

HOLY CROSS DAY

September 14, 2025 9:00 am



5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718-2761
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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.**



GATHERING SONG

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High Sing Twice

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your prais-es. I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heav-en to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high." The score consists of five lines of music, each corresponding to a line of lyrics. The final line ends with a double bar line.

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your prais-es.
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.
You came from heav-en to earth to show the way, from the earth
to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave,
from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Tune: Rick Founds, b. 1954
Music: Rick Founds
Text and music © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., All rights reserved

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.

Please be seated.

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.

R 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

Psalms 98:1-4

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

C ² **O 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.” ²⁰ 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? ²¹ 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, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ 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.**

Please rise.

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



1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
 2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
 3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
 4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,



free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
 there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
 help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
 till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain



In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;



till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

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.**

Please be seated.

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.*)

Please rise.

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

C **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

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross



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, 1674-1749
Music: HAMBURG, Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Beneath the Cross of Jesus



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;



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: 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.**

SENDING SONG

He Is Exalted

Words and Music by
Twila Paris

VERSE



He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high, I will praise Him.
You are ex - alt - ed, O God you're ex - alt - ed on high. I will praise you.



He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise His name!
You are ex - alt - ed, O God you're ex - alt - ed, and I will praise your name!

CHORUS



He is the Lord, for - ev - er His truth shall reign. Heav - en and earth re -
You are the Lord, for - ev - er your truth shall reign. Heav - en and earth re -



joice in His ho - ly name. He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high! _____
joice in your ho - ly name. You are ex - alt - ed, O God you're ex - alt - ed on high!

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 Engineer

Colin 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

Mary Brantmeyer

Bill Schmidt

Diane Wendt

Jeff Larson

Darren Hauck

Mark Gehrke

Tim Lothe

Chris McFarlin

Tom Finhert

Jeff Hildebrand

Jarod Lyle

Marie McCoy

Pat McCallum

Paul Fritz

Sara Cross

Mani Lancaster

Diane McFarlin

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 Dave Wisner	Chris Grefe 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

Sunday 9:00am	Total	65
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