

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30 & September 2, 2026

As We Gather

Peter confessed that Jesus is the Christ, yet he still expected a king without a cross. In today's Gospel Jesus reveals that His suffering, death, and resurrection are not a detour around His kingdom but the very means by which He establishes it. As we begin The Cross and the Crown, we learn that behind the cross stands the victorious King, and those who follow Him may do so with confidence because He has already conquered sin and death.

✠ WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP ✠

Hymn Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (LSB 685) *sts. 1, 4*

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Psalm 72:18–19; 119:1; 116:5, 9

P Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
C **who walk in the law of the LORD!**

P Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.
C **I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.**

P Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.
C **Blessed be His glorious name forever;**
may the whole earth be filled with His glory! Amen and Amen!

Confession and Absolution

P It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on Confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarize it well.

C **"Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven."**

P Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your Law. For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

P God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C **Amen.**

P As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Introit

Psalm 37:5–7; antiphon: v. 4

P Delight yourself in the LORD,
and He will give you the desires of your heart.

C **Commit your way to the LORD;**
trust in Him, and He will act.

P He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,
and your justice as the noonday.

C **Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him;
fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P Delight yourself in the LORD,
and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Kyrie *LSB 186*

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
Eternal God, Your Son, Jesus Christ, embraced the way of the cross to redeem us. Grant us faith to embrace the way of the cross as our way of life and to declare His redemptive presence to our world; for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Jeremiah 15:15–21*

O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance take me not away;
know that for your sake I bear reproach.

Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
I did not sit in the company of revelers,
nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail?
Therefore thus says the LORD:
"If you return, I will restore you,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall be as my mouth.
They shall turn to you,
but you shall not turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
declares the LORD.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 12:9–21

Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection.

Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life?

For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn Jesus Loves Me (LSB 588) *sts. 1, ref, 2*

Series: The Cross and the Crown

Sermon: The King Behind the Cross *Matthew 16:21–28*

Nicene Creed *Nicene Creed*

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life T of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church (Hear our prayer) *LSB, p. 215*

P ... Lord in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

Offering/Offertory *LSB 192*

C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

✠ THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

We follow the liturgy on Pages 194-202 in the hymnal.

Preface *LSB 194*

Proper Preface

Sanctus *LSB 195*

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei *LSB 198*

Distribution Hymns

In the Cross of Christ I Glory (LSB 427)
The Day Is Surely Drawing Near (LSB 508)
Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me (LSB 761)
The King of Love My Shepherd Is (LSB 709)

Sit

Lord's Supper Dismissal

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Benedicamus

Benediction

Closing Hymn
Crown Him with Many Crowns (LSB 525) *sts. 1, 5*

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3.
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