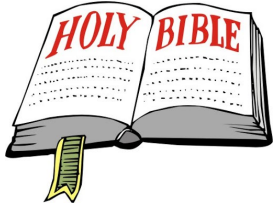


# Bible Word Search



Third Graders  
 Colby Cox  
 Nash Heesacker  
 Emma Krohn  
 Casen Moser  
 Collins Rasmussen  
 Tinley Schnoor  
 Cooper Seier  
 Nolan Tisthammer  
 Kristen Weltruski  
 Ryleigh Young

Angel	Latin
Beginning	Law
Birth	Learn
Books	Life
Chapter	Lord
Cross	Love
Death	Luke
Faith	Mercy
God	Milestone
Good News	New Testament
Gospel	Noah's Ark
Grace	Old Testament
Greek	Peace
Grow	Poetry
Heart	Praise
Heaven	Pray
Hebrew	Psalms
Hell	Read
Hope	Sacred
Holy Bible	Saint
Image of God	Saved
Jesus	Sinner
Joy	Story
King	Verse
Knowledge	Word

Zion Lutheran Church



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

319 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Albion, Nebraska 68620

www.zionalbion.org + office @zionalbion.org+ 402-395-2043

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs: 9am-4pm; Fri: Office Closed

September 14, 2025 ✚ Holy Cross Day

*This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation. Each time we make the sign of the cross we remember our baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.*

✚ GATHERING ✚

### Prelude

*(The prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for worship.)*

### Welcome

Welcome to Zion Lutheran Church in Albion! We offer a warm welcome to all who are worshipping in person or by way of Vyve Cable Channel 21 and Facebook Live. We hope that you encounter a word of God's grace and love in this worship service.

**Holy Communion** will be celebrated today. At the table of our Lord Jesus Christ, God nourishes faith, forgives sin, and calls us to be witnesses to the Gospel. All who are baptized and believe in the real presence of Christ are welcome to share in the Lord's meal. Holy Communion will be distributed in person or by pre-packaged elements. If you are uncomfortable coming forward, please pick up the communion elements as you enter worship. We will partake of the sacrament as directed by the pastor within the worship service. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak with an usher. Gluten Free wafers are available on request.





## Holy Cross Day

### Confession & Forgiveness

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

The word of the Cross is folly to those who are perishing,  
**but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just,  
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us take up our cross as we confess our sins to almighty God.  
*(Silence for meditation and self-examination.)*

Lord Jesus Christ,  
**we confess that we have been impatient believers.  
We have not finished what we began.**

**We have complained and sinned against you  
in our thoughts, words, and deeds.**

**We have been foolish in not seeking your wisdom alone.  
Forgive us, Lord for what we have done and left undone.  
Refresh our hearts and lift our burdens.  
In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

Christ has gone before us, bearing His Cross.  
He died for each of us on the Cross,  
that we may also bear our own cross,  
as we desire to die on the Cross with Him.

For if we die with Him, we will also live with Him.  
In the name of the crucified and risen Lord, your sins are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### Sending Song

### Lift High the Cross

#660

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till  
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,  
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied  
3 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,  
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

*Refrain*

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.  
as thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to thee.  
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.  
Music: Ernewerten Gesangbuch, Part II, Stralsund, 1665  
Public Domain

### Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**



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a home with-in a wil - der - ness, a rest up - on the way,  
 And from my con - trite heart, with tears, two won - ders I con - fess:  
 con - tent to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,

from the burn - ing of the noon - tide heat and bur - dens of the day.  
 the . . . won - der of his glo - rious love and my un - wor - thi - ness.  
 my . . . sin - ful self my on - ly shame, my glo - ry all, the cross.

Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869  
 Music: Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927  
 Public Domain

### Table Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,  
 strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*

O God,  
**through this meal you have strengthened us  
 and appointed us to be your servants.**

**Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.  
 We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

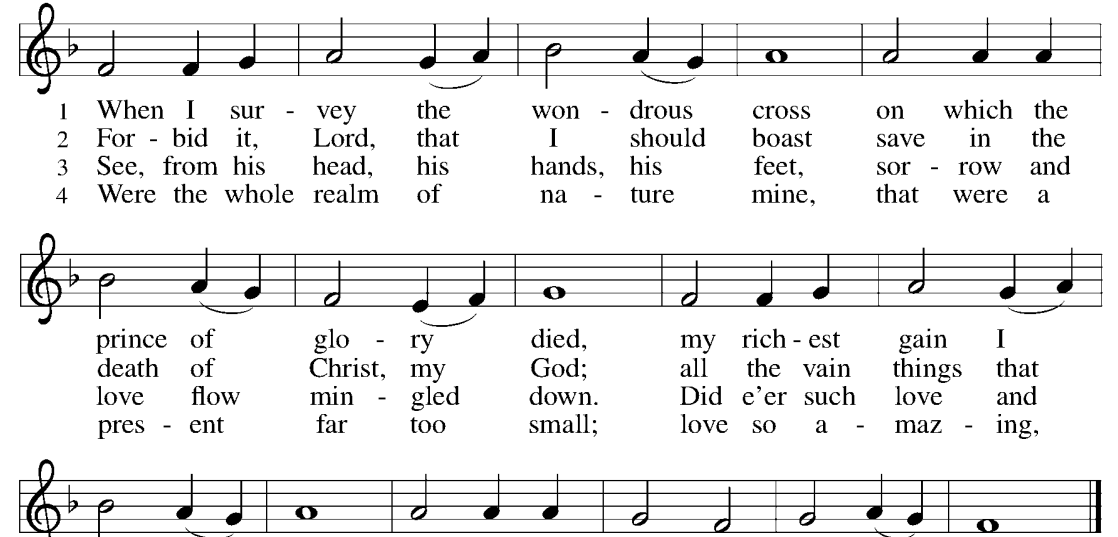
✠ SENDING ✠

### Announcements

### Benediction

May the gracious gifts of the Lord God be upon you always.  
 And may you live in the light of the cross so that  
 it increases the work of your hands and the compassion of your hearts.  
 In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Gathering Song *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* #803



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the  
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a

prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; all the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and  
 pres - ent far too small; love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss and pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.  
 sor - row meet, or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
 Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872  
 Public Domain

### Opening Litany

God's love, given in the cross, is strong and true.  
**It beckons us to walk on with hope in each step,  
 and lures us home with loving acceptance.**

God's love, given in the cross, is everlasting and bold.  
**It sustains us when fear closes in and worry overwhelms us,  
 and also surprises us with glimpses of wonder and bursts of joy.**

God's love, given in the cross, is gentle, yet persistent.  
**It graces us with rest in the midst of busyness,  
 and hounds us to follow the good path.**

God's love, given in the cross, is abundant and uplifting.  
**It dances around us like waves on the shore  
 and dwells in us as a song steeped in praise.**

God's love, given in the cross, is forever.  
**God's love, given in the cross, forever leads us to sing with joy,  
 pray with compassion and live in the light of the resurrection!**

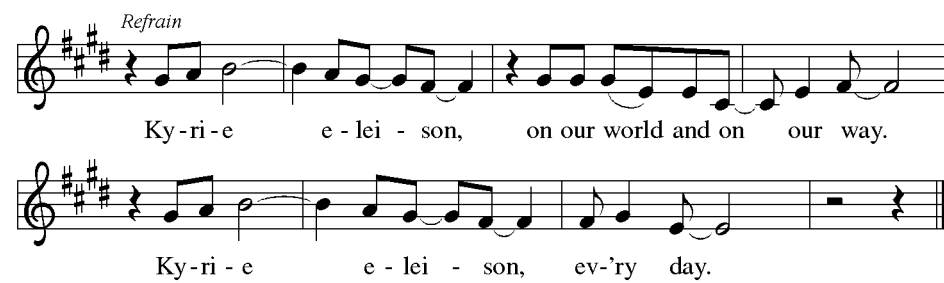
### Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

