



We have seen his **glory,**

the **glory** of the

one &  
only

**Son**

who came from the

*Father,*

full of

*grace &*

**truth.**

John 1:14

## WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS!

We are glad you could be with us today, especially if you are visiting with us for the first time. We look forward to meeting you and getting to know you. It is our hope that as you worship with us today our triune God will come to you through His Word and inspire you upwards in your life. Please stop by our Guest Welcome Center for more information and a free gift. We pray that you will consider becoming a part of our Holy Cross family. **Both members & visitors please complete the connection card in the pew pockets or scan the QR code below.** You may place the card in the offering plate on your way out.

**A WORD ABOUT COMMUNION** The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Holy Cross on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, and all festival Sundays. Lutherans believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present "in, with and under" the bread and wine in the Supper and is given to us for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. All communicants should have been baptized in the name of the Triune God and have faith in these words of Christ: "This is my Body given for you. this This my Blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Instruction in this and the Lutheran Church takes place through First Communion, Confirmation, and membership classes or examination with the pastor. If you have not received instruction, contact the church office at your convenience. If you will not be receiving the Sacrament, you may remain in your pew or come forward for a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest as a sign that you will not be receiving. Non-alcoholic white wine is located in the center of the individual cups tray. **Gluten-free wafers are available, please request.**



### **SURVEY QUESTION**

No survey question at this time.

**ENTER FOR WORSHIP** Upon entering the sanctuary please close the door behind you, and find a seat. After you are seated, please use this time to prepare yourself for worship.

**FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED** We are equipped with a personal hearing assistance system. If you would like a receiver for the service, please see an usher.

**WE CAN PRAY WITH YOU** If you are in need of someone to pray for you the Elders will be at the Chancel rail following the worship service.

**The Nativity of Our Lord  
Christmas Day  
December 25, 2023  
Lutheran Service Book, Divine 3, page 184**

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**Prelude**

**Opening Hymn**

“Joy to the World”

LSB 387

- 1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.
  
- 2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let men their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
  
- 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.
  
- 4 He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

## Introit

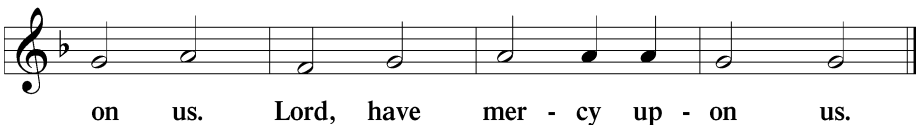
Psalm 98:1-4

- P For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
C **and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**  
P Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!  
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.  
C **The Lord has made known his salvation;  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**  
P He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the  
house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.  
C **Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**



## Kyrie

LSB page 186



P Glory be to God on high:



**C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



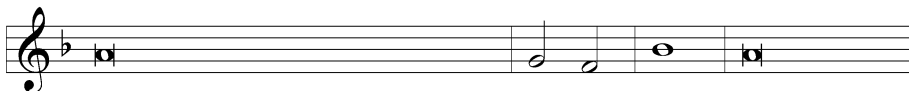
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



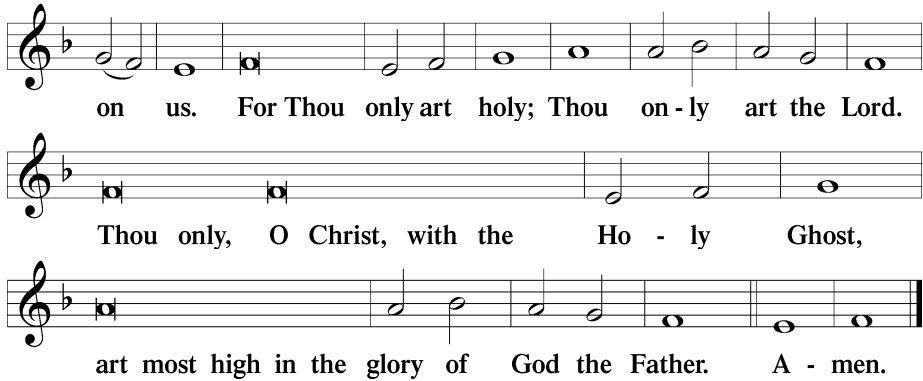
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.  
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



☐ A - men.

### Old Testament Reading

Exodus 40:17–21, 34–38

<sup>17</sup>In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected. <sup>18</sup>Moses erected the tabernacle. He laid its bases, and set up its frames, and put in its poles, and raised up its pillars. <sup>19</sup>And he spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent over it, as the Lord had commanded Moses. <sup>20</sup>He took the testimony and put it into the ark, and put the poles on the ark and set the mercy seat above on the ark. <sup>21</sup>And he brought the ark into the tabernacle and set up the veil of the screen, and screened the ark

of the testimony, as the Lord had commanded Moses. . . .

