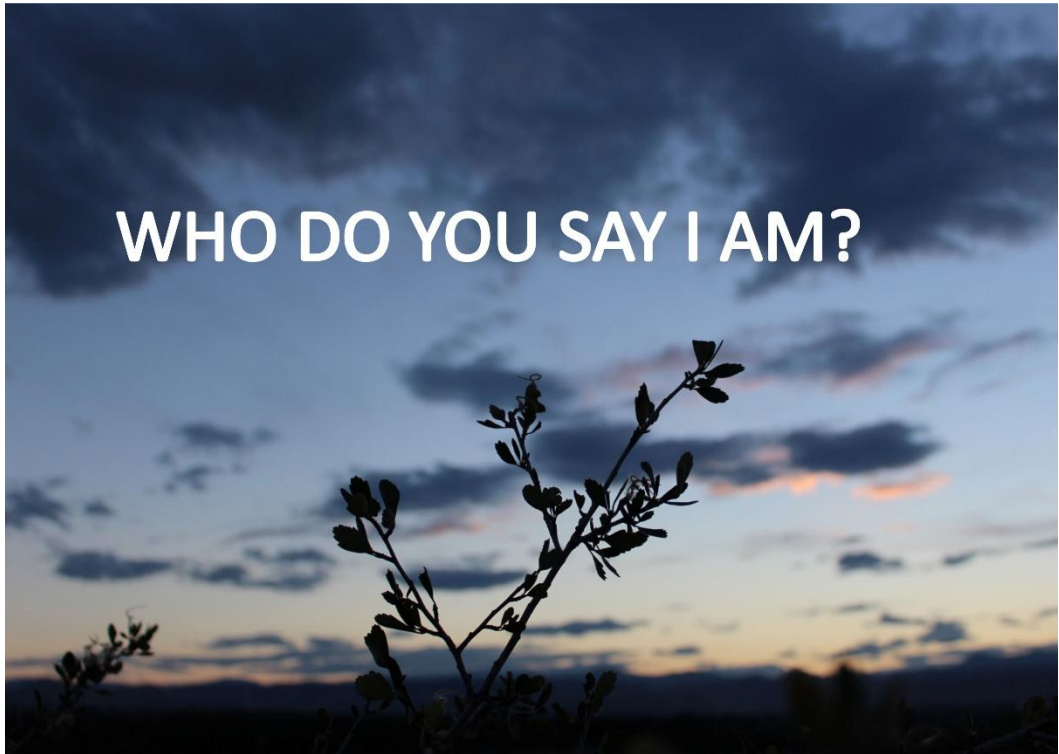


CROSSROADS
Atonement Lutheran Church
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey



July 27, 2025
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



CROSSROADS PARISH



**Proud to be a Reconciling
In Christ Community**

Three Churches, One Big Community In Faith. All Are Welcome



**ATONEMENT
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
New Brighton, MN



**CROSS OF GLORY
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
Mounds View, MN



**IGLESIA LUTERANA
CRISTO REY**
Crossroads Parish

Atonement Lutheran Church

1980 Silver Lake Road NW
New Brighton, MN 55112
651-633-2240
AtonementNB.org
Worship at 10:45am

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

5472 Adams Street
Mounds View, MN 55112
763-784-2528
CrossofGloryMV.org
Worship at 8:30am

Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey

Pastora Ana Becerra
1980 Silver Lake Rd NW
New Brighton, MN 55112
763-225-7079
Servicio en Español al mediodía

THANK YOU TO OUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

Pastor Cassie Nault (on sabbatical)

Pastora Ana Becerra

Ivan Konev – Cross of Glory Accompanist

Matt Verkuilen/ Jon Thomalla – Audio/Visual

Marilyn Goldsworthy/Jaime Verkuilen - Sunday School

Maani Grace – Crossroads Music Coordinator

Deacon Brad Mills

Dawn Saros-Kirk – Office Administrator

Debora Holmes – Atonement Accompanist

Tony Houfek/Alice Sponholz – Audio/Visual

Dani Gow – Youth Group

	9:30 at Atonement
WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Carreen Houfek
LECTOR	Lorna Schultz
USHER/ACOLYTE	Judy Hill
GREETER	TBD
BREAD BAKER	Lynn Miller
COMMUNION SETUP/CLEANUP	Judy Hill
COMMUNION SERVERS	Lorna Schultz, Carreen Houfek, TBD
COUNTERS	ALC: Gwen Blomseth, Bruce Jahnke COG: Gretchen Davis, Bob Reed

