

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Holy Cross Day

September 16 & 17, 2017

As We Gather

The Readings for today focus on the Holy Cross of Jesus. The cross was a symbol of death—a form of capital punishment—but, because of Jesus and His death on the cross, became a symbol of life. By the cross of Jesus, God has removed our sins as far as the east is from the west. We practice such forgiveness with one another, living together as the family of Christ, and holding high the cross of Jesus.

✠ Preparation ✠

Hymn

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

LSB 427

Please Stand

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Confession and Absolution

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

Introit

Ps. 98:1, 4, 6; antiphon: Ps. 98:2

P The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

C Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation 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 beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

Kyrie

LSB 204

C ♪ *Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.*

Gloria

Glory to God in the Highest

LSB 204

C ♪ *To God on high be glory, and peace to all the earth;
goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name we sing—
our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.*

*To You, O sole-begotten, the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; receive our heartfelt cry,
where you in pow'r are seated
at God's right hand on high—*

*For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High
in God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.*

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

Please Be Seated

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 21:4–9

⁴From 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. ⁵And 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." ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And 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. ⁸And 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." ⁹So

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

P “Behold, I will lift up my hand to the nations,
and raise my signal to the peoples,” [says the Lord.]

C **So must the Son of Man be lifted up,
that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

¹⁸For 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. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where 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?

²¹For 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. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

C ♪ *Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*These things are written that you may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelveth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Truly, 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. ²⁵Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If 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.

²⁷"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. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Confession of Faith

(Saturday)

The Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.**

The third day He rose again from the dead.

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.**

Confession of Faith

(Sunday)

The Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

Please Be Seated

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

Lift High the Cross

LSB 837

Sermon

Please Stand

Prayer of the Church

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

Dear heavenly Father, look with favor upon the nations of the world, especially those suffering from war, conflict, disease, and famine. Be their peace and healer. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, You have made us the light of the world. Help us bring Your light and love to our workplaces. Direct us to treat our employers, employees, and co-workers with fairness and grace, forgiving wrongs as we have been forgiven in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, You have given us the wonderful gifts of families and friends. Look with favor upon our relationships. Bring reconciliation where there is division. Bring love where there is anger. Bring hope where there is despair. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, send Your forgiveness to all those who are weighed down by guilt. Bring Your resurrection hope to all those who hide their sins in shame. Remind them of the baptismal waters, which give them a new identity: child of God. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, we pray for all those who are sick, [*especially* . . .]. Heal their diseases, and redeem their lives from the pit. (Special Intercessions) Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Finally, Lord, bless Your Church here and scattered throughout the world. Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Keep us mindful of Your gracious forgiveness shown to us, the family of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things we bring before You, O Lord.

C **Amen.**

Please Be Seated

Offering

Hymn

We Give Thee But Thine Own

LSB 781 v.1-2

While we worship the Lord with our offerings, please write your names in the fellowship registers, indicating the date and time of the service you are attending. To help us serve you more effectively, please use the blanks provided to indicate a change in mailing address, phone numbers (home, work, cell, fax) or e-mail address(es). Please tear out the sheets with names on them and let them stick out of the top of the folder so that the ushers can collect them. Thank you!

Saturday Worship Continues on Page 10 With The Lord's Prayer.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Please Stand

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 208

C *♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
heav'n and earth with full acclaim
shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many.

As we eat and drink His body and blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C 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.

Saturday Worship Continues on Page 12 With The Benediction.

The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;

Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P 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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

LSB 210

C ♪ *O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.*
*O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.*

Please Be Seated

Distribution Hymns

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord LSB 637

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table LSB 618

Please Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Song of Simeon

LSB 211

C ♪ *O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace,
for I have seen the glory of your redeeming grace:
a light to lead the Gentiles unto your holy hill,
the glory of your people, your chosen Israel.*

*All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
all glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
for as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding through all eternity.*

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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

P 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.

Numbers 6:24–26

Hymn

Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed

LSB 560

Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four.
Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Part 4.
Copyright © 2017 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.