

# **HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**Christmas Eve**  
**December 24, 2019**  
**7 p.m.**





**December 24, 2019**

**7 PM**

## **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**(Missouri Synod)**

9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.

Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

[www.hclchr.org](http://www.hclchr.org)

Sunday Worship Services.....8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Bible Classes and Sunday School.....9:25 a.m.

Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, Office.....303-683-1300

Kristen Foss, Director, Early Learning Center.....303-683-1311

Fax.....303-470-0165

***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:***

***Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!***

## **Prayer for Christmas Eve**

*Oh Holy God, we join the angels in singing "glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace." You are a great and gracious God who kept Your promise and sent Your one and only Son to be born of a virgin. In Jesus, the gift of heaven is opened for us and we are heirs of eternal glory. Let us kneel in humility before the Christ Child and then go and spread the word concerning Him. Fill each of us with Christmas joy and zeal each and every day until His glorious return. We pray this in His name. Amen.*



## **Choir: Oh, Come, Little Children**

**P:** Jesus Christ is the Light of World

**C:** **The Light no darkness can overcome.**

**P:** Blessed are you, O Christ, Son of God, who was before time began

**C:** **You are the light that never fades.**

**P:** We wait for the Word of the Lord as we wait for the rains

**C:** **and our God shall come down upon us like gentle dew.**

**P:** Turn us again, O God of our Salvation

**C:** **That the light of your face may shine forth!**

**P:** You that dwell between the cherubim, shine forth!

**C:** **Stir up your strength and come.**

**P:** The Spirit and the Church cry out:

**C:** **Come, Lord Jesus**

**P:** All those who await his appearance pray:

**C:** **Come, Lord Jesus**

**P:** The whole creation pleads:

**C:** **Come, Lord Jesus**



# Confession and Absolution

**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.

**C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

**Choir: Waiting for Bethlehem's Light**

by Dale Peterson

## Service of the Word



### THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-14

*Messiah Foretold*

**357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**



## **THE SECOND LESSON**

Luke 1:26-38

*The Angel Gabriel visits Mary.*

### **356 The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came**



## **THE THIRD LESSON**

Luke 2:1-7

*The Birth of Jesus*

### **361 O Little Town of Bethlehem**

Cong. 1 & 2

Choir 3

Cong. 4



## **THE FOURTH LESSON**

Luke 2:8-18

*The angels and shepherds announce His birth.*

### **368 Angels We Have Heard on High**



## THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:19-20

*Mary treasured up these things in her heart.*

**Choir Carol: Still, Still, Still**



## THE SIXTH LESSON

1 John 4:7-16

*Love*

**384 Of the Father's Love Begotten**

*(Please Stand to sing)*



**Sermon: "This is Love"**

Based on 1 John 4:7-16

**Offering**

*(Please add your name to the red fellowship book and pass it to your fellow worshippers.)*

**Choir: See amid the Winter's Snow** by Timothy Shaw

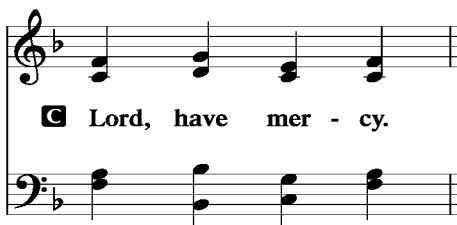
*Stand*

## The Litany

*The congregation's response will begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.*



**L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**L** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, Rev. Roger Schlechte, for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For President Donald Trump, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**L** For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

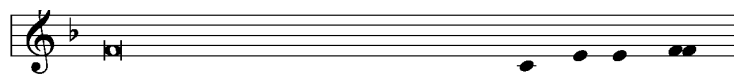
**L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

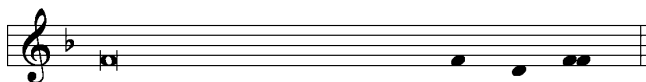
**L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

*The prayers then continue:*

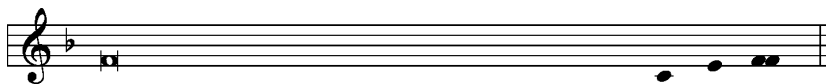


**L** For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:



**L** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

*Silence for individual prayer may follow.*



**L** Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:



## Collect For Peace

- L** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## 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.**

## Thanksgiving

- P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth forever. Amen.



## Lighting of the Candles

(Please remember to tilt only the unlit candle while lighting your candle so that the wax doesn't drip.)

### 363 Silent Night, Holy Night

#### Benediction

*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 peace.

**C** Amen.

### 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing





# ***Soli Deo Gloria!***

***(To God alone be the glory.)***

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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