



# Community of the Cross Lutheran Church

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023 • 8:45 a.m.



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### Our Mission

We are all called to be ministers—  
Welcomed by the love of Jesus Christ,  
Nurtured in faith by the Holy Spirit,  
Sent to share God's promises with others.

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## **GATHERING**

*During the Service, please feel free to be seated as needed.*

### **PRELUDE**

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"  
by R M Stults

"Adoration on a Traditional English Melody"  
(This is My Father's World)  
by Franklin Sheppard/arr Alice Jordan

"All Hail the Power"  
R M Stults  
Marsha Gullickson

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.*

**C: Amen.**  
(Silence is kept for reflection)

*P: Merciful God,*

**C: We confess we are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation.  
Amen.**

*P: Beloved, through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice!  
Let us live in the promise you are already and always forgiven.*

**C: Amen.**

### **OPENING HYMN**

*"O God Our Help In Ages Past"*

ELW #632

### **GREETING**

*P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**C: And also with you.**

### **KYRIE**

ELW p.184 v. 1&2

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*P: Let us pray together.*

**C: Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

Jenna Trenbeath

### **FIRST READING**

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*"Alleluia Lord to whom shall we go?"*

ELW p.188

### **GOSPEL**

Matthew 25:14-30

*P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 25th Chapter.*

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

*P: The Gospel of our Lord.*

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

### **SERMON**

Pastor Christine Wenzel

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"Lord of Light"*

ELW #688 v.1&2

### **PRAYERS**

*P: Lord in your mercy,*

**C: Hear our prayer.**

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## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERING**

*"It's Me, Oh Lord, Standin' in the Need of Prayer"*  
Chancel Choir and Sandy Knight

by Kathryn S. Schulz

### **OFFERTORY**

*"Create in Me"*

ELW #186

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*Communion supplies - including gluten-free option - are available in the Welcome Center or from the ushers.*

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

*P: The Lord be with you*

**C: And also with you**

*P: Lift up your hearts*

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

*P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God*

**C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### 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.

### DISTRIBUTION

*"Lamb of God"  
"Christ Be Our Light"*

ELW p.191  
ELW #715

### COMMUNION BLESSING

### SENDING

### BLESSING / BENEDICTION

*P: The God of glory, Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.*

**C: Amen.**

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(CCLC Vision Statement)

### SENDING HYMN

*"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"*

ELW #815

### DISMISSAL

*P: Go in peace to touch lives with the love of God.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*"Come, Thou Almighty King"  
Marsha Gullickson*

by R M Stults