

**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
4321 W. Cerritos Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630  
[www.holycrosscypress.com](http://www.holycrosscypress.com)  
(714) 527-7225

20<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 10, 2021

+ *God Gathers Us In His Presence* +

PRELUDE:

WELCOME:

OPENING HYMN:

*“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”*

LBS 980



Je - su, Je - su, Fill us with Your love, Show



us how to serve The neigh-bors we have from You.



1	Kneels at the feet of His friends,	Si - lent - ly wash - es their
2	Neigh - bors are wealth - y and poor,	Var - ied in col - or and
3	These are the ones we will serve;	These are the ones we will
4	Kneel at the feet of our friends,	Si - lent - ly wash - ing their



feet,	Mas - ter who pours out Him - self	for them.
race;	Neigh - bors are near - by and far	a - way.
love;	All these are neigh-bors to us	and You.
feet:	This is the way we will live	with You.

## CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Based on Psalm 1)*

Leader: Blessed are you who delight in the Word of the Lord,  
you are like trees planted by streams of water,  
connected to the Source Life –  
God the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
abundant in provision for others,  
protected from withering in this world.

People: **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

Leader: If we say we have no sin we are only deceiving ourselves,

People: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just,  
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Moment of silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Leader: Let us then confess our Sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that our action bears witness  
to the truth that our nature is fallen and unclean.  
For we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed.  
We have done this by frequently doing what Your commands forbid  
and frequently failing to do what You have commissioned  
and called us to do.  
We have not loved You with our whole heart;  
and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We deserve Your punishment now and forever.  
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.**

Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us,  
and for His sake God forgives us all our sins.  
To those who believe in Jesus Christ  
He give the power to become the children of God  
and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.  
May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us,  
bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

## + *God Gives Us the Gift of His Word* +

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:** *Amos 5:6-7, 10-15*

Search for the LORD and live! If you don't, he will spread like a fire through the house of Joseph and burn it down. Bethel will have no one to put it out.

You, Israel, turn justice into poison and throw righteousness on the ground...

Israel, you hate anyone who speaks out against injustice.

You are disgusted by anyone who speaks the truth.

You trample on the poor and take their wheat from them for taxes.

That is why you build houses from hand-cut stones, but you will not live in them.

You plant beautiful vineyards, but you will not drink their wine.

I know that your crimes are numerous and your sins are many.

You oppress the righteous by taking bribes.

You deny the needy access to the courts.

That is why a wise person remains silent at such times, because those times are so evil.

Search for good instead of evil so that you may live. Then the LORD God of Armies will be with you, as you have said. Hate evil and love good. Then you will be able to have justice in your courts. Maybe the LORD God of Armies will have pity on the faithful few of Joseph. – GW®

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING:** *1 John 3:1-3*

**C**onsider this: The Father has given us his love. He loves us so much that we are actually called God's dear children. And that's what we are. For this reason the world doesn't recognize us, and it didn't recognize him either. Dear friends, now we are God's children. What we will be isn't completely clear yet. We do know that when Christ appears we will be like him because we will see him as he is. So all people who have this confidence in Christ keep themselves pure, as Christ is pure. – GW®

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL: *John 15:5-8*

**“I** am the vine. You are the branches. Those who live in me while I live in them will produce a lot of fruit. But you can’t produce anything without me. Whoever doesn’t live in me is thrown away like a branch and dries up. Branches like this are gathered, thrown into a fire, and burned. If you live in me and what I say lives in you, then ask for anything you want, and it will be yours. You give glory to my Father when you produce a lot of fruit and therefore show that you are my disciples. – GW®

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

## SERMON HYMN:

### *“Seek Ye First”*

LSB 712



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God, And His  
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and  
3 Man does not live by bread a - lone, But by



righ - teous - ness. And all these things shall be  
ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be  
ev - 'ry word That pro - ceeds from the



add - ed un - to you! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
o - pened un - to you, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
mouth of the Lord, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

## SERMON: *“Connect Deeply: To the Father”*

Text: John 15:5 and 1 John 3:1

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

LSB 707



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat - utes still!  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;  
4 Make me to walk in Thy com - mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!  
Let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.  
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan - d'ring sheep.  
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

**NICENE CREED: (\* catholic means the universal Christian Church)**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit**

**he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;**

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

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy \*catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

+ *We Give Thanks for God's Word* +

OFFERING:

OFFERING PRAYER:

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

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.

+ *God Sends Us Forth for Lives of Love and Service* +

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE BLESSING: (*Based on Colossians 2*)

Leader: Just as you received Jesus Christ as Lord,  
continue to live in, through and for Him; rooted in Him, built up in Him,  
strengthened in faith and overflowing with thankfulness.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN:

*"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*

LSB 809



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

**SERVING GOD’S HOUSE TODAY:**

Preacher: Pastor Kevin Kritzer

Bible Study Leader: Pastor Kyle Blake

Pianist/Organist: Ken Culley

Scripture Reader: Lily Ellis

Powerpoint Operator: Jean Stone

Usher: Dave Cole

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## PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO & AUDIO RECORDING WAIVER

When you enter a Holy Cross Lutheran Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Refer to posted signage dated 2021.

