

(Used by Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Maple Lake, MN)

Motion to Disaffiliate with the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

Motion C-10

Whereas our Lord Jesus Christ calls and charges his Church with delivering message of his Gospel to the world — specifically: *“that repentance and forgiveness of sins be proclaimed in his name to all nations”* (Luke 24:7);

And whereas this biblical Gospel message of repentance and forgiveness in Christ is central to the ministry, teaching, and worship of the congregation of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Maple Lake, Minnesota;

And whereas, by the testimony of its leadership, the instruction of its teaching theologians, and by official action of its Churchwide Assembly, the body of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has sought to replace this message of repentance and forgiveness of sins in Christ with a false gospel of acceptance and affirmation of sins; expressing its determination to no longer walk in faith and doctrine with the people of Holy Cross Lutheran Church,

And whereas the congregation of Holy Cross Lutheran Church believes, teaches, and confesses the Holy Scriptures to be *“the inspired Word of God and the authoritative source and norm of its proclamation, faith, and life;”*

And whereas this confession of faith in the authority of Scripture is held in declaration but effectively no longer in practice by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the denomination has therefore broken its confessional fellowship in synod¹ with this congregation;

Therefore be it resolved that Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Maple Lake, Minnesota, publicly reaffirm its participation in the “one holy catholic and apostolic Church,” its accountability to the Word of God revealed in Scripture, and its subscription to the Lutheran Confessions,

Be it further resolved that Holy Cross Lutheran Church express its desire to terminate its relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, by action of a two-thirds majority of the voting members present at a legally called and conducted special meeting of the congregation, held January 24th, 2010, according to the provisions of its Constitution, in Articles 5.03i, 6.04, 6.05.

Be it further resolved that the congregation of Holy Cross Lutheran Church express its intent to retain title to its property, by transferring its affiliation to another recognized Lutheran Church body, according to the provisions of its Constitution, in Article 7.04.

¹ The word “synod” means “walking together” in faith. As it is written: “If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.” (1 John 1:6-7)