<sup>34</sup>Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. <sup>35</sup>And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. <sup>36</sup>Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. <sup>37</sup>But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. <sup>38</sup>For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

D This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle

Titus 3:4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

D This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia

LSB page 190



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

John 1:1-18

D The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.



<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. <sup>15</sup>(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") <sup>16</sup>And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. <sup>17</sup>For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. <sup>18</sup>No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

D This is the Gospel of the Lord.



■ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

LSB page 191

**C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified**

also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Hymn of the Day**      “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

LSB 380

1      Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
    Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
    God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the\_angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!” **Refrain**

**Refrain**      Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

2      Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
    Late in time behold Him come,  
    Offspring of a virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the\_incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel! **Refrain**

3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
 Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
 Light and life to all He brings,  
 Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
 Mild He lays His glory by,  
 Born that man no more may die,  
 Born to raise the sons of earth,  
 Born to give them second birth. **Refrain**

**Sermon**

**Offertory**

LSB page 192

■ Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

**Prayer of the Church**

**D** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**D** That the Lord would lift our hearts to hope and joy in the celebration of our Savior's birth; and that we would manifest this joy in witness to the world, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

- D That the Lord would preserve those threatened by persecution for the sake of Christ and grant them courage, comfort and peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- D For the nations of this world, that they would be given a spirit of peace, so that conflicts would cease and all would see in the birth of Jesus the salvation of our God, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- D That the Lord would give peace to those troubled in mind and heart, deliver them from the taunts and temptations of the evil one, and enable us to show them compassion, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- D That the Lord would grant healing, relief, comfort and peace to all the sick, suffering, dying and those who grieve [especially]; that the Lord would bless doctors, nurses, all medical professionals and caregivers in their service; and that all would rejoice in the good news of Christ, our light and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- D That the Lord would teach us generosity for the work of His kingdom; that we would return to Him tithes and offerings; and that by them, we may display before the world our trust in His provision and goodness, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.**
- D For all communicants, that we may receive the great love of God, which laid His Son in a manger and now lays His flesh and blood before us in the Sacrament; and that we may bow our hearts before Him with all those in heaven and on earth who adore Him, receiving His forgiveness and life with repentance and joy, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

**Preface**

P The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



☐ It is meet and right so to do.

P Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Sanctus**



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

**C** 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.

### The Words of Our Lord

LSB page 197

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

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



**C** A - men.

### Agnus Dei THIS WILL BE SUNG

LSB page 198

**C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

**Distribution Hymn****“What Child Is This”**

LSB 370

- 1      What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
          On Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
          While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
          Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
          The babe, the son of Mary!
  
- 2      Why lies He in such mean estate  
          Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
          The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you;  
          Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
          The babe, the son of Mary!
  
- 3      So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
          Come, peasant, king, to own Him.  
The King of kings salvation brings;  
          Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby;  
          Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
          The babe, the son of Mary!

**Distribution Hymn****“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”**

LSB 374

- 1      Gentle Mary laid her child  
          Lowly in a manger;  
There He lay, the Undefined,  
          To the world a stranger.  
Such a babe in such a place,

Can He be the Savior?  
Ask the saved of all the race  
Who have found His favor.

2 Angels sang about His birth,  
Wise Men sought and found Him;  
Heaven's star shone brightly forth  
Glory all around Him.  
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,  
Heard the angels singing;  
All the plains were lit that night,  
All the hills were ringing.

3 Gentle Mary laid her child  
Lowly in a manger;  
He is still the Undefined  
But no more a stranger.  
Son of God of humble birth,  
Beautiful the story;  
Praise His name in all the earth;  
Hail the King of glory!

### Nunc Dimittis

LSB page 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



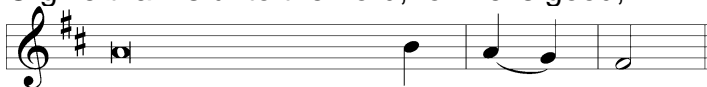


peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Thanksgiving

LSB page 201

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



A - men.

P The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir - it.

**Benedicamus**

P Bless we the Lord.



☐ Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

**Closing Hymn**

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

LSB 388

**Refrain** Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev’rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching  
O’er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. **Refrain**

2 The shepherds feared and trembled  
When lo, above the earth  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed our Savior’s birth. **Refrain**

3 Down in a lonely manger  
The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessèd Christmas morn. **Refrain**

**Saturday, December 30, 2023, worship at 5:30 pm,  
no Bible Class.**

**Sunday, December 31, 2023, communion worship at 10:00 am  
no Bible Class.**

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**Pastor** Eric Shanburn

**Deacons** Tony Wojciechowski, Larry Hoeft

**Ministry Assistant** Michelle Hoeft

**Organist** Michael Katopodes

**Administrative Assistant** Becky Northcott

## **THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY**

### **DEACON/ELDER**

Deacon Larry Hoeft, Steve Northcott

### **USHERS**

Dan & Sue Jager

### **SCREEN OPERATOR**

Becky Northcott

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Cynthia Hecker, Allison Hall

### **Acknowledgments**

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