### Kyrie

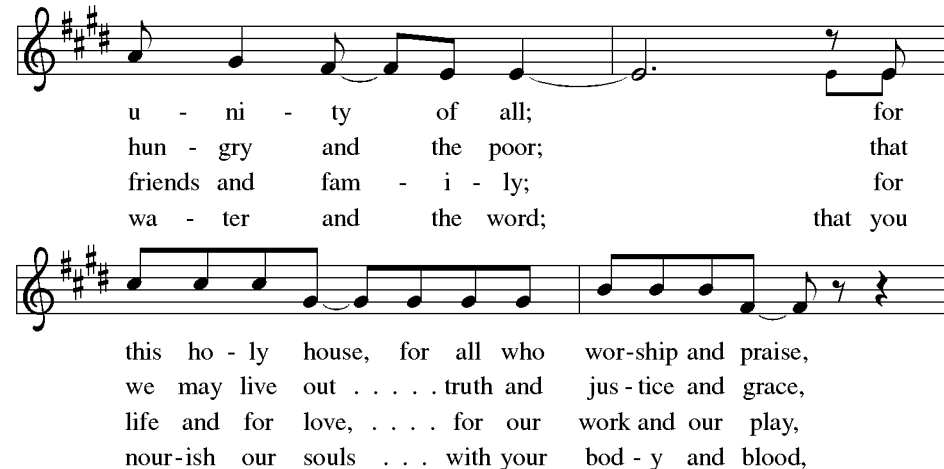
*ELW Setting 8*

*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.  
 Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
 2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the  
 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for  
 4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the




u-ni-ty of all; for  
 hun-gry and the poor; that  
 friends and fam-i-ly; for  
 wa-ter and the word; that you  
 this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
 we may live out . . . truth and jus-tice and grace,  
 life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,  
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

### Distribution Hymn

### *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

#324



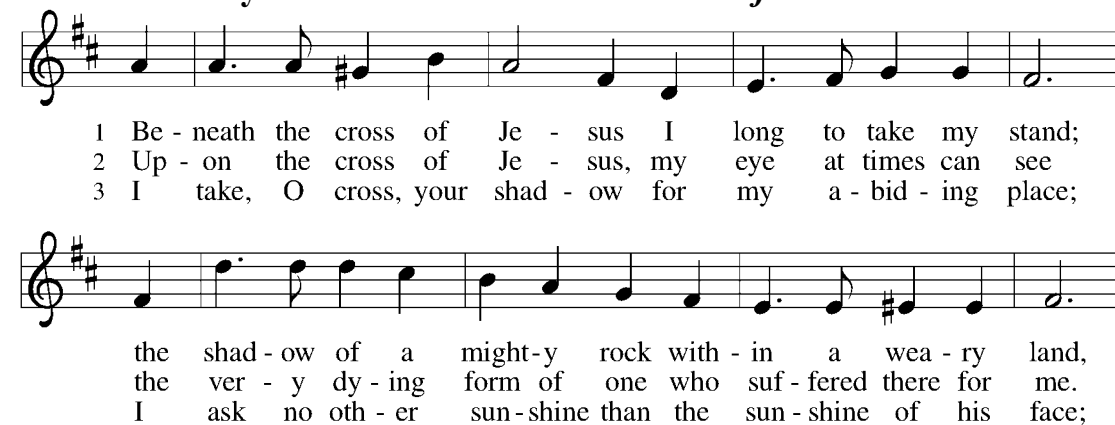
1 In the cross of Christ I glo-ry, tow'r-ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er-take me, hopes de-  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam-ing light and  
 4 Bane and bless-ing, pain and plea-sure, by the  
 o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of  
 ceive, and fears an- noy, nev-er shall the  
 love up-on my way, from the cross the  
 cross are sanc-ti-fied; peace is there that  
 sa-cred sto-ry gath-ers round its head sub-lime.  
 cross for-sake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 ra-diance stream-ing adds more lus-ter to the day.  
 knows no mea-sure, joys that through all time a-bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872  
 Music: Ithamar Conkey, 1815–1867  
 Public Domain

### Distribution Hymn

### *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

#338



1 Be-neath the cross of Je-sus I long to take my stand;  
 2 Up-on the cross of Je-sus, my eye at times can see  
 3 I take, O cross, your shad-ow for my a-bid-ing place;  
 the shad-ow of a might-y rock with-in a wea-ry land,  
 the ver-y dy-ing form of one who suf-fered there for me.  
 I ask no oth-er sun-shine than the sun-shine of his face;

*Hymn continues on the next page.*

Lord’s Prayer

Let us pray together as Jesus taught us...  
**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.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God

ELW Setting 8

Musical notation for Agnus Dei. The lyrics are: Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Distribution

If you are joining us from home or are taking communion from your seat:  
*The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.*  
*The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.*

