

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
4321 W. Cerritos Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630
www.holycrosscypress.com
(714) 527-7225

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 17, 2021

+ *God Gathers Us In His Presence* +

PRELUDE:

WELCOME:

OPENING HYMN:

"Take My Life and Let It Be"

LBS 783



- 1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
- 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
- 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



- Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

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: Beloved in the Lord!
Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father,
beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.
Our help is in the name of the Lord.

People: He made heaven and earth.

Leader: Let us confess our transgressions to the Lord.

People: And He will forgive the iniquity of our sins.

Leader: Almighty God, we have sinned against you by thought, word and deed.
Lord, today we flee for refuge to You and Your infinite mercy,
seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Most merciful God,
who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us,
have mercy upon us
and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins;
and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You
and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word,
to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us
and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Amen.

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

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Ecclesiastes 5:10-20*

Whoever loves money will never be satisfied with money. Whoever loves wealth will never be satisfied with more income. Even this is pointless. As the number of goods increase, so do the number of people who consume them. What do owners gain from all their goods except the opportunity to look at them?

The sleep of working people is sweet, whether they eat a little or a lot. But the full stomachs that rich people have will not allow them to sleep.

There is a painful tragedy that I have seen under the sun: Riches lead to the downfall of those who hoard them. These hoarded riches were then lost in bad business deals. The owners had children, but now they have nothing to give them. They came from their mother's womb naked. They will leave as naked as they came. They won't even be able to take a handful of their earnings with them from all their hard work.

This also is a painful tragedy: They leave exactly as they came. What advantage do they gain from working so hard for the wind? They spend their entire lives in darkness, in constant frustration, sickness, and resentment.

At last I have seen what is good and beautiful: It is to eat and drink and to enjoy the good in all our hard work under the sun during the brief lives God gives us. That is our lot in life. It is a gift from God when God gives some people wealth and possessions, the power to enjoy them, the ability to accept their lot in life, and the ability to rejoice in their own hard work. These people won't give much thought to their brief lives because God keeps them occupied with the joy in their hearts. – GW®

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *Hebrews 4:12-16*

God's word is living and active. It is sharper than any two-edged sword and cuts as deep as the place where soul and spirit meet, the place where joints and marrow meet. God's word judges a person's thoughts and intentions. No creature can hide from God. Everything is uncovered and exposed for him to see. We must answer to him.

We need to hold on to our declaration of faith: We have a superior chief priest who has gone through the heavens. That person is Jesus, the Son of God. We have a chief priest who is able to sympathize with our weaknesses. He was tempted in every way that we

are, but he didn't sin. So we can go confidently to the throne of God's kindness to receive mercy and find kindness, which will help us at the right time. – GW®

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *John 15:12-17*

Love each other as I have loved you. This is what I'm commanding you to do. The greatest love you can show is to give your life for your friends. You are my friends if you obey my commandments. I don't call you servants anymore, because a servant doesn't know what his master is doing. But I've called you friends because I've made known to you everything that I've heard from my Father. You didn't choose me, but I chose you. I have appointed you to go, to produce fruit that will last, and to ask the Father in my name to give you whatever you ask for. Love each other. This is what I'm commanding you to do. – GW®

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

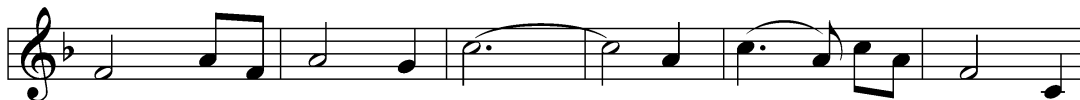
SERMON HYMN:

"Amazing Grace"

LSB 744



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

SERMON: "Connect Deeply: To the 'Brother' "

Text: John 15:12

HYMN OF THE DAY:

"God Himself is Present"

LSB 907



1 God Him - self is pres - ent: Let us now a - dore Him
2 God Him - self is pres - ent: Hear the harps re - sound - ing;
3 Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Pu - ri - fy my spir - it,



And with awe ap - pear be - fore Him. God is in His
See the hosts the throne sur - round - ing. "Ho - ly, ho - ly,
Trust - ing on - ly in Your mer - it. Like the ho - ly



tem - ple; All with - in keep si - lence; Hum - bly kneel in
ho - ly!" Hear the hymn as - cend - ing, Songs of saints and
an - gels, Wor - ship - ing be - fore You, May I cease - less -



deep - est rev - 'rence. He a - lone On His throne
an - gels blend - ing. Bow Your ear To us here:
ly a - dore You. Let Your will Ev - er still



Is our God and Sav - ior; Praise His name for - ev - er!
Hear, O Christ, the prais - es That Your Church now rais - es.
Rule Your Church ter - res - trial As the hosts ce - les - tial.

APOSTLE'S CREED: (* catholic means the universal Christian Church)

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.

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

OFFERING:

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.

+ *The Service of Holy Communion* +

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Holy Cross in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

To help you prepare for communion we invite you to take a few moments of quiet prayer. For aid there are prayers on the front page of the hymnal for both before and after the reception of communion. Or simply pray, *Dear Lord Jesus, at Your gracious invitation You invite me to come to You, to eat and drink Your holy body and blood as You Yourself have promised to give in this sacrament of Your altar. Forgive me of my sin, through this Your meal of Forgiveness. Let me experience the fullness of Your love, through this Your meal of love. Strengthen my faith, through this meal of Yours that calls for and bestows faith. Empower me to live for You, through this Your meal that promises life everlasting and equips me for daily living as one who has received You and Your gifts.*

HYMN OF PRAISE:

“This Is the Feast”

LSB 171

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

**All: 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.**

PREFACE:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

Leader: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & HOLY COMMUNION:

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER:

+ 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.

