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## We Believe....

### An explanation of the Nicene Creed By Pastor Munding

*"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....."*

We as a church confess Christ to be our Lord, who is the only begotten Son of God. The word begotten might be confusing to some because it is not a word we use in our everyday vocabulary. Honestly, I cannot remember a time I have used begotten outside of talking about Jesus Christ and His relationship with God the Father. It is a biblical word used most famously in John 3:16, *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his **only begotten Son**, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."* (See also: Hebrews 1:6, Matthew 14:33, Revelation 1:8) The word begotten signifies a relationship to someone, specifically a relationship of a parent to their child. Jesus is begotten, that is, he is Son to the Father, that is His eternal relationship. Jesus is not the Father, and the Father is not Jesus. Jesus is always the Son, even before time existed. There was never a time when Jesus was the Father or never existed as the Son. He always was and always will be the Son and God the Father will always be His Father. Much like how you are always your children's parents, and they are always your children.

But we are also told that unlike your relationship with your children, Jesus is not made. There was a period of time when your children didn't exist, and



you rightfully were not considered parents. It was only when you conceived/made a child that you became parents. There was a time where your child did not exist in the world. In the case of Jesus and the Father, Jesus is not created, He is not made. He is God of God, Light of

Continued on page 2

Light, very God of very God. When we speak this part of the creed, we are confessing that Jesus is God as the Father is God. God the Father sends His Son who is God to reveal Himself to the world.

The biggest debate between the orthodox church and Arius' heterodox teaching was whether or not Jesus was made or created by the Father. Arius said that if the Father has begotten the Son, then the Son must be inferior to the Father, as a prince is inferior to a king. Athanasius argued that Jesus being begotten by the Father does not mean that He is inferior or lesser to the Father. It is true that an earthly son is younger than his father, and that there is a time when he is not yet what he will be. But God operates outside of our time and space. When we say that the Son is begotten of the Father, we do not refer to an event that happened sometime in the remote past, like when you beget your children. For God the Father and the Son there is an eternal and timeless relation between the Persons of the Godhead. Thus, while we say of a child that he may someday hope to become what his father is now, we say of God the Son that He is eternally what God the Father is eternally, true God of true God.

This means that Jesus is of the same substance with the Father. This was probably the biggest difference between Arius and the bishops of the church. Arius argues that Jesus is of a like substance with the Father but isn't made of the same substance or essence of the Father. Athanasius and the other bishops would argue that Jesus is of the same substance with the Father. He is God as the Father is God. We as Christians confess that there is God in essence but three distinct persons. This is the divine mystery of the Trinity. Jesus is not made of a lesser essence than the Father, He is the same substance as Him. He is God. He is God the Son. Jesus, Himself, even makes this claim in John 10:30, *"I and the Father are One."* Here is a list of other verses which speak about the substance of the Father and Jesus being the same: Isaiah 44:6, Revelation 1:8, Philippians 2:6, John 10:38, and Colossians 2:9.

There are some serious theological implications if Arius is right in his teaching of Jesus. If Jesus is lesser than the Father, then the whole plan of redemption is in jeopardy. Only God can rescue us from sin, death, and the Devil. If Jesus is lesser than the Father then He is not fully God and thus cannot win our salvation, for only God can do such things. The angels are not able to accomplish this, and man is unable to rescue himself. Only Immanuel (God with us) can deliver us from this curse! Jesus has done just that!

We are called as Christians to confess the doctrine of God in all of its entirety and purity. To make Jesus lesser than the Father is to confess an entirely different god altogether. We must guard ourselves from such teachings which do still appear from time to time. In a recent survey 65% of American Evangelicals said they believe that Jesus was the first and greatest being created by God. The Mormon church also believes that Jesus is lesser than the Father, having been born from the Father as we humans are born. For Mormons, God the Father is married to the heavenly mother and they brought forth Jesus through normal marital means. This is why we must understand what the church has always confessed and for the teaching that the fathers of old fought so hard to keep. We should always have our eyes opened for such false teaching which will always keep popping up. Let us listen to the word's that Paul gives to young Timothy, *"I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."* 2 Timothy 4:1-5



Ray	9/3	Roberta	9/19
Karen	9/5	Marlene	9/23
Linda	9/10	Melarie	9/24
Judy	9/12	Howard	9/25
Bob	9/14	Brian	9/26
Cary	9/17	Jaan	9/26
Brandon	9/16	Katie	9/27
Mitzi	9/19	Cooper	9/30

