

September 13 - September 14, 2025

Holy Cross Readings

First Reading

A Reading from Numbers

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea,
to go around the land of Edom,
but the people became discouraged on the way.
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.”
Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people,
and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died.

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.
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.”
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.

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Second Reading

A Reading from First Corinthians

For 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.

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 scholar?

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 the proclamation,
to save those who believe.

For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom,
but we proclaim Christ crucified,
a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,
but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks,
Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

(pause)

Reader: Word of God, word of Life.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel According to
Jesus said:

“No one has ascended into heaven
except the one who descended from heaven,
the Son of Man.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that God gave their only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life.

“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.”

Bishop: **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.