**We ask that as we return to a new normal,  
that people do their best and continue to be aware of social distancing.  
Facemasks are recommended in accordance with local, county & state guidelines.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

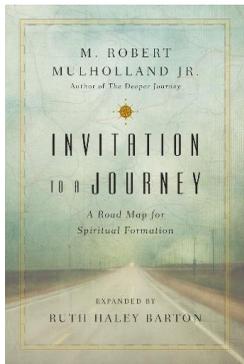


Take some time this week with family, friends or on your own, to have some couch conversations about our text for worship:

### ***John 15:5 ~ Connecting Deeply: To God***

Jesus gives a wonderful illustration in the text today describing how we are connected to him. He is the vine; we are the branches. Just as branches do not have life without the vine, we do not have life without Him. This text not only describes our relationship with God it informs His desire to connect with us.

- Share about a time you felt connected to God.
- What things seem to get in the way of your connection to God?
- How does God promise to connect to you?
- How does this influence your connections to others?



## "INVITATION TO A JOURNEY"

If you'd like to join us in our readings, we invite you to get a copy of "Invitation to a Journey" by M. Robert Mulholland, Jr.

Refer to <http://www.bethanylutheran.org/ministries/adult/>

## READING SCHEDULE

- Week 2: Oct 11 - Chapter 2: Being Formed, pgs. 31-40
- Week 3: Oct 18 - Chapter 3: The Image of Christ, pgs. 41-47
- Week 4: Oct. 24 - Chapter 4: For the Sake of Others, pgs. 48-54

## Save the date – December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Holy Cross will be having a Christmas Fellowship this year, to include dinner and entertainment on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Details being planned at this time.

Holy Cross Leadership





Make plans to join **Bethany Lutheran** on Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup> for an afternoon and evening of celebration and fun. **There will be a full German feast including bratwurst and all the trimmings.** Hot dog meals will also be available. **Dance to the tunes of the Oom-Pa-Pa band,** spend the day with friends and perhaps make some new ones.

The event is free and food will be available to purchase ahead of time.

There may be very limited meals available at the event. All beer purchases are presale **ONLY** and limited to two (2) twelve-ounce beers per adult. No beer sales at the event. The tent will open at 4:30 PM on the grassy field at Bethany (4644 Clark Ave. Long Beach, CA 90808). Food will be served from 4:30-6:30 PM and the band will play until 7:30 PM. VIP Packages are available and sponsorships are needed.



Order food and drinks online at this link or scan the QR code-

<https://www.simplechurchgiving.net/App/Form/9ceabdaf-6a11-4695-a595-8155f1ed8da7>



## **Living Way Bible Study Begins this Wednesday (Oct 13) at 7pm**

**Remember to Sign-Up Today!**

This year our Living Way Bible study will be: **Miracles of the Old Testament.** Each Living Way class includes homework done prior to our session, sharing and dialogue based upon that work facilitated by our leader (Pastors Mark Siegert & Kevin Kritzer will be co-leading) and then a presentation by our evening leader for more in-depth exploration of the miracle at hand.

Our first class begins this Wednesday, October 13. We will take a break from Thanksgiving - New Years and when we resume, we will finish before Ash Wednesday.

## **Operation Christmas Child - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**Wednesday, October 13, 7:00 pm**

Shoebox recipient, Yves Dushime, will be speaking at **Hosanna Chapel (16705 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower 90706).** Yves, a dynamic speaker, will share his remarkable and inspiring story of receiving a shoebox gift while living in Togo Africa, after his family had fled the Rwanda genocide. This is an open event; please join us.

**Starting Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**

a table with boxes and information on the program will be available in the Narthex.

**Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>** - Dedication of the boxes is being planned.

If you have any questions or want more information regarding **Operation Christmas Child,** please contact **Richard Staley or Jan Coontz.**

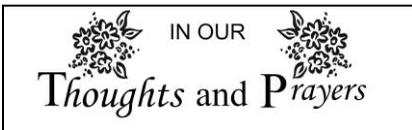




**Tuesday through Thursday (9:00 AM to 1:00 PM)**  
 (Remember to wear a face mask upon entry to the Church Office.)

**- This week at Holy Cross Lutheran Church -**

Today	10/10	9:45 am	<b>Sunday School, Youth Group &amp; Bible Study</b>
		11:00 am	<b>Traditional Worship Service</b>
Monday	10/11	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Boy Scouts
			Invitation to a Journey: Chapter 2 – Being Formed
Tuesday	10/12	10:00 am - Noon	LWML/MAC and Food Pantry
Wednesday	10/13	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	<b>Living Way Bible Study (Pastor Led)</b>
Thursday	10/14	5:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Salam Ministries
Friday	10/15		
Saturday	10/16	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	10/17	9:45 am	<b>Sunday School, Youth Group &amp; Bible Study</b>
		11:00 am	<b>Traditional Worship Service with HC</b>



**Pray for healing and recovery** for those who have recently been injured, had or are going to have surgery, been hospitalized or are suffering from a medical condition.



**Thank you Pastor Kritzer, Pastor Moorman, Pastor Blake and Pastor Siegert.**

We give thanks to God for all of you, remembering you in our prayers for your work of faith, labor of love and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. We are grateful and appreciate all that you do - preaching, teaching, leading and encouraging us! God Bless you all, Holy Cross Congregation