Bill & Gayle	9/3
Bill & Roberta	9/4
Mike & Melarie	9/13

Dear Holy Cross family,

Last week Joyce and Mike came to visit and surprised us with a very generous gift from our Holy Cross family. WOW! We were so surprised . . . speechless!! Thank you so much! Your love and care for us is profound, and truly reflects the love of Christ. We are so blessed to be part of your family. 💜 🙏



The gift cards from three of our favorite local restaurants will give Allen a welcome break from "kitchen duty", and many tasty meals for both of us! Allen is our cook, maid, and health care provider. He does escape to church now and then to do some watering or to fix something. 😊

Thank you for this respite, and special expression of your love. I can hardly wait to return to church. When I can resume my duties as a greeter, you all get a hug! (When COVID-19 appropriate!) 🤗

I want you to know how much I appreciate your uplifting prayers, cards, and phone calls over the weeks since my knee surgery. My recovery has been a bit challenging. The discovery of a hairline fracture in the femur explains the extra pain, now greatly relieved by a knee brace and more rest - but no recreation! I have lots of time for prayer and reflection on God's word. Psalm 46:11, "Be still and know that I am God." frequently comes to mind, reminding me that God's plans for me are more powerful than mine. 🙏

Thank you for your renewed prayers, cards and calls as I continue to heal, always in God's time. You are all such a blessing to both of us. 💜 😊

In His love,  
Allen and Cherylene



I would like to extend my thanks for the warm welcome given to me by this church community. I am very thankful for all the kind words, thoughts, prayers, cards, and gifts! I look forward to a continued relationship with this community in Christ.

All the best,  
Luke Happel



"In the Beginning  
was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God."  
(John 1:1)



## **September Bible Studies**

**\*\*Check the calendar— some sessions  
cancelled due to Labor Day\*\***

The Zoom links for each are the same each week & are in the Friday Announcements. Email.

**Adult Sunday School, (with Pastor) 1pm, Zoom starts 9/19**

**Monday Women's Bible Study (with Annaliesa), 10am, Zoom**

**Pastor's Wednesday Evening Bible Study, 7pm, Zoom**



Join us  
on Zoom,  
Monday's  
at 9am

The Women of Holy Cross continue to meet every  
**Monday, 9-9:45am, (on Zoom) for**  
**Coffee & Conversation.**

**JOIN US ANY MONDAY AT 9AM!**

The Zoom link is the same each week & in the Friday Announcements



**Plan to Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Cross, Tuesday, 9/14, 6pm, in the Courtyard**

Celebrated on Sept. 14, Holy Cross day honors & commemorates the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made on the cross for our salvation. Join us for our 2nd annual celebration of this Feast Day! Pastor will lead a short outdoor service with communion & we will feast on pizza after. Bring your own beverage. Please rsvp to Joyce so we can accommodate everyone.

Note: 9/14 is Election Day, with our parish hall being a polling location. However that should not interfere with our plans. In fact, it will be a good witness to our community! And we will invite poll workers for pizza.



# Women of Holy Cross

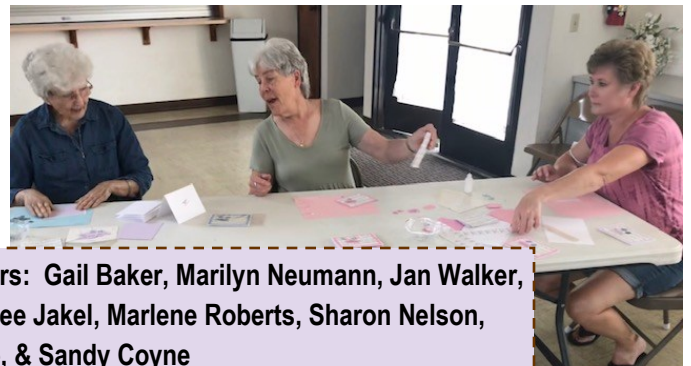
by Joyce Liebe, president

Some of the WoHC gathered on 8/18 for a creative, fun fellowship time. We have a Card Ministry, which includes sending birthday cards to each woman of Holy Cross. For the next year (Sept. 2021 - Aug. 2022) we hand-made our birthday cards (sorry Hallmark, Current, & Ambassador cards).

