

**Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Cross!**

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**The audio for worship will be muted until  
worship begins**

# **LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS**

Rev. Lyle McKenzie, Co-Pastor

Rev. Lyndon Sayers, Co-Pastor

September 17, 2023 – 10:00 AM

Evangelical Lutheran Worship,

*Season of Creation Holy Communion*

***In a time when forgiveness is weaponized, we  
reclaim Jesus' promise of grace.***

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**Gathering Song**  
***Oh, Praise the Gracious Power-* No. 651**

**Vs. 1** Oh, praise the gracious pow'r  
that tumbles walls of fear  
and gathers in one house of faith  
all strangers far and near:

***Refrain*** - We praise you, Christ!  
Your cross has made us one!

**Vs. 2** Oh, praise persistent truth  
that opens fisted minds  
and eases from their anxious clutch  
the prejudice that blinds:

***Refrain*** - We praise you, Christ!  
Your cross has made us one!

**Vs. 3** Oh, praise inclusive love,  
encircling ev'ry race,  
oblivious to gender, wealth,  
to social rank or place:

***Refrain*** - We praise you, Christ!  
Your cross has made us one!

**Vs. 4** Oh, praise the word of faith  
that claims us as God's own,  
a living temple built on Christ,  
our rock and cornerstone:

***Refrain*** - We praise you, Christ!  
Your cross has made us one!

**Vs. 5** Oh, praise the tide of grace  
that laps at ev'ry shore  
with visions of a world at peace,  
no longer bled by war:

***Refrain*** - We praise you, Christ!  
Your cross has made us one!

**Vs. 6** Oh, praise the pow'r, the truth,  
the love, the word, the tide.  
Yet more than these, oh, praise their source,  
praise Christ the crucified:

***Refrain*** - We praise you, Christ!  
Your cross has made us one!

**Vs. 7** Oh, praise the living Christ  
with faith's bright songful voice!  
Announce the gospel to the world  
and with these words rejoice:

***Refrain*** - We praise you, Christ!  
Your cross has made us one!

## **Greeting**

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of Creator  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you  
always.

**And also with you.**



## **Kyrie – No. 153**

**Lord, have mercy, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy, have mercy upon us.**

## **Canticle of Praise – Glory to God**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest.  
To God be the glory forever. Alleluia, amen.**

# Psalm 114

*Tremble, O earth, at the presence of  
the Lord. (Ps. 114:7)*

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! When Israel came | out of Egypt,  
the house of Jacob from a people | of strange speech,

<sup>2</sup>**Judah became God's | sanctuary  
and Israel | God's dominion.**

<sup>3</sup>The sea beheld | it and fled;  
Jordan turned | and went back.

<sup>4</sup>**The mountains | skipped like rams,  
and the little hills | like young sheep. R**

***Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord.***

<sup>5</sup>What ailed you, O sea, | that you fled,  
O Jordan, that | you turned back,

<sup>6</sup>**you mountains, that you | skipped like rams,  
you little hills | like young sheep?**

<sup>7</sup>Tremble, O earth, at the presence | of the Lord,  
at the presence of the | God of Jacob,

<sup>8</sup>**who turned the hard rock into a | pool of water  
and flint-stone into a | flowing spring. R**

***Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord.***

# **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia. Amen.

## **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 18:21-35

**...Glory to you, O God.**

**...Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day**  
***Thy Strong Word* – No. 615**

**Vs. 1** Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;  
at thy speaking it was done.  
For created light we thank thee,  
while thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise to thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

**Vs. 2** Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,  
dark as night and deep as death,  
broke the light of thy salvation,  
breathed thine own life-breathing breath.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to thee who light dost send!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

**Vs. 3** Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;  
bright with thine own holiness,  
glorious now, we press toward glory,  
and our lives our hopes confess.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to thee who light dost send!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

**Vs. 4** From the cross thy wisdom shining  
breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;  
from the cross forever beameth  
all thy bright redeeming light.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise to thee who light dost send!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia without end!



**Vs. 5** Give us lips to sing thy glory,  
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,  
throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
mouths to speak thy holy name.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

May the light which thou dost send  
fill our songs with alleluias,  
alleluias without end!

**Vs. 6** God the Father, light-creator,  
to thee laud and honour be.  
To thee, Light of Light begotten,  
praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
glory, glory be to thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever  
praise the holy Trinity!

## **Prayer Verse – No. 1067**

**We lift this prayer for the wholeness of the  
earth. 3x**

**Can you feel it rising in you?**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

For the wholeness of the earth; **hear our prayer.**

## **Peace Sharing**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Offering Song**  
***In Sacred Manner* – No. 1071**

**Vs. 1** In sacred manner may we walk  
upon the fair and loving earth,  
in beauty move, in beauty love  
the living round that brought us birth.  
We stand on holy ground.  
We stand on holy ground.

**Vs. 2** In sacred manner may we see  
the luminous and loving stars,  
with wonder and with awe behold  
their ever-new creative powers.  
The heavens show us God.  
The heavens show us God.

**Vs. 3** In sacred manner may we touch  
the suspirant and loving green,  
give honour and give gratitude  
for shade, for bloom, for gift unseen.  
The trees shall shout for joy.  
The trees shall shout for joy.

**Vs. 4** In sacred manner may we hear  
the pounding waves, the searing fire,  
the rushing wind, the singing night,  
the forest hymn, the loving choir.  
The morning stars shall sing.  
The morning stars shall sing.

