

God's Work Our Hands Sunday



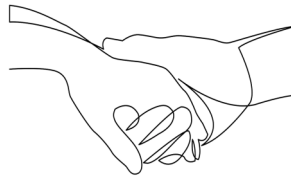
September 13, 2026
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Brooklyn Center, MN



We are **CALLED**



We are called to **LIFE**



We are called to life **TOGETHER**

Welcome to Cross of Glory

Welcome to Cross of Glory where we work to share in the joy of life together! If you're here for the first time, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card in your pew and put it in the offering plates so that we can further extend a welcome.

***Portions of the liturgy that the congregation is invited to speak are printed in **bold**.*

PRELUDE

Gathering

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP: A BLESSING OF THE HANDS

*** Please rise as you are able ***

Blessed be the hands here today:

Blessed be the hands that open doors.

Blessed be the hands that prepare meals.

Blessed be the hands that wash dishes and clean floors.

Blessed be the hands that tend to ailing bodies and comfort the dying.

Blessed be the hands that make music and art.

Blessed be the hands raised in protest against that which does harm.

Blessed be the hands that greet strangers.

Blessed be the hands that count money, determine budgets, steward gifts.

Blessed be the hands that write papers and carry books.

Blessed be the hands that fix broken things.

Blessed be the hands that hold the aged and the young.

Blessed be the hands that make nutritious things grow in the dirt.

Blessed be the hands that learn the way of justice.

Blessed be the hands that share peace.

Blessed be the hands that share gifts,

And blessed be the ones open to receiving them.
Blessed be our hands, that they might do the work of God.

MUSIC	Open Hands	Frye/Silverberg
Verse 1 (Solo) <i>I'll never catch Your light Living with knuckles white, Keeping my fists held tight. I'll never touch Your heart Or take in all You are Trying to hide my scars. I'm letting go of holding on.</i>		Verse 2 (Solo) <i>I'm finally giving up. I'm placing all my trust Into a higher love. You're dreaming bigger dreams. You have a plan for me. And though I cannot see, (chorus)</i>
Chorus Here I am with open hands. I have nothing left to prove. God, I give it all to You. Empty me of ev'rything 'Til there's nothing left but You. I just want to live for You with open hands, Open hands, with open hands, Open hands.		Bridge My hands for Your glory. My hands for Your glory, Lifted high, lifted high to You. My life for Your glory. My life for Your glory, All of me, all of me for You. (Repeat) Ending With open hands open hands. With open hands open hands.

*** You may be seated ***

CONFESSION + FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Trusting God's boundless compassion, let us confess our sins before
God and one another...

*** Silence for reflection and repentance ***

Holy God, **we are quick to set our minds on human things:**
our own self-preservation, our fear of losing control, our comfort

and convenience. We squander the gifts of the earth and neglect the needs of our neighbors. We cling so tightly to our lives and our power that we close ourselves off to life itself. Forgive us, O God, and open us by your tender mercy, that we find our life in you. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through + Jesus Christ, and God’s love knows no end. Receive freely this healing gift of grace, that we might go into the world to share it. **Amen.**

MUSIC God Who Began a Good Work in You Mohr

<i>Chorus</i>	<i>Verse</i>
God who	<i>(Solo) If the struggle you're facing</i>
began a good work in you,	<i>Is slowly replacing</i>
God who	<i>Your hope with despair,</i>
began a good work in you	<i>Or the process is long</i>
Will be faithful to complete it,	<i>And you're losing your</i>
Will be faithful to complete it.	<i>song in the night,</i>
God who started the work	<i>You can be sure</i>
Will be faithful to complete	<i>That the Lord has His hand on you.</i>
it in you.	<i>Safe and secure,</i>
	<i>God will never abandon you,</i>
	<i>You are God's treasure</i>
	<i>And God finds pleasure in you.</i>

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray together...
O God, help us be your hands that create beauty, your feet that tread into places of need, your ears that listen to our neighbors, your mouth that speaks truth, your eyes that behold your presence, and your heart that beats for the sake of your love. Amen.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik
Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams
Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease
Vocalists: Becca Floyd, Laura McClanahan, Kris Simon
Guitar: Steve Sebald, Josh Smith
Technical Team: Dawn, Ryan and Bill Bailey

Greeters: Angela Dahl, Linda Knudsen
Reader: Abby Kelley
Ushers: Cheryl Anderson, Don Halvorson, Jeffline Tolbert, Kim Schoffstall
Fellowship: Laura and Mike McClanahan
Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

A special thanks to all those who are lending a hand with our liturgy this morning. We remember each Sunday—and especially today—that liturgy means “the work of the people,” and that our shared worship is not possible without the hands, heads, hearts, and voices that lead us. Thank you!

