# CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
## Pastor Patrick Cox

## Worship for Sunday, September 27, 2026
### EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

***The Cross of Christ Opens to Us the Way of Repentance to Life with God***

*The way of the Lord is righteous and just: "The soul who sins shall die" (Ezek. 18:4). However, because the Lord has "no pleasure in the death of anyone" (Ezek. 18:32), He calls sinners to repentance and faith in His gracious forgiveness of sins. The man who is thus turned away from his wickedness, who henceforth lives by the grace of God, "shall surely live; he shall not die" (Ezek. 18:28). This way of repentance has been opened for us by the cross of Christ. In the righteousness of faith and love, "he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death" (Phil. 2:8), and He was vindicated in His resurrection from the dead. Indeed, "God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name" (Phil. 2:9). He has given us this name in our Baptism into Christ, in whom we now "shine as lights in the world" (Phil. 2:15). He uses the authority that He has received from His Father (Matt. 21:23-27) to preach a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, by which even "the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God" (Matt. 21:31-32).*

***+ Please silence your cell phone.***
***+ Please fill out the red 'Record of Fellowship' book in your pew.***

### ✢ DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING 2 ✢

**PRELUDE:** **"All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine"** *(David Cherwien)*

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN:** **"All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine" LSB 815**

### ✢ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✢

**INVOCATION and EXHORTATION** LSB 167

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

### ✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

**INTROIT** *(see insert)*
**KYRIE** LSB 168
**THIS IS THE FEAST** LSB 171
**SALUTATION** LSB 172
**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE: Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18**
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**ALLELUIA and VERSE** LSB 173

**HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-27**
Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.
**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

*(The Holy Gospel is read.)*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**RALLY DAY**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** **"How Wide the Love of Christ"** **LSB 535**

**SERMON:** **"Authority"** *from Matthew 21:23-27*

**APOSTLES' CREED** LSB 175

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**
Pastor: …let us pray to the Lord,
**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**OFFERING**
**ADULT CHOIR:** **"Forth in the Peace of Christ"** *(Thomas Keesecker)*
**OFFERTORY** LSB 176

### ✢ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✢

**PREFACE and PROPER PREFACE** LSB 177
**SANCTUS and PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** LSB 178
**LORD'S PRAYER** LSB 179
**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**
**PAX DOMINI and AGNUS DEI** LSB 180

**DISTRIBUTION** LSB 181
**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**
**"O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"** **LSB 554**
**"Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way"** **LSB 857**

**THANK THE LORD** LSB 181
**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT** LSB 183
**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING HYMN:** **"Praise Be To Christ"** **LSB 538**

**ORGAN POSTLUDE:** **"Praise Be To Christ"** *(John Eggert)*

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## HOLY COMMUNION

**In the Sacrament of Holy Communion our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His true body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins. He invites to His table baptized Christians who trust His words, repent of all their sin, and forgive one another as He forgives us.**

**In 1 Corinthians 10:14-22, St. Paul teaches us that Holy Communion is also a public profession that unity of doctrine exists amongst those who commune at the same altar. Therefore, we ask any who are not yet instructed in the doctrine of our church or who hold membership/commune at a non-LCMS church body to abstain from receiving the Sacrament here today. If it is your desire to receive communion with us at this altar, please speak with Pastor Cox. It would be his joy to instruct you toward confirmation. *For further study see Matthew 5:23ff, 10:32ff, 18:15-35, 26:26-29; Acts 2:38, 42; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:17-34.***

**All who are not receiving the Sacrament today are welcome to come to the communion rail to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest when you come to the rail.**

- ✠ **The individual cups are offered first, followed by the chalice.**
- ✠ **The cups in the center of the trays include one drop of wine.**
- ✠ **Please let the pastor know if you need a gluten-free wafer.**


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**PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP SERVICE**

**READERS: (Sat) Pastor Cox| (Sun) Sandra Drews**
**ALTAR GUILD: Kathy Holloway, Emily Tripp**
**ELDERS: Scott Brewster, Carl Hunt, Jon Sonntag**
**USHERS: (Sat) Scott Brewster**
**(Sun) Jo Parham, Mat Shelby, Pastor Hildebrandt**
**ORGANIST: Dr. Sarah Harr DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS: Judy Zehnder**
**PRAISE TEAM: Nyssa Hunt and Sylvia Hildebrandt**
**A/V TEAM: Scott Brewster, Nyssa Hunt, Tim Riethmeier,**
**Mike & Monica Witherby, Bonnie Wright-Woodward**