**Vs. 5** In sacred manner may we live  
among the wise and loving ones,  
sit humbly, as at sages' feet,  
by four-legged, finned, and feathered ones.  
The animals will teach.  
The animals will teach.



**Vs. 6** In sacred manner may we walk  
upon the fair and loving earth,  
in beauty move, in beauty love  
the living round that brought us birth.  
We stand on holy ground.  
We stand on holy ground.

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## **Great Thanksgiving**

Creator be with you. **And also with you.**  
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## **Preface**

### **Holy, Holy, Holy – No. 473**

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.**  
**My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy,**  
**God.**

# **Thanksgiving Prayer**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth  
as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin  
against us. Save us from the time of trial and  
deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **Lamb of God – No. 198**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world;**

**have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world;**

**have mercy on us.**

**O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world;**

**grant us your peace.**

## **Communion Songs**

### ***Touch the Earth Lightly* - No. 739**

**Vs. 1** Touch the earth lightly,  
use the earth gently,  
nourish the life of the world in our care:  
gift of great wonder,  
ours to surrender,  
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

**Vs. 2** We who endanger,  
who create hunger,  
agents of death for all creatures that live,  
we who would foster clouds of disaster—  
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

**Vs. 3** Let there be greening,  
birth from the burning,  
water that blesses, and air that is sweet,  
health in God's garden,  
hope in God's children,  
regeneration that peace will complete.

**Vs. 4** God of all living,  
God of all loving,  
God of the seedling, the snow, and the sun,  
teach us, deflect us,  
Christ reconnect us,  
using us gently, and making us one.



# ***Earth Is Full of Wit and Wisdom - No. 1064***

**Vs. 1** Earth is full of wit and wisdom,  
sounding God's delighted laugh,  
from the tiny roly-poly  
to the treetop-tall giraffe.  
All creation sings in wonder;  
even rocks and trees rejoice  
as they join the ringing chorus:  
echoes of our Maker's voice.

**Vs. 2** Earth is full of wit and wisdom,  
woven into harmony.

Ev'ry creature has a purpose,  
ev'ry flow'r and bumblebee.

Spider, human, redwood, gecko,  
monkey, chicken, mouse, and snake  
live within a single fabric:  
cloth that only God could make.

**Vs. 3** Earth is full of wit and wisdom:  
penguin, platypus, and snail,  
cactus, sea slug, oak, and algae,  
from the microbe to the whale.  
In this great and strange creation,  
with a breath God gives us birth:  
born of soil to live as stewards,  
called to love and serve the earth.

# ***Where True Charity and Love Abide - No. 653***

**Vs. 1** We are gathered by the one love of Christ  
Jesus;

let us lift our voices to God and be joyful.

In holy wonder let us love the living God,  
and may our hearts ever be one in faithful love.

***Refrain*** - Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Where true charity and love abide,  
God is dwelling there.

**Vs. 2** Since we are all one in the Lord, as we gather,  
let us be watchful that no strife still divide us.  
Contention, envy, ill will, spite—may these all cease;  
with us, abiding in our midst, is Christ our God.

***Refrain*** - Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Where true charity and love abide,  
God is dwelling there.

**Vs. 3** All surrounded by the blest saints, we shall see you  
face to face in glory and light, O Christ Jesus.  
With holy joy far beyond thought we shall be full,  
from age to age, world without end, forevermore.

***Refrain*** - Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.  
Where true charity and love abide,  
God is dwelling there.

## **Sending Song**

### ***He Comes to Us as One Unknown - No. 737***

**Vs. 1** He comes to us as one unknown,  
a breath unseen, unheard;  
as though within a heart of stone,  
or shriveled seed in darkness sown,  
a pulse of being stirred,  
a pulse of being stirred.

**Vs. 2** He comes when souls in silence lie  
and thoughts of day depart;  
half-seen upon the inward eye,  
a falling star across the sky  
of night within the heart, of night within the heart.

**Vs. 3** He comes to us in sound of seas,  
the ocean's fume and foam;  
yet small and still upon the breeze,  
a wind that stirs the tops of trees,  
a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.



**Vs. 4** He comes in love as once he came  
by flesh and blood and birth;  
to bear within our mortal frame  
a life, a death, a saving name,  
for ev'ry child of earth, for ev'ry child of earth.

**Vs. 5** He comes in truth when faith is grown;  
believed, obeyed, adored;  
the Christ in all the scriptures shown,  
as yet unseen, but not unknown,  
our Saviour and our Lord, our Saviour and our Lord.

**Dismissal**  
**...Thanks be to God!**

*Thank you to everyone who has joined in worship in-person and online. We hope you worship with us again.*

Call us at: **1-250-477-6222**

E-mail: **[lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca](mailto:lutheranchurchofthecross@shaw.ca)**

# **Worship Leaders and Assistants**

Assisting Minister – Sabine Lehr

Kantor – Nathan McDonald

Musician – Karen Johnson-Lefsrud

Choral Scholars – Abby Corpus, DJ McGrath

Livestreaming – Brandon Hansen, Tarynn McKenzie

Communion – Irene Corrie, Tarynn McKenzie

Ushers – Bob Kohlert, Craig Knight

***You are invited to Holy Communion Worship,  
Sundays, 10AM PT in-person and online.***

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