessing. Those worshipping online are invited to commune where you are.

Communion Songs Adagio from Sonata No. 3 for Violin and Piano - G.F. Handel
Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive red book No. 605
Where Charity and Love Prevail red book No. 359

Prayer
Announcements
Blessing
Sending Song In Thee Is Gladness red book No. 867
Dismissal ...Thanks be to God.
Postlude

SENDING

Everyone present is invited to a time of hospitality in the Upper Hall following worship.
Thank you to all who contributed for hosting. The flowers today are offered in joyful memory of a beloved mother, Patricia Hanson, by Mark Hanson and Daryl Hardin.

Worship Assistants
Assisting Minister Marta Lefsrud
Kantor Nathan McDonald
Musician Karen Johnson-Lefsrud
Artist in Residence Kira Gill
Choral Scholar D.J. McGrath
Livestreaming Braeden McKenzie
Communion Jane Wicksteed, Marge Adams
Ushers Donna Delaney, Don Storch

Psalm 114

Refrain: Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord.

- ¹ Hallelujah! When Israel came ¹ out of Egypt,
the house of Jacob from a people ¹ of strange speech,
² **Judah became God's ¹ sanctuary
and Israel ¹ God's dominion.**
³ The sea beheld ¹ it and fled;
Jordan turned ¹ and went back.
⁴ **The mountains ¹ skipped like rams,
and the little hills ¹ like young sheep. R**
⁵ What ailed you, O sea, ¹ that you fled,
O Jordan, that ¹ you turned back,
⁶ **you mountains, that you ¹ skipped like rams,
you little hills ¹ like young sheep?**
⁷ Tremble, O earth, at the presence ¹ of the Lord,
at the presence of the ¹ God of Jacob,
⁸ **who turned the hard rock into a ¹ pool of water
and flint-stone into a ¹ flowing spring. R**



Livestream Text

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Exodus 14:19-31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night. ²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. ²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the Lord, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt." ²⁶ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ³⁰ Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. ⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God. ⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

**Holy Cross Sunday
September 13, 2026**

