



Trinity Lutheran Church

292 Orange St., New Haven, CT

TrinityLutheranNH.org – (203) 787-6521

Service of Holy Communion—*Lutheran Book of Worship*, Setting II

Holy Cross Day, September 14, 2025

In-Person at 10:15 am & Live at Facebook.com/TrinityLutheranNH

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage 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.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" LBW No. 104**In the Cross of Christ I Glory**

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tow'r - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the



o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, from the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; peace is there that



sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872
 Music: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867

APOSTOLIC 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.

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. Grant that we who glory in his death for our salvation may also glory in his call to take up our cross and follow him; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

FIRST LESSON: Numbers 21:4b-9

When the people spoke against God and Moses, the Lord sent poisonous snakes against them. Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord ordered him to erect a serpent of bronze on a pole. All who looked at it after having been bitten by a serpent would live.

[From Mount Hor the Israelites set out,] ^{4b} but the people became discouraged on the way. ⁵ 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 detest this miserable food." ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a serpent of bronze and put it upon a pole, and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 98

¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song,*
for he has done | marvelous things.

**2 With his right hand and his | holy arm*
has he won for him- | self the victory.**

³ The LORD has made | known his victory;*
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight | of the nations.

**4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the | house of Israel,*
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.**

⁵ Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;*
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.

**6 Sing to the LORD | with the harp,*
with the harp and the | voice of song.**

⁷ With trumpets and the sound | of the horn*
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.

**8 Let the sea make a noise and all | that is in it,*
the lands and those who | dwell therein.**

⁹ Let the rivers | clap their hands,*
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,
when he comes to | judge the earth.

**10 In righteousness shall he | judge the world*
and the peo- | ples with equity.**

Gloria Patri (*chanted after the psalm*)

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the / Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be fore- / ver. Amen**

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

At the heart of the Christian message is the word of the Cross. This proclamation seems foolish to many because it reveals true divine power in the absolute weakness of Christ's crucifixion.

¹⁸ The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

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

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION/ALLELUIA

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 3:13-17

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After explaining to Nicodemus that one must be born of water and the Spirit, Jesus speaks about how he will be lifted up on the Cross, foreshadowed in the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert. Here the Son of God is revealed as the source of our healing and salvation.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" LBW No. 107

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



1 Be - neath the cross of Je - sus I long to take my stand;
2 Up - on the cross of Je - sus, my eye at times can see
3 I take, O cross, your shad - ow for my a - bid - ing place;



the shad - ow of a might - y rock with - in a wea - ry land,
the ver - y dy - ing form of one who suf - fered there for me.
I ask no oth - er sun - shine than the sun - shine of his face;



a home with - in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,
And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:
con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,



from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.
the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.
my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869

Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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**

THE PRAYERS

D: In our prayers today and this week, please remember: [prayer list]. We also invite your own petitions either aloud or silently in your hearts.

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus...

Almighty God, grant that your Church may always cling to the Cross of your dear Son and proclaim it faithfully as your power and wisdom to the world. As Christ was lifted up for us all, so draw all people to him, that many may find in his Cross their own forgiveness, redemption, and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, you gather your family together at the foot of your Cross, and feed us with your own true body and blood for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. Bless our children who receive their first Holy Communion today: Ellawyn, Ethan, Caroline, Helen, Finley, and Logan, that they may be strengthened by this Holy Sacrament all the days of their lives. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give wisdom and righteousness to our leaders, and everyone entrusted with earthly power and authority. Give to all people a heart for the poor, the weak, and the vulnerable; and uphold all whose lives are knit together with ours. Give strength and courage to first responders and to those in our armed forces, and teach all of us to live in peace; to seek your will; and to do it. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be merciful to all who are hurting, weak, abused, hungry, or grieving; or who in any way need the abundance of your grace. Especially we lift before you those we have named aloud or remember before you now. Shelter them in the gracious shadow of the

Cross, and bring them healing and hope. Strengthen us all in service and compassion, that together we may praise your goodness. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we entrust into the care of our crucified and risen Savior all our beloved dead. Comfort all who mourn, and keep us ever in Christ's care. Grant that we may gladly walk through this world with the Cross of Jesus as our banner and our guide; and bring us last into that blessed Kingdom won for us on the Cross, where we will live as your children forever. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O Lord...

PEACE

OFFERING *The ushers collect the offering. You can also give electronically through our website, Facebook page, or by [clicking here](#).*

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Cross of Jesus" Robert Benson

OFFERTORY: "Let the Vineyards"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

D: Let us pray...

Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD

THE COMMUNION *To all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord, are baptized, and confess Jesus' real presence in the Holy Communion, we invite you to join us in the Holy Eucharist. At the usher's invitation you may come forward to kneel or stand at the altar rail. Please take an empty individual cup from the tray and bring it with you to the rail. The host wafer will be placed into your open hands to eat. Your cup will be filled from the pouring chalice, take and drink. Individual cups filled with non-alcoholic grape juice are also available, please point to receive one. Sealed pre-consecrated Communion packages are also available. Please remain at the altar rail until all have finished and a blessing is given.*

COMMUNION HYMNS: LBW Nos. 291, 333

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE: *"Thank the Lord"*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

D: Let us pray...

Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: *"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"* **LBW No. 487**

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, since you are our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, pil - grims here, our home a - bove,
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Fa - ther's bid - ding.
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.
 then by grace we all may win un - told fruits of his cre - a - tion.
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
 Je - sus, un - to you I die, there to live with you on high.
 Je - sus, if I faith - ful be, life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978
 Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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DISMISSAL

D: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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