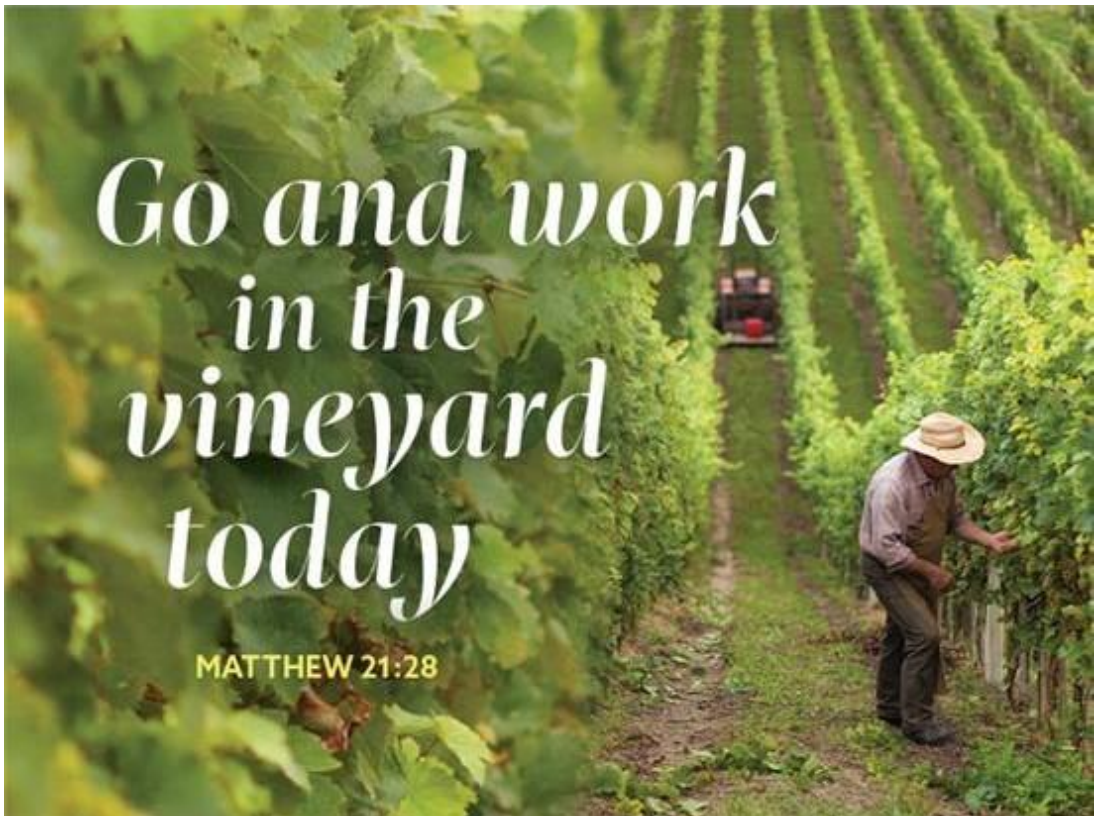


CROSSROADS

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



September 27, 2026
18th 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

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



**ATONEMENT
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
New Brighton, MN



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



**IGLESIA LUTERANA
CRISTO REY**
Crossroads Parish

Pastor Cassie Nault

Pastora Ana Becerra

Ivan Konev – Cross of Glory Accompanist

Matt Verkuilen/ Jon Thomalla – Audio/Visual

Dani Gow – Youth Group

Intern Pastor Brad Mills

Dawn Saros-Kirk – Office Administrator

Debora Holmes – Atonement Accompanist

Tony Houfek/Alice Sponholz – Audio/Visual

Maani Grace – Crossroads Music Coordinator

	8:30 Cross of Glory	10:45 Atonement
Worship Assistant (WA)	Gretchen Davis	Carreen Houfek
Lector	Kolleen Olsen	Vicki Klaers
Usher	Paula Reed/Jillian Emerson	Carol Hoiby
Acolyte	Helena Mills	Carol Hoiby
Greeter	Linda Radtke/George Emerson	Carol Tilden
Bread Baker	Shelly Markham	Andrea Weatherly
Communion Setup/Cleanup	Kolleen Olsen	Carol Hoiby
Communion Servers	Gretchen Davis, Shelly Markham	Carreen Houfek, Vicki Klaers
Counters	Allan Alt, Gretchen Davis	Tony Houfek, Royce King
Coffee Setup/Cleanup		
Treats/Kitchen Setup/Cleanup	Iva Mills/	Bonnie Anderson

