

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH!

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. You can greet our pastor as you leave the sanctuary after services. Please stop by our Guest Welcome Center near the Fellowship Hall for more information. 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 to complete online). Place the card in the offering plate on your way out. NOTE: You can give online at our website or place in offering plates at back of sanctuary (we don't pass plates).

A WORD ABOUT COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Saturday and Sunday (except on FRIEND DAYS), and all festival services. 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 Jesus: "This IS my Body given for you...This IS my Blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." Instruction on this and the Lutheran Church takes place through First Communion, Confirmation, and membership classes or meeting with the pastor. To inquire, contact the church office at your convenience. If you will not be receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, 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 packaged and placed in wafer bowl, indicate to server.**



SURVEY QUESTION

No survey question.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP You may light a candle and enter the sanctuary in reverence, find a seat and take a moment to pray and be still. Please keep all social dialogue in the Narthex.

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 would like someone to pray for you or with you, the pastor, deacons or one of the Elders will join you at the Chancel rail following the worship service.

The Baptism of Our Lord
January 14, 2024
Lutheran Service Book, Divine 4, page 203

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand if you are able.

Opening Hymn

"Baptized into Your Name Most Holy"

LSB 590

- 1 Baptized into Your name most holy,
 O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
 Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin,
Your Spirit now shall live within.

- 2 My loving Father, here You take me
 To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, here You make me
 The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
When threat'ning clouds around I see.

- 3 My faithful God, You fail me never;
 Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever
 If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled;
Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

- 4 All that I am and love most dearly—
 Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely;
 Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
Serve any will but Yours alone.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel if you are able.

Take a moment to confess in your heart what is on your mind.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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

Psalms 89:1, 26-28

- P Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,
and the kingdom and the power and the glory are in his hand.
- C I have found David, my servant;
with my holy oil I have anointed him.**
- P I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
- C He shall cry to me, "You are my Father,
my God, and the Rock of my salvation."**
- P And I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.
- C My steadfast love I will keep for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.**
- ALL Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Kyrie

(from Mark 10:47)

LSB page 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
 2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
 Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

Joshua 3:1–3, 7–8, 13–17

¹Then Joshua rose early in the morning and they set out from Shittim. And they came to the Jordan, he and all the people of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over. ²At the end of three days the officers went through the camp ³and commanded the people, “As soon as you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place and follow it. . . .

⁷The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. ⁸And as for you, command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, ‘When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.’” . . .

¹³“And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap.”

¹⁴So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), ¹⁶the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.

D This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

“God’s Own Child I’ll Gladly Say It”

Holy Cross Choir

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

D This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand if you are able.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB page 205



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



☐ These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



☐ Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

D The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

D This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

LSB page 206

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.

Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day

“To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord”

LSB 405

- 1 To Jordan’s river came our Lord,
The Christ, whom heav’nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light,
The Lord of glory, pow’r, and might.
- 2 The Savior came to be baptized—
The Son of God in flesh disguised—
To stand beneath the Father’s will
And all His righteousness fulfill.
- 3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav’nly dove,
Descended on Him from above.
- 4 Then from God’s throne with thund’rous sound
Came God’s own voice with words profound:
“This is My Son,” was His decree,
“The one I love, who pleases Me.”
- 5 The Father’s word, the Spirit’s flight
Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God’s own choice, from Adam’s fall
To save the world and free us all.

6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;
This man is Christ, our substitute!
He was baptized in Jordan's stream,
Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

Text: © 1993 James P. Tiefel. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002771

Sermon

Offertory Prayer

Please stand if you are able.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P Heavenly Father, You revealed Your Son in the wondrous Epiphany in the Jordan. So also You have revealed Your name and blessing to us in Holy Baptism, declaring us Your beloved heirs. Grant that we may daily die to sin and rise to newness of life, living with joy as Your baptized children. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lord of the nations, Your eye is on all who fear You. Grant humility and integrity to our rulers. Kindle love of neighbor among our citizens. Bring forth justice according to Your will and Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Give comfort and relief to those who are sick, depressed, tired, confused or in any need [especially _____]. Watch over all expectant mothers and their children, [especially _____,] that they may have a safe delivery and be brought also to the life-giving waters of Holy Baptism. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, in Holy Baptism You have opened the heavens to Your children. Grant that all those baptized into Your Son would worthily receive the heavenly feast of His body and blood for their salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Eternal God, You have made us Your own people by Baptism and granted us Your Holy Spirit to confess Christ in word and deed. We remember with thanksgiving those who went before us, who passed the faith on to us and who now rest in Christ from all their labors. Since we have died with Christ through Baptism, grant that we would be raised with Him also. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O merciful Lord, grant us confidence in the promises of Holy Baptism and trust that You will answer our prayers. When the Last Day comes, bring us into the joy of Your everlasting light and life through the merits and mercies of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB page 208

