



Summer 2023

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 16, 2023

*FOR THE PROMISE IS FOR YOU, FOR YOUR CHILDREN,
AND FOR ALL WHO ARE FAR AWAY, EVERYONE WHOM THE
LORD OUR GOD CALLS*
ACTS 2:39

FILLED BY GOD'S SPIRIT - SERVING IN TODAY'S WORLD



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOLYCROSSNJ.COM

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JULY 16, 2023
7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

INTRUMENTAL PRELUDE

CONFESSION

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned 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.**

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

SONG:: WHO YOU SAY I AM

1. Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me

**Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am**

2. Free at last
He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me

**In my Father's house
There's a place for me
I'm a child of God
Yes I am**

I am chosen not forsaken
I am who You say I am
You are for me not against me
I am who You say I am

Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan
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PRAYER OF DAY

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,,,, be with you all.
And also with you.

READING: ISAIAH 55:10-13

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

GOSPEL READING MATTHEW 13:1-9

The Holy Gospel According to St. Matthew the 10th Chapter

Glory to you O Lord

‘That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: ‘Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!’

The Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you O Christ

MESSAGE: OUR CORE VALUES: GENEROSITY

SONG: HEAR THE SOUND

God of mercy, full of grace
You are forever, always forever
Slow to anger, rich in love
You are forever, always forever
We hear Your kingdom shout
And all Your praises reign

So let the heavens roar
Echo across the ground
And as Your people sing of Your
majesty
Lord hear the sound
Lord hear the sound

Everyone, everyone
Everyone, everyone
Everyone
You forgive, You forgive
Everyone
You restore, You restore
Everyone
You redeem, You redeem
Everyone

CCLI Song # 6364735
David Leonard | Leslie Jordan | Matt Maher
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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**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us O God

Your mercy is great

SHARING OF THE PEACE

COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise

Lord remember us...

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love of one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

BENEDICTION

SONG: IN CHRIST ALONE

1. In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought
and storm

What heights of love what depths of
peace

When fears are stilled when striv-
ings cease

My Comforter my All in All

Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe

This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to
save

Till on that cross as Jesus died

The wrath of God was satisfied

For every sin on Him was laid

Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory

Sin's curse has lost its grip on me

For I am His and He is mine

Bought with the precious blood of
Christ

4. No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me

From life's first cry to final breath

Jesus commands my destiny

No power of hell no scheme of man

Can ever pluck me from His hand

Till He returns or calls me home

Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

CCLI Song # 3350395

Keith Getty | Stuart Townend

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord

Thanks be to God!

HOLY CROSS INVITES ALL TO STAY FOR REFRESHMENTS!

KEEPING IN OUR PRAYERS

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. James 5:13 (NRSV)

- **Lola Weedon, Justin Gingeske, Diane Ebeling, Bev Currier, Russell Dawson, Emily Freely, Joanne Paras, Dick Peterson, Mabel Rapp, Carl Swenson, and Carolyn Swenson for healing**
- **Our homebound- Chris Mancinelli, Fong Yee, Helga Schalpe, Bill Culver, Eleanor Willert**
- **For Peace in Ukraine, Russia, and the Sudan**
- **For Operation Warm Heart at Zion Lutheran Church in Rahway– that the city will allow it to reopen next year.**
- **For an end to mass gun violence**

CHRISTMAS IN JULY: SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

Seafarers International House (SIH) is the Lutheran response to the urgent needs of vulnerable seafarers and immigrants since 1873. SIH offers hospitality, social assistance, and advocacy in maritime ports on the Eastern Seaboard and Albany. The Christmas at Sea program provides Christmas gifts for those who are away from their families at Christmas. Following in that tradition Holy Cross and Calvary will celebrate Christmas in July with a collection of items to be sent to SIH in NYC for inclusion in their Christmas satchels distributed by port chaplains.

The items requested for each satchel are: All items must be new

(1) hooded or plain sweatshirt. Size medium or large

(3 pr.) Warm socks (wool or acrylic)

(1) Can of nuts

Any type of wrapped chocolate or candy

In the narthex is a Christmas tree which has a tag with items listed. Take the tag with the item you will purchase. If you wish to purchase all the items listed, please take a plastic satchel bag and return by July 30th.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Name (s)

Address

City / State / Zip

Phone Number / Email Address

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor | <input type="checkbox"/> New to Area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Would like a visit | <input type="checkbox"/> Would like a call |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Would like to know more about Holy Cross | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Would like to receive email updates from Holy Cross <i>(please reply to confirmation email)</i> | |



NEXT WEEK:
SUNDAY, JULY 23RD 9:30 AM

Our Core values: Respect: Matthew 13:13:24-30, 36-43



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