CROSS OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Patrick Cox

Worship for Saturday, October 17, 2026
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

We Are Recreated in the Image of God by the Cross of Christ

Plotting against Jesus, the Pharisees attempted "to entangle him in his words" by asking about the payment of taxes to Caesar (Matt. 22:15). The Lord pointed to coins required for the tax, and He answered that we should "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matt. 22:21). But if coins bearing the image of Caesar should be rendered to him, then man — who is made in the image of God — must be rendered to the Lord. That tax is paid for us by the Lord Jesus, the image of God in the flesh, by His self-offering on the cross. And from His cross, as the Lord's anointed, He reigns as the true Caesar over all nations "from the rising of the sun and from the west" (Is. 45:6). The Lord once called and anointed Cyrus "to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings" (Is. 45:1). Now by the preaching of the Gospel, "in power and in the Holy Spirit" (1 Thess. 1:5), foreigners from all over the world are "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God" (1 Thess. 1:9–10).

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

✢ DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING 2 ✢

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

✢ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✢

INVOCATION and EXHORTATION LSB 167

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

INTROIT *(see insert)*
SALUTATION LSB 172
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY *(see insert)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 45:1-7
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22
Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second 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.

SONG OF THE DAY

SERMON **"The Two Kingdoms"** *from Matthew 22:19-21*

APOSTLES' CREED LSB 175

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

RESPONSIVE SONG
OFFERING

✢ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✢

PREFACE LSB 177
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING LSB 178

LORD'S PRAYER LSB 179

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI LSB 180
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT and BENEDICTION LSB 183

CLOSING SONG

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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) Chris Barker
ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Wyatt, Rose Dawn
ELDERS: Scott Brewster, Bob Timm, Jim Reisenbuechler
USHERS: (Sat) Scott Brewster
(Sun) Dave Murray, Caleb Clemmons, Cody Carpenter
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