

God's Work Our Hands Sunday



September 8, 2024

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

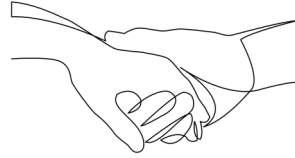
Brooklyn Center, MN



We are **CALLED**



We are called to **LIFE**



We are called to life **TOGETHER**

*Welcome to Cross of Glory, where we work to share in the joy of life **together!** If you're visiting, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card in your pew and put it in the offering plates so we can further extend a welcome.*

Gathering

PRELUDE

CoG Kids

WELCOME

Kris Simon

BLESSING OF THE HANDS

Barbara Sahr & Renee Dahl

Leader: Blessed be the hands here today--hands reaching, longing, clinging, weary, open.

All: Blessed be the hands that open doors.

L: Blessed be the hands that prepare meals.

A: Blessed be the hands that wash dishes and clean floors.

L: Blessed be the hands that tend to ailing bodies and comfort the dying.

A: Blessed be the hands that make music and art.

L: Blessed be the hands raised in protest against that which does harm.

A: Blessed be the hands that greet strangers.

L: Blessed be the hands that count money, determine budgets, steward gifts.

A: Blessed be the hands that write papers and carry books.

L: Blessed be the hands that fix broken things.

A: Blessed be the hands that hold the aged and the young.

L: Blessed be the hands that make beautiful and nutritious things grow in the dirt.

A: Blessed be the hands that learn the way of justice.

L: Blessed be the hands that share peace.

A: Blessed be our hands, that they might do the work of God.

Amen.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

•**Potluck Brunch** - All are welcome to a time of food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following worship!

•**Pastor Peter Samuelson** - Pastor Peter will have office hours on Wednesdays 9-1, and will be available to meet by appointment. Reach out to the office to connect!

•**Bible Study** - The CoG Bible Study will meet with Pastor Peter in September and October. We'll explore the texts assigned for the upcoming Sunday, and will gather on Wednesdays at 9:30 am, both onsite and online via Zoom.

•**Godly Play** - Kids of all ages are invited to join us for Godly Play--a time of imaginative storytelling during a portion of worship--on Sept 15. Future Godly Play activities are scheduled for the First Sunday of the month.

•**Game Day**— The next game day is scheduled for Thursday September 19, 2024, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, in the fellowship hall. All are welcome. Treats will be provided. School is in session so we will need to be done at 3:00 pm.

•**Garden Harvest Table** - Food grown in CoG's community gardens is being shared at our Garden Harvest Table, by the Welcome Desk. Each Sunday through the rest of the growing season, help yourself to some produce, and/or bring some food from your own gardens to share!

•**Art Gallery** - Celebrating Life Together! The art and photos are hung and beautiful! Make sure to stop by and take a look. A special thanks to Keith Williams and Renee Dahl for the beautiful mixed media confirmation project titled "The Last Supper."

•**Bishop's Installation** - All are welcome to the installation of Rev. Jen Nagel as Bishop of the Minneapolis Area Synod on Sat, Sept 21 at 10:30 am at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis. Visit <https://mpls-synod.org/> for more info.

•**Pastoral Care & Visitation** - If you're in need of care, prayer, or conversation, reach out to the office to be connected with the pastor or our Care & Visitation Team. We also invite you to stop by our Community Prayer Wall located just outside the sanctuary.

The Hands, Hearts, & Voices Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik
Interim Pastor: Rev. Peter Samuelson
Reflection: Keith Williams
Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams
Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease
Vocalists: Becca Floyd, Erik Haugland, Kris Simon
Guitars: Steve Sebald, Josh Smith
Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Dawn Bailey, Bill Bailey
Processional Cross: Isak & Katherine Tranvik
Altar Candles: Milo & Theo Smith & Tom Simon

Greeters: Marcy Hartlage, Carol Stejskal & CoG kids
Reader: Arlene Kosek
Prayers of the People: Mike McClanahan, Laura McClanahan, Erik Haugland, Isak Tranvik, and Carolyn Davis
Children's Message: Kris Simon
Ushers: Cheryl Anderson, Don Halverson, Josh Day, Gayle Merritt & CoG kids
Fellowship: Dave Hengel, Dan Jacobson
Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

MUSIC

God's Work, Our Hands

#1000

*** Please stand as you are able ***

Verse 1

God's work, our hands:
Working together,
building a future,
repairing the world,
raising up homes,
planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and
shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands
as we work in your name,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.

Verse 2

God's work, our feet:
trav'ling together,
following Jesus
to places unknown,
walking as friends,
marching for freedom,
running the race
with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet
as we follow your way,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.

*** You may be seated ***

Verse 3

God's work, our voice:
Singing together,
praising, proclaiming
to all who will hear,
praying for peace,
shouting for justice,
claiming God's love
for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in
your name,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.

Verse 4

God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting
and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free,
humbled and honored,
gifted by grace,
we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives
as we answer your call,
sharing the good news
of your gospel.



WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

Please join us in lifting up these brothers and sisters in prayer:

*Mavis Wold
Norma Gilbertson
Audrey Swanberg
Jeannie Kuzmich*

*Eric Thompson & family
Martha Krueger
Dolores Narey
John Rowley*

*Lois Tollefsrud
Friends and family of
Dick Mero*

*To be added or removed from the weekly prayer list, please contact the church office
(office@crossofglory.us) or call 763-533-8602.*

*You are welcome to stop at our community prayer wall just outside the sanctuary to
place a written prayer in the wall. Further instructions are at the prayer wall.*

Word

LESSON

Ephesians 2:8-22

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

Leader: The word of the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Keith Williams

MUSIC

Open Hands

Frye/Silverberg

Verse 1
I'll never catch Your light
Living with knuckles white,
Keeping my fists held tight.
I'll never touch Your heart
Or take in all You are
Trying to hide my scars.
I'm letting go of holding on.

