HOLY CROSS DAY

September 14, 2025 9:00 am





5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718-2761 608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net www.burkelutheran.org

"Preach. Teach. Reach"

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Please rise.

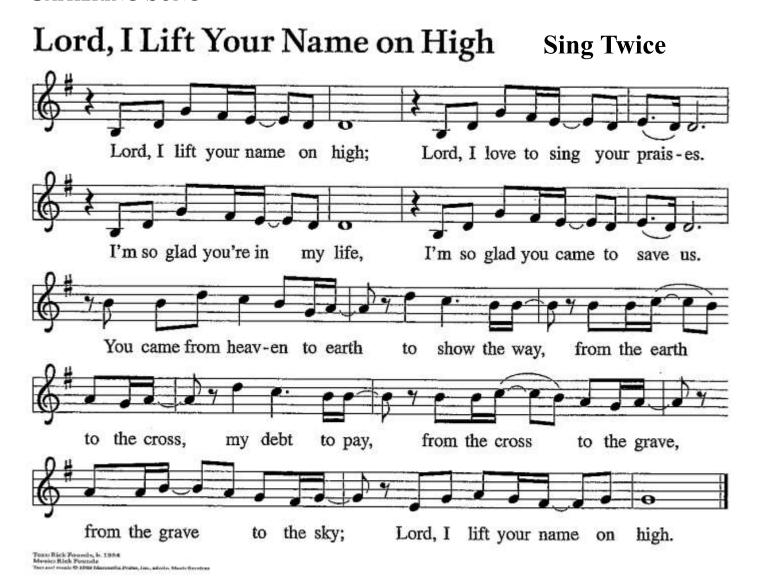
CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Merciful and loving God,
- C we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.
- P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven!
- C Amen.





GREETING

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

Prayer of the Day

C 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.

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.

- From Mount Horeb the Israelites set out, ^{4b} but the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ 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." ⁶ Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. ⁷ 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. ⁸ 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." ⁹ 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.
- R The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 98:1-4

- R Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- C ²O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- R ³ 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.
- C ⁴ 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.

- R 18 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. 19 For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." 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? 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. 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, 3 but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 4 but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.
- R The word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE



- P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

- P Jesus said: ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ "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. ¹⁷ "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."
- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

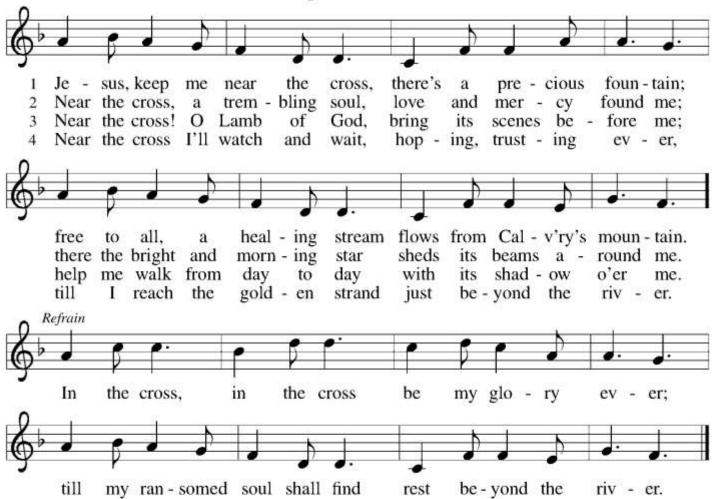
SERMON

Pastor Bryan Lagerstam

Please rise.



Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1830-1915 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832-1915

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

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 INTERCESSION

- P Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence*.
- R 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,

C receive our prayer.

R 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,

C receive our prayer.

R 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,

C receive our prayer.

R 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,

C receive our prayer.

P God of grace, alleviate suffering. Comfort the sick and the grieving especially Lisa, Mark, Marie, Tim, Bill, Pat, Mary, Jeff L., Chris, Paul, Diane W., Tom, Sara, Jeff H., Mani, Darrell, Jarod, Diane M., Lynn, Steve and Sandy, and all those we name upon our lips or in our hearts. Come to the aid of those who are hungry or needing shelter. May they find hope in the cross and live. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

P 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,

C receive our prayer.

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

C Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you. (Greet one another with God's peace.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.

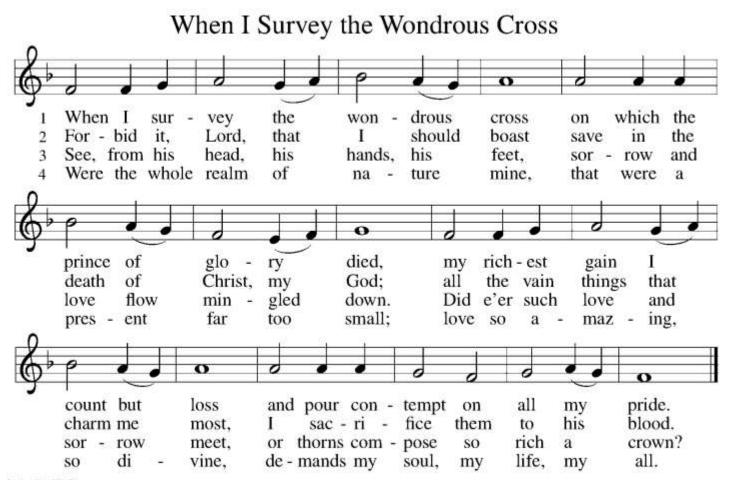
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION & HYMNS



Text: base Wats, 1674-1748 Manie: HAMBURG, Lewell Mason, 1792-1972

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830–1869 Music: ST. CHRISTOPHER, Frederick C. Maker, 1844–1927

Please rise.