Here are pix of the creative process & a glimpse of the finished product (we made 70+ cards ). Thank you to the volunteers who will send the Birthday cards (Jan Walker, Marilyn Neumann, Sharon Nelson, & the Coyne gals)!

We also send anniversary, get well, sympathy & other misc. cards. We did not make those; however we have a wide inventory. NOTE: we may make Anniversary cards – look for an announcement. Thank you to the volunteers who will send these cards: Dee Jakel, Liz Aduan, & Grace Gin!

The WoHC provide & pay for all materials. It's a great opportunity to serve, on your own schedule, from home.



**Our card makers: Gail Baker, Marilyn Neumann, Jan Walker, Joyce Liebe, Dee Jakel, Marlene Roberts, Sharon Nelson, Kamryn Coyne, & Sandy Coyne**







**July 22 – Nifty Fifty Lunch  
at Huckleberry's**



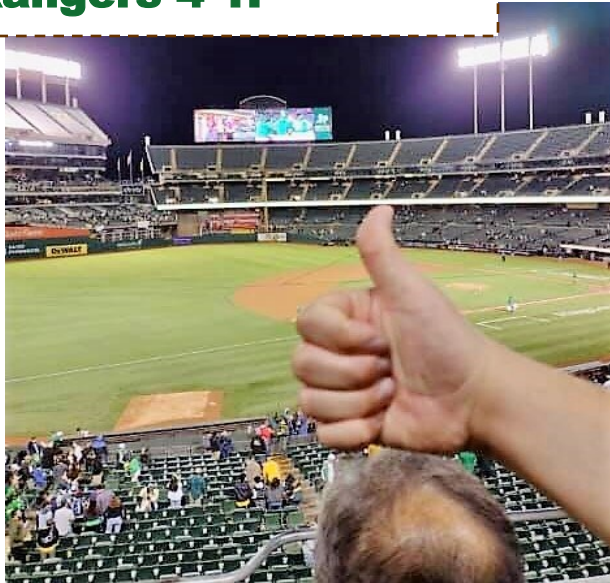








**A's Win! Marte's game-winning HR in 11th pushes A's past Rangers 4-1.**





## On Sunday 8/15 we celebrated members: long time & new!

After many, many years as members of Holy Cross, Eric, Chris, & Alex Roman will be moving to their new home in Roseville. Also, during the worship service, Luke Happel was confirmed. He completed Instruction/ Membership lessons with Pastor Munding & after the Rite of Confirmation, he became a communicant member of Holy Cross.

We wished the Romans farewell & welcomed Luke during coffee fellowship. We wish them God's blessings!  
NOTE: the photographer got distracted with all the fellowship activities, so just a few pictures.

*And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.*  
Hebrews 10:24-25





# September 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	2	3	4 9am Vision Mtg. Zoom
5  9:30am Worship Service,	6 <b>OFC CLOSED</b> 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom	7 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary	8 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	9	10	11
12 9:30am Worship Service.	13 <b>OFC CLOSED</b> 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom	14 <b>Election Day</b> 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary 6pm Feast of the Holy Cross Service w/ Pizza after 	15 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	16	17	18
19 9:30am Worship Service. 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom	20 <b>OFC CLOSED</b> 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom 6:30pm Council Mtg. Zoom	21 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary	22 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	23	24	25
26 9:30am Worship Service 1pm Adult Sunday School Zoom	27 <b>OFC CLOSED</b> 9-9:45am Women's Coffee Zoom 10-11:30am Ladies Bible Study Zoom	28 11a Prayer Group, Sanctuary	29 7pm Pastor's Bible Study Zoom	30		

cl=choir loft, C=Conference Room, E=Ed Bldg., PH=Parish Hall

## YVCS School Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:45am—3:30 pm, Friday: 8:45am—2:15pm





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## **Holy Cross Lutheran Church, LCMS**

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Treasurer: Cheryl Syrovatka

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Elders: Bill Riechmann, John Coyne,  
Eric Roman, Herb Neumann

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### **Sunday Worship Schedule:**

Sunday Service 9:30AM

Adult Sunday School 1PM Zoom

Youth Bible Study 11AM

Sunday School 11AM (on hold)

### **Week Day Bible Study Schedule:**

Monday (Ladies) 10AM Zoom

Wednesday (Adult) 7PM Zoom

### **Bulletin & Cross Currents Publication Deadline:**

Bulletin: Noon, Tuesday

October 2021 Cross Currents: September 26, 2021