We acknowledge that we gather as Atonement and Cross of Glory Lutheran Churches on the traditional land of the Wahpekute, a band of the Dakota and one of the seven groups of Oceti Sakowin, translated as “the Seven Councils Fire”, also referred to as the Great Sioux Nation as well as Anishinaabe people and other indigenous nations who have called this land home. We further acknowledge that both the State of Minnesota and the United States Government carried out genocide, ethnic cleansing, forced removal and broken promises against indigenous people as a way to acquire land. This calls us to commit to learning how to be better stewards of the land and to support indigenous communities.

ORDER OF SERVICE

TRINITY CHIMES

The singing bowl rings out 3 times to remind us we are gathered in the name of the Triune God.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Pastor Cassie is away on her sabbatical, and we continue to keep her in our prayers. A reminder that while she is gone, we can reach out to Pastor Ana Becerra, Deacon Brad, or contact the church office with any questions.

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

Merciful God,

**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.**

**You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.**

**You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,**

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,

and show us the path of life. Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN

"Come, Now is the Time to Worship" vv. 1-2 – Brian Doerksen

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, & the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray,

All: Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us

those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

READING: COLOSSIANS 2:6-15 [16-19]

⁶As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

[¹⁶Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths. ¹⁷These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, initiatory visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God.]

Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138 (Please read responsively)

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods will sing your praise.

²**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;**

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Thy Word” – Grant, Smith

Chorus Only

GOSPEL: MARK 8:22-30

The Holy gospel according to Mark.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²² They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. ²³ He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “Can you see anything?” ²⁴ And the man looked up and said, “I can see people, but they look like trees, walking.” ²⁵ Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again, and he looked intently, and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶ Then he sent him away to his home, saying, “Do not even go into the village.”

²⁷ Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸ And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹ He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰ And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Tony Jones

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God” vv. 1-3

WOV 783

Please stand as you are able.

APOSTLES’ CREED

L: And now we confess our faith together in the words of the “Apostles’ Creed”.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION (Response after each petition.)

L: God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

SHARING OF PEACE

L: May the peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you.

L: Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Offertory Music: "Give Me Jesus" vv. 1-5

ELW 770

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

page 153 ELW

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us now pray the Lord's Prayer in whatever language is most familiar.

All: Our Father...

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"It Is Well" vv. 1-2 – Kristene DiMarco

"Down to the River to Pray"

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ☩ bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" Sing 3X

ELW 752

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today	9:30 – Worship at Atonement 10am – FCC at Atonement LL Noon – Cristo Rey Worship at Atonement
Monday	8am – Crossroads Bible Study at Atonement
Thursday	1pm – Game Day at Atonement 4:30 - Bible Junk Book Journaling at Cross of Glory
Friday	5pm – New Birth at Cross of Glory
Saturday	9am – Mount of Blessings at Atonement 9am - New Birth at Cross of Glory
Sunday	9:30 – Worship at Atonement 10am – FCC at Atonement LL <u>Noon – Cristo Rey Worship at Atonement</u>

WELCOME AND THANK YOU to Tony Jones for joining us today! Tony Jones is the author of *The God of Wild Places* and contributing writer to several outdoor periodicals. He's written a dozen books, including *Did God Kill Jesus?* and *The Sacred Way: Spiritual Practices for Everyday Life*, developed the iPhone app, hosts the Reverend Hunter Podcast, and teaches at Fuller Theological Seminary and The Loft Literary Center. He writes a weekly newsletter on Substack. Tony is a sought-after speaker and consultant in the areas of emerging church, postmodernism and Christian spirituality, writing and the outdoors. He served as a consultant on the television show *The Path*, and he owns an event planning company, *Crucible Creative*. He holds an A.B. from Dartmouth College, and M.Div. from Fuller Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary

“THE GOD OF WILD PLACES” by Tony Jones – BOOKS FOR SALE

A pastor walks out of the church and into the woods, in pursuit of the God he's lost.

Millions of Americans, disillusioned with organized religion, yearn for meaning and transcendence in their lives, and many of them are finding that in nature. When pastor and theologian Tony Jones, Ph.D., had his crisis of faith, brought on by personal trauma and broken relationships, he sought solace in the outdoors - paddling a canoe, hunting with his dog, butchering deer.

When he walked out of the church and into the woods, he left the orderly pews and numbered hymns for chaotic spaces and untamed wilderness. And he re-discovered God — a God who brings peace in the midst of storms, a God who lives in the community of our fellow creatures, a God who's acquainted with death. This is the God of wild places.

In *The God of Wild Places*, Tony mines his own experiences, recent research in evolutionary psychology, and ancient wisdom from various spiritual and philosophical traditions to fashion lessons about solitude, the predator-prey relationship, the importance of place, risk, failure, and death, and the chaotic presence of God.

CSC WALK TODAY! – The Walk a Mile for Your Neighbor fundraiser for the Community Support Center is today from 9am – 1pm at Silver View Park in Mounds View. Walking is FREE! There is a short route of about .2 miles and a longer route around the lake that's one mile. For every mile walked, \$10 moves from a pool of donated funds to be listed as a contribution from our churches. If you make a contribution to the Community Support Center, you will be entered for a chance to win one of three \$100 Visa gift cards. Walk with your family, dog, friends or neighbors and enjoy a walk around the pond.

MEMBER PRESALE & S'MORE WORSHIP – Come for the Crossroads' Members Only **Presale at 5:30pm**, Wednesday, August 5. Then stay for our last summer **S'more worship at 6:30pm**. Bring a chair and sit outside by the campfire for worship. S'more supplies provided.

ABIDING SAVIOR VBS - You're invited to Abiding Savior's Community Vacation Bible School July 28 - August 1 from 9AM - noon. Children ages 3 (potty-trained) through those entering 5th grade this fall are eligible to register for a morning of music, stories, games, crafts, friends and fun! This is a FREE program for all. Also, kids 6th grade & up can volunteer to help too! Register at abidingsavior.org.

2025 SUMMER STRETCH AUGUST 5-8. Summer Stretch is a multi-church day-camp for youth entering 6th to completed 12th grades. **Cost:** 3 ways to stretch your summer:

-Full 3-day + 1 day @ Nickelodeon Universe on Fri - **\$200**

-3-day (NO Nickelodeon Universe) - **\$150**

-Nickelodeon Universe ONLY - **\$50**

See Deacon Brad or Dawn Saros-Kirk about registering.

SUMMER PARADES! There's a sign-up sheet in the narthex if you'd like to participate in either or both of our local parades. New Brighton's Stockyard Days Parade is Saturday, August 9 at 10am. Mounds View's Festival in the Park Parade is Friday, August 15 at 7pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Our Sunday School program needs your help on the following dates: **September 21, September 28, October 19, November 9, November 16 and December 7.** If you can help, please contact Marilyn Goldsworthy, Deacon Brad, or Dawn Saros-Kirk.

JUMBO SALE DATES – Collection is done and now the organizing begins. The dates of the sale: August 7, 9am – 7pm ; August 8, 9am – 5pm; August 9, 9am – Noon (Bag Sale!). If you can, we can use volunteers to help during the sale.

SUMMER WATER BLESSINGS – Don't forget to pick up a vial(s) to fill with water from your adventures this summer. The vials are in a basket in each narthex.

FROM SCRATCH: ONE TABLE - You are invited to Shobi's Table annual fundraiser! Come and gather to support our pay-as-you-can food truck, one of the Synod's mission development sites. Together we will celebrate how the Shobi's Table community invites everyone around one table to experience God's Love. Thursday, September 25th, Social Hour begins at 4:30pm & dinner served at 5:30pm at Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church, 1669 Arcade Ave, St. Paul. RSVP at shobistable.org/give/scratch/

WOMEN OF THE ELCA – The St. Paul Area Women's Synodical Organization invites you to their annual Bible Study Enrichment previewing the 2025-26 bible studies from the *Gather Magazine* with bible study leader Pastor Carrie Stiles. Saturday, September 20, 2025 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in North St. Paul from 9am – 12pm followed by lunch. All women are welcome! Registration and more information to follow soon. *The mission of Women of the ELCA is to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.*