

The Old Testament Reading.Isaiah 29:11–19

And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

The Epistle Reading.Ephesians 5:22–33

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

The Gospel Reading.Mark 7:1–13

When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, "'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men." And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, 'Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban' (that is, given to God)— then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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**“This people honors me with their lips,
but their heart is far from me.”**



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 22, 2021

Website: <http://holycrosskc.org>
Email: church@holycrosskc.org

Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. A small brochure is available in the pew which describes the importance of the Biblical and historic practice known as "Closed Communion." If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

Notes on the service: In this season of Pentecost, the *Epistle* for this Sunday presents specific, practical teaching for living the Christian life in the world. It instructs husbands and wives in serving one another in a godly marriage, one that reflects the relationship of Christ and the Church. That the Church is one with Christ is a mystery hidden in the creation account of marriage but now revealed in the Gospel. The Holy Spirit reveals to believers the mystery and wonder of Christ's love for the Church. In the *Old Testament Reading*, the unbelievers in Isaiah's days were prevented by the hardness of their hearts from discerning the prophet's vision. They wouldn't understand the mystery either. They honored God with their lips, but their hearts were far away. Similarly, tradition and spiritual blindness kept the Pharisees in the *Gospel* from understanding the mystery, and like Isaiah's congregation, their hearts were far from God.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY: (The theme prayer of the day.)

P: Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Organist. Myla Miller
Communion Elder. Carl Pigors
Ushers. Luther Salonen, Curt Wendt
Dave Senne & Ron Ringstad

Psalm 26



O LORD, I love the habitation | of your house*
and the place where your | glory dwells.

**Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my in- | tegrity,*
and I have trusted in the LORD without | wavering.**

Prove me, O LORD, and | try me;*
test my heart | and my mind.

**I wash my hands in innocence and go around your
altar, | O LORD,***

**proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all
your | wondrous deeds.***

**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

O LORD, I love the habitation | of your house*
and the place where your | glory dwells.

Note: Standing and Kneeling are optional

10:00 A.M.

Divine Service Setting Four—LSB 203

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn—LSB #904

Confession and Absolution—LSB 203

Service of the Word—LSB 204

Introit—Psalm 26 (printed at left)

Kyrie & Gloria in Excelsis - LSB 204

Collect of the Day

The Lessons: (printed on back)

Hymn of the Day - LSB #697

Sermon - Rev. Perry Copus

The Nicene Creed - LSB 206

Prayer of the Church - LSB 207

Offering

Service of the Sacrament—LSB 208

Sanctus - LSB 208

Lord's Prayer - LSB 209

Agnus Dei - LSB 210

Distribution - LSB 210

Hymns—LSB #617

LSB #705

LSB #813

Nunc Dimittis- LSB 211

Benediction - LSB 212

Closing Hymn— LSB #807

Postlude