Refrain  
Musical notation for the Refrain. The lyrics are: let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Hymn of Praise

Praise to You, O God of Mercy

#208

Musical notation for Hymn of Praise. The lyrics are: 1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -  
3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:  
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
3rd time to Coda 1 2  
thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
thanks be to you for - ev - er!  
thanks be to you for -  
Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -  
mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us.  
Coda  
ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: Now the Feast and Celebration, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray... *(A brief silence is kept.)*  
Almighty God,  
**your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross  
so that he might draw the whole world to himself.**  
**To those who look upon the cross,  
grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Presentation of Holy Bibles**

Brothers and sisters in Christ: today we seek God’s blessing  
as we gather with thankfulness to bless the Holy Bibles  
we present to the following young people:  
*(Please come forward as your name is read.)*

<i>Colby Cox</i>	<i>Nash Heesacker</i>
<i>Emma Krohn</i>	<i>Casen Moser</i>
<i>Collins Rasmussen</i>	<i>Tinley Schnoor</i>
<i>Cooper Seier</i>	<i>Nolan Tisthammer</i>
<i>Kristen Weltruski</i>	<i>Ryleigh Young</i>

Let us pray. *(A brief silence is kept.)*  
Almighty and loving God,  
we ask you to bless your Holy Word,  
and particularly these Holy Bibles,  
as we present them to your children.  
May the wonder and mystery of your Word  
be revealed to each of them as they use their Bible  
to study and learn about your amazing love and grace.  
May your Holy Word  
be a continual blessing to them throughout their lives. **Amen.**

**Presentation Litany**

Receive the Word of God.  
**Learn its stories and study its words.**

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.  
We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us  
your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
*Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.*  
*Do this for the remembrance of me.*

Again, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
*This cup is the new covenant in my blood,*  
*shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.*  
*Do this for the remembrance of me.*

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.  
**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
his life-giving passion and death,  
his glorious resurrection and ascension,  
and the promise of his coming again,  
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought but as we are able;  
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving  
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,  
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ  
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,  
may be formed to live as your holy people  
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, **+** Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### Proper Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise  
to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by  
his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### Sanctus

#### *Holy, Holy, Holy*

*ELW Setting 8*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -  
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### Eucharistic Prayer & Words of Institution

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

Its stories belong to us all,  
**and these words speak to us all.**

They tell us who we are.  
**They tell us that we belong to one another,  
for we are the people of God.**

We rejoice in this step in your journey with God.  
**We pray God will guide you, your family, and all of us  
as you use this Holy Bible at home, in worship,  
and in your Sunday School, First Communion,  
and Confirmation classes.**

CP: On behalf of Zion Lutheran Church,  
it is my honor to present you with God's Holy Word.  
May it be a source of comfort, strength, and guidance  
throughout your lives.

Let us pray. *(A brief silence is kept.)*  
Almighty God,  
grant us faith to know your gracious purpose in all things,  
give us joy in doing your will,  
and lead us to the building up of your kingdom.  
May your Word always be a source of  
inspiration, guidance, and strength to those who read it and hear it.  
We ask all this through your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

May we learn together and grow in our love for God's Word.  
**The Word of God is a lamp unto our feet,  
and a light unto our path. Thanks be to God.**

**✠ WORD ✠**

### First Reading

Numbers 21:4b-9

*When the people spoke against God and Moses, the Lord sent poisonous snakes against them. Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord ordered him to erect a serpent of bronze on a pole. All who looked at it after having been bitten by a serpent would live.*

*A reading from Numbers.*

<sup>4b</sup>But the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 98:1-4

*Let us read Psalm 98 responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD,  
who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

**<sup>2</sup>O LORD, you have made known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness  
in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness  
to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth  
have seen the victory of our God.

