

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 16, 2021
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN

As we continue to move through the pandemic, there are some temporary changes in our liturgy, as well as a variety of new protocols in our in-person service. These changes are intended for the sake of the shared health of our community, particularly the most vulnerable among us. As we learn and adapt to this next chapter of our life together, we're grateful for your understanding, grace, and care. For more information about our Covid Response Plan, please see the Covid page on our website, or reach out to the Task Force with any questions. Even with these protocols in place, we give God thanks for the opportunity to gather for worship in new ways, and we trust in the Spirit to guide and enliven us.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION + FORGIVENESS

We begin our worship acknowledging that we are sinners. We cling to the ways of death instead of opening our hands to the gift of life, given to us through Jesus' resurrection. Let us take a moment of silence to confess our sin in the presence of God and one another...

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, whose mercy is abundant, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May the Holy Spirit empower you in the freedom of this forgiveness, that the love of the risen Christ would guide all that you say and do, and that joy of the risen Christ would go with you. **Amen!**

GATHERING SONG

He Prays for Me

Worship Team

Verse 1 The nails were sharp and ready
Waiting to pierce His hand
And the cross sin built laid silent
To be raised by the fall of man
Jesus would bear the shame
Knowing His sacrifice
Would build the bridge I needed
To find eternal life

Chorus 1 A righteous God
A fallen man
Brought together by a master plan
And still today
Christ intercedes
A priest forever He prays for me

Verse 2 What peace I have in knowing
Jesus can never change
Even from His throne in heaven
In earnest He calls my name

Chorus 2 A righteous God, A fallen man
Brought together by a master plan
And still today, Christ intercedes
A priest forever He prays for me

And if on this journey I fall
He doesn't turn away
But stands before the Father
And there He pleads my case

He prays for me yeah, A righteous God
A fallen man
Brought together by a master plan
And still today, Christ intercedes
A priest forever He prays for me
He prays for me, He prays for me
Oh He prays for me

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

L: Let us pray together:

A: Living God, when it seems as though you are distant from us, send your Spirit among us. Transform us, enliven us, and intercede for us, that our whole lives might become incarnate prayer, lived in the joy of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Romans 8:22-27

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

Acts 1:1-11

¹ In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning ²until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. ³After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' ⁹When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. ¹¹They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

GOSPEL LESSON: John 17:6-19

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus prayed:] ⁶I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. ¹⁴I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. ¹⁶They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁷Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. ¹⁸As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ali Tranvik

HYMN OF THE DAY

Spirit of the Living God

Worship Team

1 Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me
Break me melt me mold me fill me
Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me

2 Spirit of the living God move among us all
Make us one in heart and mind
Make us one in love
Humble caring selfless sharing
Spirit of the living God fill our lives with love

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

And always with you.

Let's share a sign of that peace with one another.

If you're worshipping in-person, you're invited to stand up, remain in your pews, and turn to neighbors near you, offering a physically distant sign of peace: a wave, nod or bow, peace sign, or crossing arms over the chest as a symbol of an embrace. If you're worshipping on Zoom, you're invited to turn on your video and wave or give a peace sign to others.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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.

BLESSING OF THE OFFERING

If you're worshipping with us in-person, please note that offering plates will not be passed around at this time. You are welcome to drop off offering before or after the services. If you're worshipping with us virtually, we invite you to make an offering by sending a check to the church or by visiting our secure online giving page which can be found at the bottom of our home page: www.crossofglory.us. Thank you for your ongoing support of God's work here at COG!

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #401 Gracious Spirit, Heed our Pleading verses 1-3, 5

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading,
fashion us all anew.
It's your leading that we're needing,
help us to follow you.</p> | <p>Refrain Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.
Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come.</p> |
| <p>2 Come to teach us, come to nourish
all who share life in Christ.
Bless the faithful, may they flourish,
strengthened by grace unpriced. Refrain</p> | <p>3 Guide our thinking and our speaking
done in your holy name.
Motivate all in their seeking,
freeing from guilt and shame. Refrain</p> |
| <p>5 Keep us fervent in our witness;
unswayed by earth's allure.
Ever grant us zealous fitness,
which you alone assure. Refrain</p> | |

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation... Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.***

LORD'S PRAYER

Drawn together as one body by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us...

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.

BLESSING

May the risen One fill you with life, nurture your faith, deepen your love, and ☩ grant you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #742 What a Friend We Have in Jesus verses 1-3

- 1** What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
- 2** Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3** Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

If you're worshipping in-person, please join us for a brief time of fellowship following today's service outdoors in the parking lot. In the case of bad weather, the Fellowship Hall will remain available for masked and distanced fellowship.

If you're worshipping with us on Zoom, you are welcome to stick around for Virtual Coffee Hour. This time will not be structured as it has been in recent months. Simply stay for fellowship and conversation for as long as you'd like!

POSTLUDE

MUSIC CREDITS

The Order of Service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship which is commended for use in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
Sundays and Seasons © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #024779. All rights reserved.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Lead Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik
Pianist, vocalist, worship team director: Mark Trease
Vocalist, choir director: Keith Williams
Lector: Lois Tollefsrud
Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Mike Edstrom, Erik Haugland, Isak Tranvik
Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

Congregational Support as of 4/30/2021

Annual Budget: \$230,000.00

Year to Date Budgeted: \$76,933.36

Year to Date Received: \$91,228.21

Difference: \$14,294.85

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cross of Glory is offering both in-person and virtual worship options at this time. You are welcome to worship with us however you feel most comfortable! Given the recent spike in Covid cases in our area, the Covid Task Force is currently inviting those who can meaningfully worship and gather virtually to do so. Please see the latest Glory Banner article for more info. As always, if you have questions, don't hesitate to be in touch with the Task Force.
- We rejoice in the newest member of God's family, Brynn Elizabeth Edstrom Schneider, who was baptized at Cross of Glory on May 8. Please hold the Schneider family in your prayers! And please join us next Sunday as we welcome Teagan Dossett into God's family through Holy Baptism, and as we celebrate the Confirmation of Grant Dossett.
- Attention all kids: you're invited to take part in a special procession during worship next Sunday, May 23. Meet Pastor Ali outside the sanctuary at 9:15 to join in as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday!
- On Sunday, May 30, our worship will be a service of Lessons & Music. If you have a hymn or song recommendation, please share it with the church office by tomorrow, May 17, and we'll do our best to include it!
- Mark your calendars - those who are interested in becoming a member at Cross of Glory are invited to a new member class and fellowship gathering following worship on May 23rd. Email Pastor Ali for more info or to RSVP.
- All are welcome to take part in our weekly Bible Study. We gather on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am on Zoom.
- Liturgy means "the work of the people." We're grateful for all the ways our shared work helps shape our weekly worship. If you're interested in serving as an usher, greeter, reader, musician, or tech support, please contact the church office.
- If you're interested in taking part in community conversations about what it might mean to continue to meet the needs of our Brooklyn neighbors after Daunte Wright's death and to serve as a site of "mutual aid," please reach out to Pastor Ali.
- Pastor Ali is available for pastoral care, conversation, and prayer. Please reach out to by email (atranvik@crossofglory.us) or phone (763-533-8602). If you have prayer requests you'd like included in the prayer chain and/or bulletin, please call the church office.