All are welcome to join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a special ice cream treat!



FIRST READING

Exodus 14:19-31

The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. 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.

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. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. 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. 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.”

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.” 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. 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. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 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.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Lead Me, Lord

S. Wesley/arr. Peery

*Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness,
make Thy way plain before my face.
Lead me, Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness,
make Thy way plain before my face.
For it is Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.
For it is Thou, Lord, only, that makest me dwell in safety.*

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

GOSPEL READING Luke 19:1-10
***Please rise for the reading of the Gospel.*

The Gospel according to Luke the 19th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today.” So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

The Word of God for the people of God.
Praise to you, O Christ.
*** Please be seated. ***

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Please face the back doors as we prepare to go into the world with good courage. You’re invited to join hands with or put your hand on a neighbor near you as a reminder that we do not go forth alone.

O God, you have called us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage. Not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

DISMISSAL
Go in peace and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

MUSIC CREDITS
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Sending

MUSIC

God's Work, Our Hands

#1000

Verse 1

God's work, our hands:
Working together,
building a future,
repairing the world,
raising up homes,
planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and
shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands
as we work in your name,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.

Verse 2

God's work, our feet:
trav'ling together,
following Jesus
to places unknown,
walking as friends,
marching for freedom,
running the race
with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet
as we follow your way,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.

Verse 3

God's work, our voice:
Singing together,
praising, proclaiming
to all who will hear,
praying for peace,
shouting for justice,
claiming God's love
for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we
speak in your name,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.

Verse 4

God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting
and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free,
humbled and honored,
gifted by grace,
we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives
as we answer your call,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.

REFLECTION

MUSIC

God, Bless the Hands

ACS 1022

Verse 1

God, bless the hands
stretched out in love
through floods below
and storms above;
they search and rescue,
comfort, calm,
give shelter, offer healing balm.
Oh, guard them by your
steadfast hand;
reach out in love to help us stand.

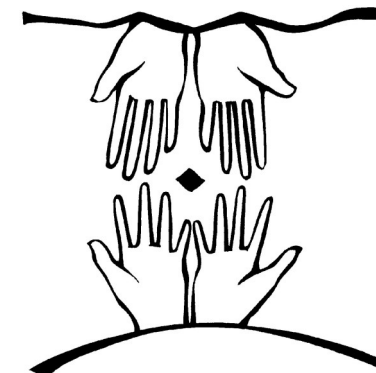
Verse 2

Bring comfort to the
hearts that mourn,
left broken,
emptied by the storm.

Give hope to those
in deepest grief;
empower us to bring relief.
To you, O God,
we raise our hands.
Save us, we pray,
from sinking sands.

Verse 3

O God, our strength
and refuge sure,
our hope while storms of
life endure:
teach us to live in harmony
with earth and river, sky and sea,
preserving waters, air, and lands
as holy work for human hands.



CONFESSION OF FAITH

*** Please rise as you are able ***

**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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

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

You may be seated

OFFERING

*** We are called to share of our time, our talents, and our treasures for the sake of God's work at Cross of Glory and beyond. To that end, in addition to any monetary offering you feel so moved to give this morning, we invite you to place the "Our Hands" insert in the offering plates today as well. Stop at the "Our Hands" table after worship to learn more!*



Apostles Creed

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Chorus 1

We lift our voices,
We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You,
We are an offering.
Lord, use our voices,
Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are
Yours,
We are an offering. **(Repeat)**

We Are an Offering

Bridge

All that we have,
All that we are,
All that we hope to be,
We give to You,
We give to You.

Chorus 2

We lift our voices,
We lift our hands,
We lift our lives up to You,
We are an offering.
We are an offering.

Lilies

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one 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.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birthday Song

BLESSING

May the God of creative hands, dirty hands, wounded hands, working hands, holy hands, + bless and guide our hands, that we might be the body of Christ at work in the world. **Amen!**