**<sup>4</sup>Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

*At the heart of the Christian message is the word of the cross. This proclamation seems foolish to many because it reveals true divine power in the absolute weakness of Christ's crucifixion. True wisdom understands how ours is a God who suffers for and with humankind in the cross.*

*A reading from First Corinthians.*

### Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

### ✠ OFFERING ✠

#### Offering Response

#### *We Are an Offering*

#692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text & Music: Dwight Liles, b. 1957  
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### ✠ MEAL ✠

#### Great Thanksgiving

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

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**



A Sustaining God, guide your church on the way.  
Give us patience in our journey, and protect us from division and doubt.  
May we look to the cross and live.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P Creator God, renew the earth.  
Heal our planet from the venom of greed and exploitation,  
and direct us to respect all life as a gift from you.  
May we look to the cross and live.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A God of wisdom, grant discernment to those in authority.  
Thwart the plans of the proud, bring low the mighty,  
and uphold those who work for peace.  
May they seek the way of the cross and live.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P God of grace, alleviate suffering.  
Comfort the sick and the grieving, *especially...*  
Come to the aid of those who are hungry or needing shelter.  
May they find hope in the cross and live.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A Good Shepherd, guide your flock.  
Protect us from the world's lies and lead us in the way of truth.  
Strengthen us in our faith and inspire us to serve others.  
May we follow you to the cross and live.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P Here other intercessions may be offered either aloud or in silence.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

A Merciful God,  
you receive into your loving embrace those who have died.  
Giving thanks for them, may we find comfort in the cross  
and live in the hope of resurrection.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God,  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

<sup>18</sup>For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Alleluia Verse

#174



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker © 1985 Public Domain

### Holy Gospel

John 3:13-17

*After explaining to Nicodemus that one must be born of water and Spirit, Jesus speaks of being lifted up on the cross, with reference to the bronze serpent lifted up by Moses in the desert. Here the Son of God is revealed as the source of healing.*

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Time  
Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day**                      *The Old Rugged Cross*                      TFF #77



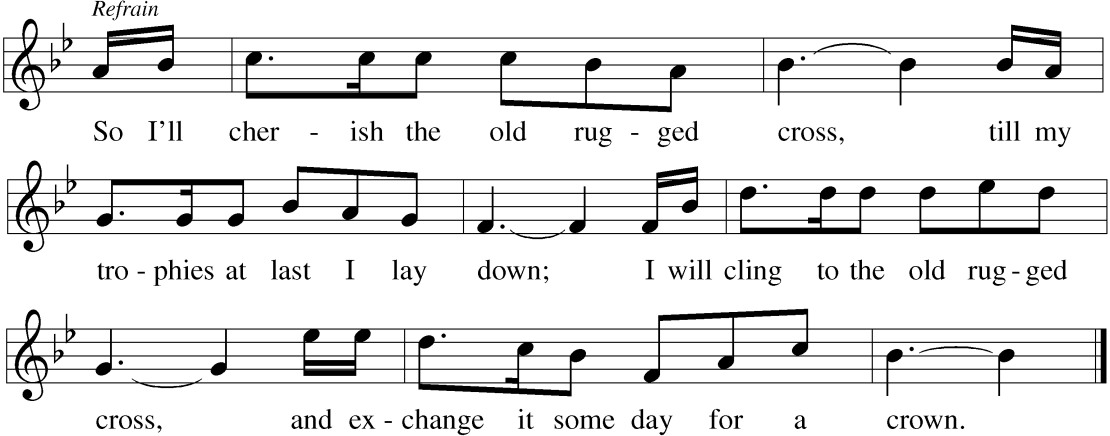
1 On a hill far a - way stood an old rug-ged cross,  
2 Oh, that old rug-ged cross so de - spised by the world,  
3 In the old rug-ged cross, stained with blood so di - vine,  
4 To the old rug-ged cross I will ev - er be true,

the em - blem of suf - f'ring and shame;  
has a won - drous at - trac - tion for me;  
a won - - drous beau - ty I see;  
its shame and re - proach glad - ly bear;

and I love that old cross where the dear - est and best  
for the dear Lamb of God left his glo - ry a - bove,  
for 'twas on that old cross Je - sus suf - fered and died,  
Christ will call me some day to my home far a - way,

for a world of lost sin - ners was slain.  
to . . . bear it to dark Cal - va - ry.  
to . . . par - don and sanc - ti - fy me.  
where his glo - ry for - ev - er I'll share.

*Refrain*



So I'll cher - ish the old rug - ged cross, till my  
tro - phies at last I lay down; I will cling to the old rug - ged  
cross, and ex - change it some day for a crown.

Text & Music: George Bennard, 1873-1958; Public Domain

**Apostles’ Creed**

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith...

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

P Gracious God, we come to you in prayer  
for the church, the world, and all in need.

*(A brief silence is kept.)*