CLOSING HYMN:

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

LSB 770



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp-ta-tions? Is there trou-ble an - y-where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour-aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need-less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry-thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak-ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

SERVING GOD’S HOUSE TODAY:

Preacher: Pastor Kevin Kritzer

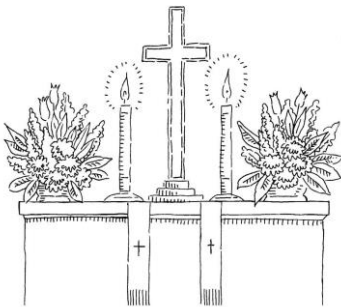
Pianist/Organist: Ken Culley

Powerpoint Operator: Richard Staley

Bible Study Leader: Pastor Mark Siegert

Scripture Reader: Ashlyn Bowman

Usher: Les Friend



Altar Flowers are given today...

- by Jan Coontz in celebration and in honor of **Jim's 80th birthday.**
- by Don Plog, wishing his grandson, **David Spurgeon, a blessed birthday.** David is son of Heath and Sandee Spurgeon.

Happy Birthday Jim and David!

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“Take My Life and Let It Be” LSB 783

Text & Tune: Public domain. Created by Lutheran Service Builder (*)

“Amazing Grace” LSB 744 (verses 1-3 and 5)

Text & Tune: Public domain. Created by Lutheran Service Builder (*)

“God Himself Is Present” LSB 907

Text & Tune: Public domain. Created by Lutheran Service Builder (*)

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” LSB 770

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PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO & AUDIO RECORDING WAIVER

When you enter a Holy Cross Lutheran Church worship service/event, you enter 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 15:12 ~ Connecting Deeply: To the “Brothers”

In our text today Jesus calls us to love one another as He has loved us. This might sound like a simple give and take relationship but we always seem to make it a

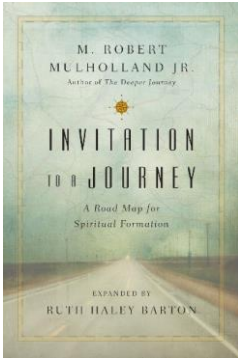
take and take some more relationship. We connect so that we can get, but Jesus calls us to connect so that we can give.

- Who is your best friend? Why did they become your best friend?
- What happens to a relationship if it is one sided or has strings attached?
- Why is it hard to connect with someone you disagree with?
- How does Jesus still connect with us, even though he disagrees with our sinfulness?



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY’S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN, you can view them on our website at:

<https://www.holycrosscypress.com/worship-bulletins/>



"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.

READING SCHEDULE

- 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

Videos will be released on Thursday or Friday each week until December. Go the following url to see all the videos:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXce36wC8Am2sMGs9Rkp6iZp3cSdbAnmN>



Living Way Bible Study - Wednesday at 7:00 pm

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 was Wednesday, October 13th, **but you can**

still join. Copies of the upcoming Wednesday lesson plan as well as prior lesson plans are available in the Narthex or you can contact the Church Office (714/527-7225).



Operation Christmas Child - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Starting Sunday, October 17th a table with boxes and information on the program will be available in the Narthex.

Dedication of the boxes is **Sunday, November 14th**.

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

- Support our Holiday Fundraiser -

Tis the Season for Giving

**Troop 657 and 657G
are selling wreaths, garland and centerpieces.**

Orders will be taken thru **November 1st**.

Delivery will occur after Thanksgiving.





Make plans to join **Bethany Lutheran** on Sunday, October 24th 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>



Save the date – December 3rd

Holy Cross will be having a Christmas Fellowship this year, to include dinner and entertainment on Friday, December 3rd.

Details being planned at this time by your Holy Cross Leadership Team.



We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing of a former member and our friend, **Eileen Castberg**. While we mourn with her family and will miss her dearly, we rejoice, for we know she belonged to her Savior Jesus and is forever with Him and her Father in heaven.

A Memorial Service and a Celebration of Life will be held for Eileen on **October 21 (Thursday)**, 1:30 pm at **Mountain View Community Church** (1191 Meadowlark Way, Ramona). After the Memorial Service there will be a Celebration of her life at 3pm at the **San Vicente Inn and Country Club** (24157 San Vicente Road, Ramona).



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	10/17	9:45 am	Sunday School, Youth Group & Bible Study
		11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service with HC
Monday	10/18	5:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Boy Scouts
			Invitation to a Journey: Chapter 3–The Image of Christ
Tuesday	10/19	10:00 am - Noon	LWML/MAC and Food Pantry
Wednesday	10/20	7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Living Way Bible Study (Lesson 2)
Thursday	10/21	5:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Salam Ministries
		7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Scouts OA (every 3rd Thursday)
Friday	10/22	6:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Huge Haunted Maze
Saturday	10/23	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study
		6:30 pm - 9:30 pm	Huge Haunted Maze
Sunday	10/24	9:45 am	Sunday School, Youth Group & Bible Study
		11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service



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.

HUGE HAUNTED MAZE

October 22 & 23, 29 & 30 - 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
 \$5 Suggested Donation

