



November 7, 2021 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169
(847) 885-1199

Welcome all ~ Share God's Love ~ Offer Hope ... all in Jesus' name!

WELCOME ALL

PRELUDE “How Long, O God” *Setting by J.B Carlson* Robert K.

WORDS OF WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT “O Worship the Lord” *Robert McCutchan*

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹ Pastor Julie

God's Word called into being the pumpkins,
the geese who fly south, the leaves which litter our lawns.

In awe, we come into the presence of the God of vivid imagination.

God's arms reach down and gather up
children, lovingly placing us in grace's lap.

In joy, we reach up to the God who loves us completely.

God's Spirit fills our lungs, so we can cry out for justice
for the broken, the young, the old, the abandoned of our time.

In service, we join with our God to build hope in our world.

*OPENING HYMN “Rejoice, the Lord is King!” *GTG #363*

CALL TO CONFESSION Jeff P.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION¹

Bountiful Love: our self-focus causes us to imagine how poor we are.

We are convinced we don't have enough:

enough honor, enough respect,

enough recognition, enough to live on.

And so, in our poverty, we cannot trust you,

we cannot see the emptiness of others,

we cannot help but cling to more than we need.

**Forgive us, Bestower of Blessings. Tell us we can be more loving; whisper to us
of how we can be more compassionate; sing to us of how we can serve others—
all in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. May it be so.**

OUR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONDING TO GRACE “Day by Day” *K Sandell-Berg, W D Young
words—Richard of Chichester*

Day by day, day by day, oh, dear Lord, three things I pray.

To see Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly, follow thee more nearly, day by day.

Day by day by day by day by day.

*PASSING THE PEACE ~ *Greet one another with the peace of Christ*

SHARE GOD'S LOVE

“Jesus Loves Me”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 9:24-28

Jeff P.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 12:38-44

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Living Our Gratitude”

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ...IN JESUS' NAME

*HYMN

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

GTG #36

*A STEWARDSHIP DECLARATION OF FAITH²

God made us to care for other created things. God made human beings along with all the other creatures and charged them to care for the earth and all that lives on it.

We acknowledge we share in the interdependence which binds together all God's creation. Yet, God gives us power to rule and tame, to order and reshape the world. We hold the earth in trust for future generations of living things. The Lord forbids us to plunder, foul, and destroy the earth. The Lord expects us to produce, to consume, to reproduce in ways which make earth's goodness available to all people and reflect God's love for all creatures. The Lord bids us use our technical skills for beauty, order, health, and peace.

Christ teaches us to go beyond legal requirements in serving and helping our neighbor, to treat our neighbor's needs as our own, to care passionately for the other's good, to share what we have. It is part of our discipline to live in simplicity, avoiding greed and luxury that threaten our neighbor's survival. We are obligated to speak the truth in love, to listen with patience and openness, to love our enemies, to accept the risk and pain that love involves.

HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

GTG #611

While the music plays, all are asked to come forward and place their pledges, or the card indicating they pledged online, into the basket.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER²

O God, we have come before you this day in great anticipation. We have walked forward and presented ourselves anew to you—presented ourselves in forms both seen and unseen. Throughout the ages you have asked nothing but love from your people.

We know we must act out of your love, always giving our love first to you.

God of love—pluck the world out of our hearts and loosen its chains of attachment.

Then, hurl the world back into our hearts so we can carry it with you in infinite tender care as we share what we have. Help us adopt the discipline to live in simplicity, avoiding greed and luxury which threaten our neighbor's survival.

Holy One, may our stewardship encompass our whole manner of living, the needs of others, the beauty, order, health, and peace of the entire universe.

We now dedicate into your care our offerings of self—of money—of intentions—of love, knowing you have plans for us, “to prosper us, plans to give us hope and a future.” In the name of our Lord Jesus, who has shown us your deep abiding love, we pray with our whole being. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

CHORAL OFFERTORY

“In the Stillness of this Moment”

Joseph M Martin

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jeff P.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

“We Lift Our Voices”

GTG #710

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING^{3/4}

God welcomes you to this Table.

Our God invites you as well.

Here, when we think our hearts are hollow and lifeless, our God fills them with love and grace.

And so, we lift our hearts to our God.

Here, in the silence and scriptures, in the word and the wonder, we are called to praise our God.

And so, we join our voices in songs of thanksgiving to our God.

Then, God spoke, ‘go now,’ and creation rushed forth into the emptiness of chaos ... With those who picked us up when we had fallen, with those who seek to keep faith with you, we join in offering our praise:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God who overturns the world.

