

# THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

- Hymns for Today are from the Lutheran Book of Worship •

Prelude *(please stand when indicated by \*)*

Announcements & Signing of the Friendship Register

**Opening Hymn #407** "Come, You Thankful People, Come"

Invocation & Prayer *(led by the pastor)*

Order for Confession and Absolution:

**P:** Jesus said: "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the earthly wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?" *(Luke 16:10-11)*

*(brief silence for reflection)*

**P:** Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

**We knew that you are a hard master, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so we were afraid, and we have hidden what you have given us. We have misused your gifts, and have failed to be your faithful stewards.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen** *(adapted from Matthew 25)*

**P:** In the mercy of Almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To all whom he has given grace, the more will be given, and they will have an abundance.

**C: Amen.**

Children's Bible Story *(2 Samuel 15 – Absalom rebels against David)*

Stewardship Dialog & Prayer *(see insert sheet)*

First Reading: Psalm 24:1-10

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

\* The Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon: "The Great Giveback" Pastor Thomas Wright

**\*Hymn of the Day #406** "Take My Life, that I May Be"

\* A Creed of Thanksgiving *(from Luther's Small Catechism)*

**I believe that God has created me and all that exists. He has given me, and still preserves, my body and soul with all their powers.**

**He provides me with food and clothing, home and family, daily work, and all that I need from day to day. God also protects me in times of danger and guards me from every evil.**

**All this he does out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, though I do not deserve it. Therefore I surely ought to thank, praise, serve, and obey him. This is most certainly true.**

\* Prayer of the Church *(please respond: "Hear our prayer...")*

\* Sharing of God's Peace

**L:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.** *(greet others: 'God's peace be with you ...')*

Processional Offering:

**Offering Hymn #409** "Praise and Thanksgiving"

**(The congregation will be ushered forward to place their offerings before the altar. The 'Giving Plan' cards and 'Time & Abilities' sheets will also be received at this time.)**

\* Offering Prayer *(led by the pastor)*

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

\* **HYMN #534 (verses 1 & 2)** "Now Thank We All Our God"

\* Words of Institution *(pastor)*

\* The Lord's Prayer *(congregation)*

**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**

Distribution of Communion:

*(Those who have allergies: please help yourself to a gluten-free wafer located on the baptismal font.)*

**Hymn #410** "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Pastoral Blessing

**Closing Hymn #534 (verse 3)** "Now Thank We All Our God"

Benediction, Amen & Dismissal

Postlude

*(Please join us in the fellowship hall for refreshments)*



## CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS TODAY:** Featuring Our Annual Processional Offering! Members of Holy Cross are asked to bring their completed 2012 Giving Plan and Time & Abilities Sheet into worship today. Extra Stewardship packets are on the Usher's cart.

**REFORMATION SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 30TH:** *You are invited to wear the color of red to worship next weekend in celebration of Reformation Sunday and the gift of God's fiery renewing Spirit.* As part of our Reformation Sunday celebration on October 30th at the 10:30 am service, each of the Third Grade students will be given a gift of the Holy Scriptures from the hand of their parents.

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 6TH:** *You are invited to wear white in honor of remembering the life and example of those who have gone before us in faith.* As part of the prayers that week, we will include the names of those who have died in the past year. If you have a loved one whose name you'd like to have included, drop a note in the church office.

- **Cemetery Service of Remembrance - 11:30 am, Nov 6th**  
*(Maple Lake Community Cemetery, north of the church)*
- **Prayer Service for Joshua Guimond - 7:00 pm, \*Nov 10th**  
*(Holy Cross Lutheran Church Sanctuary, \*note date change)*

**REGISTER FOR THE "LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY" PRAYER CONFERENCE:** A teaching event here at Holy Cross on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>. (brochures on narthex table) \*Join others in praying for this event at 11:30 am each Sunday in Pastor Pete's study.

**FUNERAL PLANNING SEMINAR:** Watch for information in the mail about "Planning Made Easier," a funeral planning seminar led by Pastor Pete and Brian & Dana Dingmann, at Holy Cross on November 14th offered at both 10:00 am and 5:30 pm.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** The Missions Team of Holy Cross is again participating in the international effort of Operation Christmas Child, which is an annual project of the Christian relief organization, Samaritan's Purse. By October 30th, please donate your EMPTY shoe boxes to the church (collection area in the narthex); Then, bring a FILLED shoe box to church by November 13th. *(Be sure to pick up a brochure in the narthex explaining what to include and what not to include.)* Contact Sue Klassen with any questions at 612-216-1145. Thank you!

**NEED A NEW STUDY BIBLE?** Pastor Tom is ordering copies of "The Lutheran Study Bible" from Concordia Publishing House. This hardcover regular print edition in the English Standard Version (ESV) is on sale for \$37 (regular price is \$55). To place your order, or for more info, contact Pastor Tom by October 24th.

**- PLEASE PICK UP YOUR GIVING STATEMENT IN THE NARTHEX -**

## STEWARDSHIP DIALOG

*(a responsive reading of various scriptural passages)*

**Pastor:** This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

**Congregation:** **Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy.**

**P:** Who then is the faithful and wise steward, whom the master will set over his household, to give them their portion of food at the proper time?

**C:** **Blessed is that servant whom the master will find at work when he comes. He will set him over all his possessions.**

**P:** Therefore, give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap.

**C:** **For the measure you give will be the measure you receive.**

**P:** Indeed, the one who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

**C:** **Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.**

**P:** And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything . . .

**C:** **and may provide in abundance for every good work.**

**P:** Therefore, fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms; provide yourselves with purses that do not grow old . . .

**C:** **with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.**

**P:** For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Let us pray . . .

**C:** **Gracious Lord God, giver of all good gifts, we thank you for providing us with all that is needed for life. Give us the faith to extend your love into the lives of others, as we offer ourselves with generous hearts to your service; in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**