Chorus
Here I am with open hands.
I have nothing left to prove.
God, I give it all to You.
Empty me of ev'rything
'Til there's nothing left but You.
I just want to live for
You with open hands,
Open hands, with open hands,
Open hands.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chellie Sebald

MUSIC

This Little Gospel Light of Mine

CoG kids

Verse 1

This little Gospel light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine (hey, hey, hey)
This little Gospel light of mine, I'm going
to let it shine (hey, hey, hey)
This little Gospel light of mine, I'm going
to let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine all the time.

Everywhere I go,
I'm going to let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine all the time.

Verse 2

Everything I say,
I'm going to let it shine (hey, hey, hey)
Everything I do,
I'm going to let it shine (hey, hey, hey)

Verse 3

This little Gospel light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine (hey, hey, hey)
This little Gospel light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine (hey, hey, hey)
This little Gospel light of mine,
I'm going to let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine all the time.

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace. Be the hands of Christ in the world.
ALL: We will. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

MUSIC CREDITS

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MUSIC

We Are An Offering

Chorus 1

We lift our voices,
 We lift our hands,
 We lift our lives up to You.
 We are an offering.
 Lord, use our voices,
 Lord, use our hands,
 Lord, use our lives, they are Yours.
 We are an offering. *(Repeat)*

Bridge

All that we have,
 All that we are,
 All that we hope to be,
 We give to You,
 We give to You.

Chorus 2

We lift our voices,
 We lift our hands,
 We lift our lives up to You,
 We are an offering.
 We are an offering.

Liles

Verse 2

I'm finally giving up.
 I'm placing all my trust
 Into a higher love.
 You're dreaming bigger dreams.
 You have a plan for me,
 And though I cannot see: *(Chorus)*

Bridge

My hands for Your glory,
 My hands for Your glory,

Lifted high, lifted high to You.
 My life for Your glory,
 My life for Your glory,
 All of me all, of me for You. *(Repeat)*
(Chorus)

Ending

With open hands, open hands,
 With open hands, open hands.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Today's prayers are shared by Mike McClanahan, Laura McClanahan, Erik Haugland, Isak Tranvik, and Carolyn Davis

Leader: God, we pray,

A: open our hands in love.

Table

LORD'S PRAYER

Carolyn Davis

L: And now let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

ALL: 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Judy Lewis

Leader: The Lord be with you all.

All: And also with you.

L: Let us pray together...

All: O God, help us be your hands that create beauty, your feet that tread into places of need, your ears that listen to our neighbors, your mouth that speaks truth, your eyes that behold your presence, and your heart that beats to the rhythm of your love. Amen.

LESSON

I Corinthians 12: 12-27

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, 'Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body', that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I have no need of you', nor again the head to the feet, 'I have no

need of you.' On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Keith Williams

MUSIC

God, Bless the Hands

#1022

Verse 1

God, bless the hands stretched out in love through floods below and storms above; they search and rescue, comfort, calm, give shelter, offer healing balm. Oh, guard them by your steadfast hand; reach out in love to help us stand.

Give hope to those in deepest grief; empower us to bring relief. To you, O God, we raise our hands. Save us, we pray, from sinking sands.

Verse 3

O God, our strength and refuge sure, our hope while storms of life endure: teach us to live in harmony with earth and river, sky and sea, preserving waters, air, and lands as holy work for human hands.

KIDS' MESSAGE

Kris Simon

SPECIAL MUSIC

The Sebald Family

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

*** Please be seated ***

MUSIC

We are One In Christ

643

We are all one in Christ,
we are one body,
all one people out of many.
We are all one in Christ,
we are one body,
all one people out of many.

There is one God,
and only one Lord;
there is one faith, one holy love.
There is one baptism;
there is one Spirit,
who is God the comforter. *(Repeat)*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

P: Let's share a sign of God's peace with one another.

*** Please be seated ***

OFFERING

We are called to share of our time, our talents, and our treasures for the sake of God's work at Cross of Glory and beyond. To that end, in addition to any monetary offering you feel so moved to give this morning, we invite you to place the "Our Hands" insert in the offering plates today as well. Stop at the "Our Hands" station after worship to learn more!

Mark Trease



then a servant of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Keith Williams

MUSIC

God Who Began a Good Work in You

Mohr

Chorus

God who began a good work in you,
God who began a good work in you,
Will be faithful to complete it,
Will be faithful to complete it.
God who started the work
Will be faithful to complete it in you.

Your hope with despair,
Or the process is long
And you're losing your
song in the night,
You can be sure
That the Lord has His hand on you,
Safe and secure,
God will never abandon you.
You are God's treasure,
And God finds His
pleasure in you. (*Chorus 2x*)

Verse

If the struggle you're facing
Is slowly replacing

CONFESSION OF FAITH

APOSTLES CREED

Abby Kelley

*** Please stand as you are able ***

Leader: Please join me in confessing our faith together through 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;**

LESSON

Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

Keith Williams

CHOIR ANTHEM

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

arr Bock

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us, For thy use our folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us Thine we are.
Early let us seek Thy favor; Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with Thy love our beings fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us Thine we are.

LESSON

Galatians 2:15-21

We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