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

(ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship cranberry hymnal; ACS = All Creation Sings)

Welcome! We are so glad you joined us today. Whether you are visiting for the first time or are a regular in worship, our prayer is that you feel God's love and find peace during our time together.

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

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

All: Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection.

Compassionate God,

All: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness

in the world and in our own hearts.

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

Renew us to live as your holy people,

following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

"Gather Us In" vv. 1-4

ELW 532

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

All: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

READING: EZEKIEL 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³ As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

READING: PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:23-32

The Holy gospel according to Matthew.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

The gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Cassie Nault

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" vv. 1-3

ELW 517

APOSTLES' CREED

WA: Please stand as you are able as 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 THE PEOPLE *(Response after each petition)*

WA: Lord, in your mercy.

All: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

You are invited to shake hands, make a peace sign or greet each other in whatever way you're comfortable.

This is the sign of setting aside divisions among us to prepare to receive the Lord's supper.

Please be seated.

OFFERING

Offertory Music: "God of the Fertile Fields" vv. 1-4, led by Maani Grace

ACS 1063

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

page 152 ELW

"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

“O God of Mercy, God of Light” vv. 1-4, *Hymn of the Month*

ELW 714

“Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am” – Repeat until communion is completed

ELW 814

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

BENEDICTION

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow” vv. 1-4

ELW 893

DISMISSAL

WA: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

This Week at Atonement & Cross of Glory:

Today	8:30 – Worship at Cross of Glory 9:30 – Youth Group/Cross Generational Sunday School at Cross of Glory 10:45 – Worship at Atonement Noon – Cristo Rey at Atonement 3pm – FCC at Atonement
Monday	8am – Crossroads Bible Study at Atonement 1pm – Kitchen Kut Ups at Atonement 2pm – Puzzles at Atonement in the Fellowship Hall 6pm – Girl Scouts at Atonement
Tuesday	12pm – Synod Meeting at Atonement 6pm – Zumba at Atonement
Wednesday	6:00 – Atonement Choir Rehearsal in the choir room 6:30 – Blessing of the Animals at Atonement
Thursday	1pm – Game Day at Atonement 3pm – Marnie Thies Violin Lessons at Cross of Glory 6pm – Joint Council Meeting at Atonement
Friday	5pm - New Birth at Cross of Glory
Saturday	9am – Mount of Blessings at Atonement 9am – New Birth at Cross of Glory
Sunday	8:30 – Worship at Cross of Glory 9:30 – Youth Group in the Multi-Purpose Room 9:30 - Sunday School in the Choir Room 9:30 – Cross of Glory Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 10am – FCC at Atonement LL 10:45 – Worship at Atonement <u>Noon – Cristo Rey at Atonement</u>

Welcome back Maani! We welcome back Maani Grace, our Crossroads Music Coordinator after her summer leave of absence! A reminder that Maani's role includes selecting music for worship, scheduling special music, and coordinating our choirs and ensembles. Thank you to Matt and Jaime Verkuilen, who have stepped up to fill in during Maani's absence. Matt and Jaime will continue to lead in the coming month as Maani gets settled in. If you'd like to volunteer to provide special music or to lead hymns on occasion, please contact Maani.

The Community Support Center's Walk a Mile for Our Neighbors is today at Silver View Park in Mounds View. Stop by after church with your friends, family and dogs and walk around the pond (there's also a shorter 0.2 mi route available) and get a sticker at check points along the way. Enjoy a free hot dog after the walk.

Blessing of the Animals is at 6:30pm this Wednesday, September 30 at Atonement. All leashed and well-behaved pets are welcome!

Burn the Mortgage! Now that both Atonement and Cross of Glory have paid off their first mortgages, on Sunday, October 4, we're celebrating with a symbolic mortgage burning after each service.