**All creation trusts you and offers exultant praise. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who was eager to be with us. Hosanna in the highest!**

Though holy as you, Eternal God, Jesus set his holiness to one side, so we might know of your hope. ... As we seek to live as he did, watching and learning from those too easily dismissed by our society, we declare the mystery we call faith:

Jesus died, trusting God in that moment;

Jesus has been raised, and will never die again;

Jesus will come, opening our eyes to your resurrection love.

‘Come now,’ you invite us, God of the feast, as you pour out your Spirit on us and the bread and the cup. ... And when all time and history has come to an end and you gather us from all generations around that Table of life and grace,

we will sing our praises to you, God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

COMMUNING TOGETHER

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION¹

In your kingdom of surprise, God of all people, it is the broken who bring healing, the lonely who reshape communities, the vulnerable who will feed us, the shoved-aside who come to rescue us. In your kingdom of unexpected grace, Jesus who watches those we don’t, it is not those with million-dollar smiles and fancy suits who share the gospel, but the little child with her smile, the wisdom-wrinkled grandparents’ stories, the trust of those who give from their scarcity.

In your kingdom of amazing wonder, Spirit who calls us not to be afraid, it is not those who seek the limelight, but those whose hope is offered freely, whose joy never runs empty, whose welcome is never taken away. In the topsy-turvy kingdom you bring, God of Wisdom, we find life, hope, peace, freedom, and grace. Your nourishment in the bread and the cup has blessed us this day, Holy One. May we now be a blessing to your world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” *GTG #645*

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION “The Lord bless you and keep you” *Peter C Lutkin*

*POSTLUDE “Praise! Praise! You are my Rock” *Setting by J.B Carlson* Robert K.

¹Thom Shuman, *Lectionary Liturgies* ©2021, reprinted with permission.

²William Phillippe, *A Stewardship Scrapbook*, © Geneva Press, Louisville, Kentucky, 1999, pgs 112-113.



Prayer
REQUESTS

Linda A (sister of Judy M)
Steve A (father-in-law of Glenna's daughter)
Connie & Ed (friends of Karen)
Beth B (Stu R's sister)
Kevin B (Joe L's co-worker/friend)
Mildred B
Mary Ann B
Susan B
Sushma B
Andree C
Connie (Karen F's friend)
Chuck C (Laura D's brother)
Patrick C (Stu/Marie's son-in-law)
Renee C (Laura's sister-in-law)
Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)
Tom C (Ann M's brother-in-law)
Sabina C (Adelaide's sister-in-law)
Betty D (Marie R's cousin)
Jennifer DLC
Linda D (Jim/ Sue's relative)
Betty F (Chris L's mother)
Donna F (Jim/Sue's aunt)
Karen F
Adelaide G
Bruce & Linda G (friends of Stu/Marie)

Nick G (Stu/Marie's grandson)
Rita H (Jim/Ann's relative)
Jack H (friend of Mike/ Chris L)
James & Sandra (friends of John/Cheryl)
Jessica (Charlie/Nancy's niece)
Charlie K
José K (Adelaide's friend)
Chris L
Pam L
Phyllis L
Crisann M (friend of Mike/Chris L)
Judy M
Klee M (Fritz/Fay's son)
Kofi M (Adelaide's family friend)
Lisa M (Karen's daughter)
Steve M
George R
Tom R (Sue Li.'s brother)
Ann & Geoff S
Larry V (Jim V's father)
Dave W
Caregivers
People devastated by terrorism
Our world and all affected by COVID-19
Those who grieve

CONGREGATION MEETING

Join us on Sunday, November 14, after the Worship

**A Special Congregational Meeting for Church of the Cross
is called for November 14 immediately following worship.**

The meeting is called for the sole purpose of electing new officers for the positions of Deacon & Elder.

Deacons: Class of 2022 ~ Lois McPherson

Class of 2024 ~ Nancy Keppel, Sue Letterer, Jeff Peterson

Elders: Class of 2022 ~ Stu Truelsen

Class of 2024 ~ Charlie Keppel, Ken Groenewold, Sue Liautaud

Nominating Team for 2022 ~ George Rogers, Ann Scheerer, Cheryl Wilkins

Feed my Starving Children Event

Please note that we only have 12 spots available. The sign-up form is on our website.

**Location 740 Wiley Farm Court
Schaumburg, IL 60173**

Date Thursday, November 11, 2021

Time 2:00 pm. to 3:45 pm.