COMMUNION BLESSING

- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P 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.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever.

C Amen.



Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Email Scam:

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
- C Thanks be to God.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

IF YOU ARE VISITING TODAY: Thank you for joining us at Burke for worship and fellowship! Please sign a card in the pew and/or the visitor book in the narthex.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

We teach that Jesus is truly present in the bread and the wine. All are invited to the table to share God's grace. Grape juice is available in the center of the tray for those who desire it, as well as gluten-free wafers.

Please fill out a communion card and place it in the offering plate if you are communing today.

OUR STAFF

Pastor

Bryan Lagerstam 309-236-7334 Bryan.lagerstam@gmail.com

Administrative Secretary

Laura Steig 608-244-8486 burkelutheran@att.net

Maintenance EngineerColin Hamrick

PRAYERS & CARES

A Nursery (Youth Room) for children under six is located down the hallway near the church offices. Activity bags are available in the Narthex for children at worship.

Our Prayer List: Contact the church office with prayer concerns. Unless otherwise advised, names remain on our list for four weeks.

Lynn Holtan (friend of Roger Kittleson)

Steve and Sandy Davidson (friends of Roger Kittleson)

Lisa Thompson Mark Gehrke Marie McCoy Mary Brantmeyer Tim Lothe Pat McCallum Bill Schmidt Chris McFarlin Paul Fritz Diane Wendt Tom Finhert Sara Cross Jeff Larson Jeff Hildebrand Mani Lancaster Darren Hauck Diane McFarlin Jarod Lyle

CALL TO ACTION

September Food Pantry Focus: September focus is "Lunch Box," such as Peanut butter, jams, jellies, single serve packages items, etc. Please place your non-perishable goods in the 'Donations' basket in the entryway and it will be delivered to the pantry.

Birthday Bags for River Food Pantry.

List of contents and bags are located in the entryway.

Bulletin Announcements: Bulletin deadline is noon on Tuesdays. Send them to burkelutheran@att.net or drop them off at the office.

Hospitalized?: Please let the hospital staff know you are a member of Burke Lutheran Church so we are notified.

Congregational Opportunities

QUILTING: Will be on hiatus during Lefse making.

LEFSE MAKING: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00am through Tuesday, October 14.

Band Practice: Monday before Praise Sunday at 10:00am.

OWLs: Wednesdays at 1:30pm.

JAM at NGMLC: Every Wednesday at 6:30pm.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION?

If you've changed your contact information in the past few years — if you've moved, dropped your land line, changed your email to get rid of all that annoying spam you were getting, got a new job, got married, got divorced, etc., please let the church office know at 244-8486 or burkelutheran@att.net. Thank you for helping us keep our database up to date!

To Cemetery Association members (all members of the congregation):

If you use the water hydrant by the Parsonage to water flowers, this affects you. A problem with the water distribution system outside the parsonage means that the water hydrant will be disconnected. The Cemetery Board decided not to replace the hydrant because of the cost. Once the hydrant is removed, please bring water in your own containers. We will let you know when another water source is available.

Please call Barb Hennings at 608.445.0566 if you have questions.

Light of Life & Sunday Bulletin Articles

If you have news you'd like to see in the Sunday bulletin announcements and/or Light of Life newsletter:

- 1. Email your submissions to burkelutheran@att.net (please indicate in the subject line whether it is for the bulletin, LOL or both), or
- 2. Mail to church, 5720 Portage Rd, Madison, WI 53718, or
- 3. Turn it into the church office.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Tuesdays

LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 20th of the month

THIS WEEK AT BURKE

Tuesday, September 16	Lefse, 8:00am	
Wednesday, September 17		OWLs, 1:30pm
		JAM, 6:30pm
Thursday, September 18	Lefse, 8:00am	
Sunday, September 21	Worship, 9:00am	

WORSHIP LEADERS

	September 14 - 9:00am Service	September 21 - 9:00am Service
Organist/Pianist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist
Music Leaders	Chris Grefe	Chris Grefe
	Dave Wisner	Dave Wisner
Communion Asst	Jean Schnick	Barb Hennings
Communion Prep	Jeannette Gehrke	Jean Schnick
Lay Reader	Cheryl Beckman	Barb Hennings
Usher Team	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Steve & Donna Frederick
Coffee Hour	Donuts	Donuts
Counters	Deb Brown Gloria Lundquist	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK