



July 19, 2026
Worship with Holy Communion
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
10:00 a.m.

Rev. Samantha Perret, Presiding

***Welcome to all who worship with us today, especially
our visitors. We invite you to return and worship with us
again.***

Hymns are found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Service Book and Hymnal (red book).



+ GATHERING +

Welcome and Announcements

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HOLY BAPTISM OF
Melia Reminisce Armington
and
Kevin Michael Melecio III

PRESENTATION

Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the ministers at the font.

INTRODUCTION

P: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. The power of sin is put to death in this holy flood, and we are raised with Jesus Christ to new life. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sent out in mission for the life of the world.

PRESENTATION

One or more sponsors for each candidate, in turn, present the candidates:

I present **Melia Reminisce Armington** for baptism.

I present **Kevin Michael Melecio** for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses parents of children who are not able to answer for themselves:

Trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your *children* baptized?

*Response: **I do.***

The presiding minister addresses parents:

As you present your *children* for baptism, you are entrusted with gifts and responsibilities:

to live with *them* among God's faithful people,
bring *them* to the word of God and the holy supper,
and nurture *them* in faith and prayer,
so that *they* may learn to trust God,

proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace among all people.

Shelby and Kevin, do you promise to help your *children* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors: **Eric and Rebecca**, do you promise to nurture Melia in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

Kayley and Troy, do you promise to nurture Kevin in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support **Melia and Kevin** and pray for them in their new lives in Christ?

Response: We do.

PROFESSION

RENUNCIATION OF EVIL

The presiding minister addresses candidates and the parents and sponsors of young children and the congregation:

I ask you to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Response: I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: **I renounce them.**

The presiding minister addresses the assembly

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

RITE OF BAPTISM

THANKSGIVING

*Water is poured into the font during the thanksgiving. Standing at the font,
the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit brooded over the waters and you created the world by your Word, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through water you led your people Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land.

In the waters of the Jordan Jesus was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you delivered us from the power of sin and death and set us free to live in you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this water and upon *all* who *are* washed in it, that *they* may be given new life.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

Melia Reminisce Armington, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Kevin Michael Melecio, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The assembly responds with the following:

You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia. Alleluia.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give these children new birth, wash them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

The presiding minister lays both hands on the head of the newly baptized person and pray:

Sustain **Melia** with the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,

the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

Sustain **Kevin** with the gift of your Holy Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord,
the spirit of joy in your presence,
both now and forever. **Amen.**

SIGNING WITH THE CROSS

The presiding minister marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of each of the baptized. Oil prepared for this purpose may be used. As the sign of the cross is made, the minister says:

Melia Reminisce, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

Kevin Michael, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

PRESENTATION OF A CANDLE

A lighted candle is given to the newly baptized (or to a sponsor of a young child).

A: Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father in Heaven.

WELCOME

P: Through baptism you have both been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit.

The assembly also offers a welcome in these words:

We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Music by Pastor Sam

***Gathering Hymn:** *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

ELW: #810

*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.

P: Let us pray.

C: Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+ WORD +

First Reading: Genesis 6:5-22; 7:17-18,23-24; 8:14-19; 9:1-17

The LORD saw that the wickedness of humans was great in the earth and that every inclination of the thoughts of their hearts was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that he had made humans on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the LORD said, "I will blot out from the earth the humans I have created—people together with animals and creeping things and birds of the air—for I am sorry that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the sight of the LORD.

These are the descendants of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation; Noah walked with God. And Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. And God saw that the earth was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted its ways upon the earth. And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence because of them; now I am going to destroy them along with the earth. Make yourself an ark of cypress wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark three hundred cubits, its

width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and put the door of the ark in its side; make it with lower, second, and third decks. For my part, I am going to bring a flood of waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. And of every living thing, of all flesh, you shall bring two of every kind into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. Of the birds according to their kinds and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground according to its kind, two of every kind shall come in to you, to keep them alive. Also take with you every kind of food that is eaten, and store it up, and it shall serve as food for you and for them." Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

The flood continued forty days on the earth, and the waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. Only Noah was left and those with him in the ark. And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred fifty days.

In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, "Go out of the ark, you and your wife and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families.

God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground and on all the fish of the sea; into your hand they are delivered. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you, and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. Only, you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. For your own lifeblood I will surely require a reckoning: from every

animal I will require it and from human beings, each one for the blood of another, I will require a reckoning for human life.

Whoever sheds the blood of a human, by a human shall that person's blood be shed, for in his own image God made humans.

"And you, be fruitful and multiply, abound on the earth and have dominion over it."

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh, and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Reading for us today is: Sharon Samoska

***Gospel: Matthew 8:23-27**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the eighth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. A windstorm suddenly arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the

waves, but he was asleep. And they went and woke him up, saying, "Lord, save us! We are perishing!" And he said to them, "Why are you afraid, you of little faith?" Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a dead calm. They were amazed, saying, "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Sharing prayers with us today is: Gail Fay

Prayers of Intercession:

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. We pray especially for those on our prayer list below, all whom we send cards

through our Care Card Ministry, on our prayer tree, and those we now name in our hearts or with our voices... [*Current prayer list: Hans, Rena A., Tony B., Brandy G., Mary Anne Thulin, Lisa B., Ellen Cady, Jennifer I. and family, Ann B., Katie T., Andrea W., Ruth Karmelowicz, Jodi E., Carolyn E., Barbara Croft, Andrea C., Rick and Lona B., Chris C., Tina S., Carly, Pat M., Francesca R., Melvin V. Jr., Melvin V. Sr., Mary Y, Brittany, Barbara S, Joshua, Luna, Elaine W, Jim C, Arlene S, Judy J, Jacky A, Eva B, Shawn Y, Candie L, Mark B, Nadia & Gary M, Glenn & Ann, Adam K, Don M, Lori, Susan A, Randy and Priscilla B, Randolph K, Jeff S*]. God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Generous God, you are the source of goodness, and we thank you for the blessings you bestow upon us, especially these blessings we name here now...God of Grace, **hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

***Sharing the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

+ Meal +

*Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray,

C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*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 our thanks and praise.