Cross Generational Sunday School – Children and adults are welcome to join us at 9:30 in Cross of Glory's choir room as we learn about God's Grace and never-ending love for humanity and share and build relationships.

Trunk or Treat – Mark your calendars for Trunk or Treat October 22 at Cross of Glory. We are currently accepting candy donations or monetary donations to purchase groceries for the community meal. Look for the cauldron outside the offices to donate candy and drop monetary donations in the offering marked "Trunk or Treat". Thank you!

Share the Joy of Baking this Holiday Season – Join us in spreading warmth and joy this holiday season by creating Holiday Baking Bags for Ralph Reeder to distribute to families. Suggested items include: flour, white sugar, brown sugar, oil, chocolate chips, vanilla, baking powder and baking soda. Add a personal touch by including your favorite cookie recipe or add sprinkles, cookie cutters, measuring cups, etc. You can donate a complete Holiday Baking Bag or individual items.

The Holidale Boutique at Atonement is Saturday, November 7. Please share our vendor application with any of your crafty friends and family. Applications are in the narthex at both churches. Flyers and signup sheets will be out soon. Workshop dates have been scheduled. All are welcome to help:

Saturday, October 31 – Lefse Workshop

Thursday, November 5 - Wild Rice Workshop

Friday, November 6 – Caramel Roll Workshop

TBD - Apple Pie Workshop

October Hospitality and Ministry Assistants – A Signup Genius link will go out with the October newsletter for the Hospitality and Ministry Assistant schedule. Virginia Braunwarth, Carol Hoiby, Royce King, Andrea Weatherly and Becky Redding will continue to schedule hospitality and ministry assistants so continue to let them know your availability. The Signup Genius will assist us in filling in the gaps where help is still needed.

Growing Through Loss – This series provides an opportunity to obtain information and support on a variety of loss and grief issues. This week's session is September 28, "The Power of Staying in Your Story", with Annie Lumbar Bendson, Director of Health Services for Minnetonka Public Schools. Each session is held at The Church of St. William in Fridley at 7pm. Brochures can be found in the narthex at both churches.

Hospitality and Ministry Assistants

Listed below is a brief overview of hospitality and worship assistant roles. If you are interested, we will provide training. Please see Dawn with any questions.

Worship Assistant: Read the Prayers of the People, Lord's Prayer, Sharing of the Peace, and the Dismissal. All readings are provided for you. Will also assist with serving communion on communion Sundays.

Lector: Reads the bible lessons of the day. (At Atonement, will assist with serving communion.)

Usher: Greet and hand out bulletins and seat people if needed. Coordinate the offering. Release rows for communion. Prior to service, make sure all the ministry assistants are available and finds a replacement if someone is not at church.

Acolyte: Light the altar candles and Christ Candle(if needed) prior to service beginning. At the end of service, snuff out the candles.

Greeter: Welcome people as they enter church. If someone is new, introduce yourself and help them find a bulletin and a seat.

Bread Baker: Makes the communion bread once a month. Each loaf makes 4 rounds. Recipe is provided for you.

Communion Setup/Cleanup: Sets up the communion trays with wine & juice, bread, gluten-free wafers and Teddy Grahams for kids. Can set it up prior to Sunday morning or early before service begins. After service, clean up the communion trays and put supplies away.

Communion Servers: Assist clergy with serving communion.

Counters: Always need 2 counters. Collect the offering plates and count and record all monies received on a contribution report, prepare bank deposit, drop deposit at bank overnight box. Scan the contribution reports to the treasurer and office administrator.

Coffee Setup/Cleanup – Prior to service, prepare the coffee maker and set up the supplies for coffee (cups, sugar, creamer, etc.). After fellowship, clean the coffee maker and put away the supplies. Assist with loading cups into dishwasher and cleanup if needed.

Treats & Kitchen Setup/Cleanup: Bring treats to share and get them ready for fellowship time. Put out napkins and plates, etc. After fellowship, put away supplies, load the dishwasher, wipe down the counters and tables.

AV: Run the computers for the slides during service. All slides are prepared for you.