

# Exaltation of the Holy Cross

14 September A+D 2025



St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church U. A. C.  
& Rainbow Preschool  
145 S. 6th Street  
Waterford, Wisconsin

We are a member congregation of  
*THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD*

*Prelude: Variations on 'Fortunatus New' By Donald Rotermund*

## Processional Hymn: 837 Lift High the Cross

Order of Worship: p. 184

### Introit

*Psalm 67:1; antiphon: Galatians 6:14a; Liturgical Text*



But it behooveth us to glory | in the cross \*  
of our Lord | Jesus Christ,  
in whom is our salvation, life, and resur- | rection, \*  
by whom we are saved and set at | liberty.  
Let them be turned backward and put to con- | fusion\*  
that de- | sire my hurt.



**G** Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

But it behooveth us to glory | in the cross \*  
of our Lord | Jesus Christ,  
in whom is our salvation, life, and resur- | rection, \*  
by whom we are saved and set at | liberty.

### Kyrie - Salutation *p. 186 ff*

#### Collect of the Day

**P** O God, who makest us glad this day by the yearly solemnity of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross: grant, we beseech Thee, that we who on earth have learned the mystery of our redemption may attain to its rewards in heaven; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee in the unity of the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

*Sit*

#### Prophecy

*Numbers 21:4-9*

In those days: The children of Israel journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. And 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 our soul loathes this worthless bread." So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." So Moses made a

bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

*Philippians 2:8b, 9*



Christ became obedient | unto death,\*  
even the death | of the cross.

Wherefore God also hath highly exalt- | ed Him,\*  
and given Him a name which is above | every name.

### Epistle

*Philippians 2:5–11*

Brethren: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**A** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Stand

#### Alleluia and Verse of the Day

*Liturgical Text*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Alleluia.** Sweet the wood and sweet the nails: sweet the burden that thou | bearest; which alone was counted worthy to bear the King and Lord of | heaven. **Alleluia.**

### Holy Gospel

*John 12:32–36a*

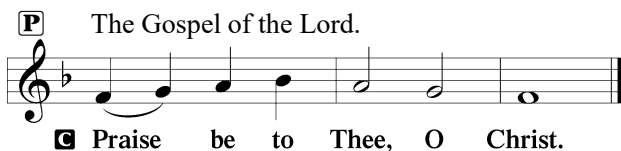
**P** The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. John.



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time Jesus said to the multitude of the Jews: “I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself.” This He said, signifying by what death He would die. The people answered Him, “We have heard from the law that the Christ remains forever; and how can You say, ‘The Son

of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this Son of Man?" Then Jesus said to them, "A little while longer the light is with you. Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going. While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light."



## Nicene Creed

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day: 454 Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle**

## Sermon

*Offertory Voluntary: 'Herzliebster Jesu' By Johannes Brahms*

*Stand*

**Offertory** *p. 192 ff*

**Prayer of the Church** **P** Lord, in Your mercy; **C** hear our prayer.

## Proper Preface

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus - Agnus Dei** *p. 195 ff*

*Sit*

## Distribution Hymns:

**439 O Dearest Jesus, What Law Hast Thou Broken /**

**422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image /**

**438 A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth /**

**467 Awake, My Heart, with Gladness /**

**425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis - Benediction** *p. 199 ff*

**Hymn to Depart: 455 The Royal Banners Forward Go**

*Postlude: 'Crucifer' By John Leavitt*

**Looking Forward to Wednesday**

Lessons: II Corinthians 5:1-11; Matthew 12:14-21

Hymns: 672-759-742-674-878

**Looking forward to next Sunday (St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist)**

Lessons: Ezekiel 2:8–3:11; Ephesians 4:7-13; Matthew 9:9-13

Hymns: 518:1,25,3-940-688-628/644/647/586/682-582

**Acknowledgments**

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## We Welcome Our Guests Today!

We're glad you've joined us in worship today. Please fill out a Visitor Card (located in the pew rack) and hand it to an usher or place it in the offering plate. We also ask that you read *"Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion"* printed below. Please visit our **Welcome Center** in the narthex and worship with us again soon.

### Our Practice Concerning Holy Communion

In keeping with the tradition of the early Church and the Lutheran Confessions, we celebrate the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day. Because Holy Communion is an expression of complete unity of faith and doctrine, only members of St. Peter or a sister Missouri Synod congregation may commune. This is not a judgment of the faith of others, but rather an indication of our obedience to the Lord's command that those who kneel together at His altar be in complete unity regarding what they believe and teach. Your respect for our practice concerning the Lord's Supper is appreciated. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions.

If communing with individual cup, please hold your empty cup until Pastor has passed you with the chalice. And please remember to fill out a Communion card.

### The Gathering of the Offerings

God finances His church. The gathering of the offerings is, therefore, not merely collecting money. It is a holy privilege for those who believe in Jesus Christ. This is our opportunity to gratefully respond to God's love and grace by returning a portion of the gifts He has given us. As God's children, we consider it a special honor to build and extend His kingdom through our offerings. St. Paul writes, "God loves a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7b NKJV). Our visitors and guests are in no way compelled to contribute to this offering. We ask nothing of our guests except that they return here often to hear more about God's great love in Jesus Christ, our Lord. If anyone wishes to give electronically, you may scan this QR code to set up an account.



### Small Children

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 19:14). Jesus wants your little ones present with Him during our worship service. And so do we.

When you're little, it's hard to sit without fidgeting or making some noise. And of course babies join us with their songs, too! We consider their small voices to be a part of our sacred music as they learn with us what it is to be a Christian. We encourage their presence throughout the entire service.

If you feel that your children are being too disruptive, please feel free to take them to the nursery that is located on the other side of the Conference Room. A closed-circuit television will bring the service to you. An usher will be happy to direct you.

*"Repetitio est mater studiorum:* Repetition is the mother of all learning." The more they're here, the easier it will get.

### Church

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