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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB page 208



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



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB page 209

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

(from 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

(From 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 † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P 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 † 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

(from John 20:19)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God John 1:29

LSB page 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Please be seated.

Distribution Hymn

“Beautiful Savior”

LSB 537

- 1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Distribution Hymn

“This Is the Spirit’s Entry Now”

LSB 591

1 This is the Spirit’s entry now:
The water and the Word,
The cross of Jesus on your brow,
The seal both felt and heard.

2 This miracle of life reborn
Comes from the Lord of breath;
The perfect Man from life was torn;
Our life comes through Christ’s death.

3 Let water be the sacred sign
That we must die each day
To rise again by His design
As foll'wers of His way.

4 Renewing Spirit, hear our praise
 For Your baptismal pow'r
 That washes us through all our days;
 Lord, cleanse again this hour.

Text: © Thomas E. Herbranson. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002771

Please stand if you are able.

Nunc Dimittis

(from Luke 2:29-32)

LSB page 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

LSB page 212

- 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.
- C** **Amen.**

Benedicamus (from Psalm 103:1)

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction (from Numbers 6:24-26)

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you His peace.
- C** **Amen.**

Closing Hymn “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” LSB 790

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining?

- 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade you.
- 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.
- 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book
Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English
Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News
Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

THE SUNDAY HERALD

January 15 - 21, 2024

MONDAY		SATURDAY	
NEWSLETTER DEADLINE			
Stewardship Ministry	7:00pm	Scrapbook Workshop	9:00am
TUESDAY		Praise Band rehearsal	4:30pm
WEDNESDAY		Communion Worship	5:30pm
THURSDAY		Bible Class 6:30pm	
Prayer Group	3:00pm	SUNDAY	
Bells	6:30pm	Bible Classes for all ages	9:00am
Choir	7:30pm	Communion Worship	10:00am
FRIDAY		Youth Group	6:00pm
Bulletin Assembly	10:00am		

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Old Testament Reading: Exodes 3:1-12

Epistle: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Holy Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

DIRECTORY UPDATE

I will be updating the church directory this month. Please be sure that I have your correct information. If you need to change or want to make sure that I have your correct information, just give me a call. Look for your new church directory in February. Thank you, Becky

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The 2023 Contribution Statements are available. You can find them in your mailbox or in your email depending on your preference. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Denise Vandenberg. Thank you.

TELLERS NEEDED

We need additional tellers to count offerings on Sundays. The commitment is about 32 – 40 hours for the year. No teller experience needed. If you would like to be part of the Sunday fun, please reach out to Denise Vandenberghe. Thank you.

ATTENTION ALL LADIES

Save the date - May 18th. More specific details will follow soon.

MOCKTAILS AND CHARCUTERIE BOARD NIGHT

FEBRUARY 16TH @ 7PM

A new women's group is coming to Holy Cross geared for women ages 30-50. Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. Please sign up in the Narthex so we can have an idea of the number of ladies attending. If you have any questions, contact Jennie Shanburn or Laurel Clemons.

THANK YOU

Holy Cross Family, Thank you all for the kind cards and gifts I received at Christmas and my December Birthday. Blessings in the New Year and a Blessed Lent to you all. Pastor Eric

LUTHERANISM 101

Pastor is having a gathering of new visitors, regular attenders and others who are not yet official members to discuss Lutheran distinctives, key Bible Verses, address questions, reveal opportunities to get more involved and go over our membership form. There will be an opportunity for further study and discussion for those who need it and a New Member Reception on Sunday February 18th for those who are ready. There are currently two options: either Wednesday, January 24th and Wednesday, January 31st from 6-8pm with dinner, OR a 2nd option is to attend a Saturday, February 3rd from 9am-1pm with breakfast and lunch. Please contact pastor ASAP if interested.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

1 Peter 3:20-21