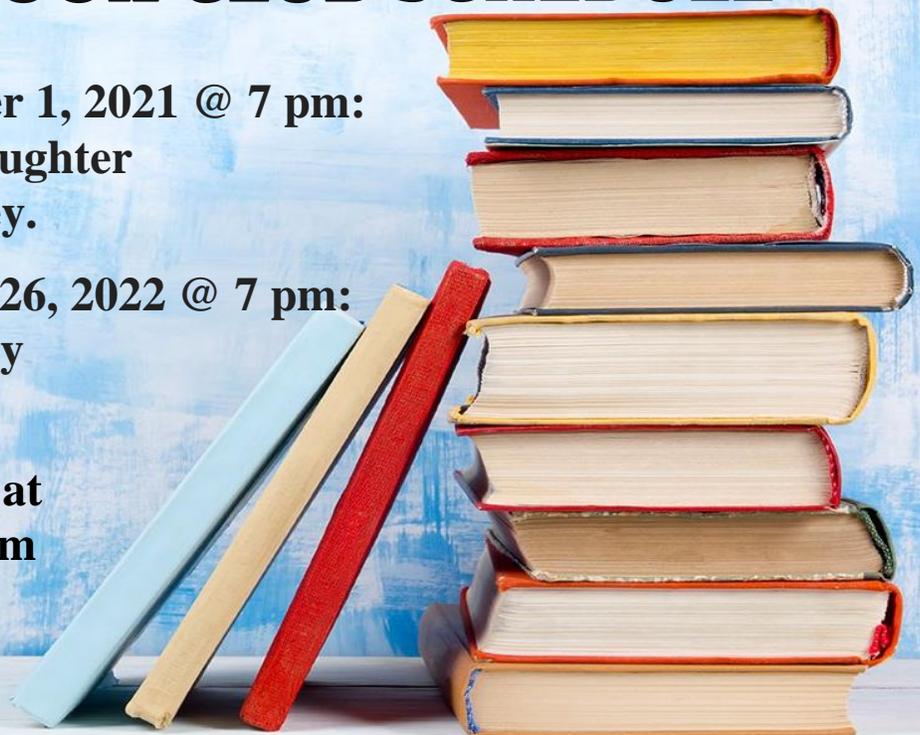
The flower arrangements this week are from:
The Keppel Family in Celebration of Nancy's Birthday
& The Beutel Family in Memory of Nancy Harmon

ZOOM BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 @ 7 pm:
The Firekeeper's Daughter
by Angeline Boulley.

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 @ 7 pm:
The Lincoln Highway
by Amor Towles

Please email Judie at
judietrue@gmail.com
for Zoom details





Food Pantry Needs

Canned Beans
Canned Meat and Fish
Tomato Products
Peanut Butter and Jelly
Canned/Boxed Potatoes
Canned Fruit

LUNCH WITH PASTOR JULIE

Join us via Zoom every Wednesday at 12 noon for bible study. We discuss scripture passages for our upcoming worship service. Contact Pastor Julie for the Zoom access information to join.

November 10	Mark 13:1-8; Hebrews 10:11-18
November 17	John 18:33-37; Revelation 1:4b-8
November 24	Luke 21:25-36; Jeremiah 33:14-16

Church of the Cross
475 West Higgins Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

Office: 847-885-1199

Website: www.churchofthecross.online



The Rev. Julie G. Peterson, Pastor
 Cell phone ~224-828-9761
 Email ~ pastor@cotc-pcusa.org

Clerk of Session ~ Pat Groenewold
 Deacon Moderator ~ Judie Truelsen

Office Manager ~ Vanessa Brand
 Office phone ~ 847-885-1199
 Email ~ office@cotc-pcusa.org

Choir Director ~ Marie Rutter
 Organist ~ Dr. Robert Kania

Session

Treasurer ~ Ken Groenewold

Elders, Class of 2021

Sue Liautaud
 Stu Rutter
 Cheryl Wilkins
 Pat Groenewold, Clerk

Elders, Class of 2022

Jane Lesch
 Jim Vakoc

Elders, Class of 2023

James Buchholz
 Laura De La Cruz
 Cathy Walker

Deacons

Deacons, Class of 2021

Karen Franz
 Ann Moorman
 Glenna Morgan
 Judie Truelsen, Moderator

Deacons, Class of 2022

Susan Buchholz
 Chris Lorentz

Deacons, Class of 2023

Erica De La Cruz
 Naana Grant-Acquah
 Fay Michaelis

Corporation Officers

Jim Letterer President
 Jim Vakoc Vice President
 Ken Groenewold Treasurer
 Pat Groenewold Secretary
 Terry Maulding Member at large
 Stu Truelsen Member at large
 Hank Morgan Member at large