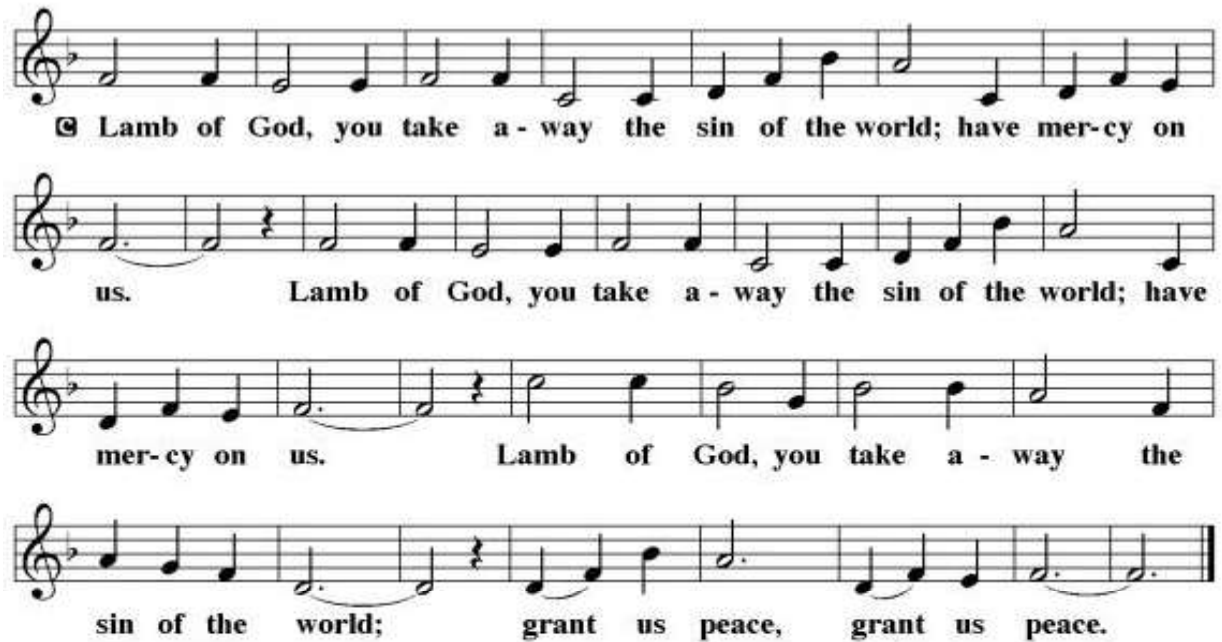
P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and Earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us: **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.**



Assisting with Communion today is: Charmaine Lawton

Communion Distribution: This is the Lord's table, and **all** are invited to participate in this banquet of life.

*Post Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen.

A: Let us pray.

C: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ SENDING +

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

ELW: #756

P: Go in peace, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

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Christmas in July has started! Beginning on July 19, there will be copies of Christmas Wish Lists for back-to-school items in our church entryway and in the community room. Again this summer, we will be providing the 1st Grade teachers and students at Wendell Cross School with many necessary items to start the school year. The teachers and kids really appreciate our "gifts". Please take a list, purchase some items, and return to church **by August 9**. If you prefer to give a monetary donation, you may write a check to COC Church or give cash in the collection in an envelope clearly marked "Back to School". Questions? Ask Nadia or Delphine.

GWIM Food Pantry Needs: Chili powder, Alfredo sauce, spaghetti sauce, canned chicken, BEEF GRAVY in jar or can, Lipton Onion Soup, garlic powder, regular salt, Montreal Chicken spice and Montreal Steak spice, Kinder spices, canned hash, barbecue sauce, lids cereal, sliced white bread, Parboiled rice. **NEEDED: GRANOLA BARS, PRE-PACKAGED FRUIT SNACKS FOR KIDS' CLUB PROGRAM.**

Altar Care Volunteers:

7/19: Tish Hunter & Seita Glasgow

7/26: Janine Kifer & Charmaine Lawton

8/2: Delphine Blewitt & Charmaine Lawton

8/9: Tish Hunter & Seita Glasgow

Hospitality:

7/19: Becky A.

7//26: Lisa B.

Council Members:

- Becky Armington - President
- Charmaine Lawton - VP
- Blanche Feero/Lisa Rapisarda - Secretary

- Pat Huesch - Financial Secretary
- Arnold Arnajallum
- Dolly Caldwell
- Bob Melnick

**Cross of Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

1555 Hamilton Ave. Waterbury, CT 06706-2401

203-527-3752 / office.crossofchristwtby@gmail.com

(Erin's Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-4:30)

Pastor Samantha (Sam) Perret, Presiding

860-790-1108

www.crossofchrist-wtby.org /
facebook.com/waterburycrossofchrist

*To welcome all into safe, sacred relationship, as the
Spirit works through us to embody God's love and grace
in the world.*

