

# **HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**First Sunday after Christmas  
December 29, 2019**

**Divine Service 3**



## Holy Communion: *Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How?*



**Who:** We welcome and invite anyone who is a communicant member of this congregation, the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, or anyone who has spoken with our Pastor prior to worship, to commune with us. If you have not spoken to our Pastor prior to the service, we ask that you would refrain from communing until you have done so.

If you or your children would like to receive a blessing during communion, please come forward with everyone else, kneel, and bow with your hands at your side and you will be blessed by Pastor.

**What:** We believe the words that Jesus said when He instituted this Holy Sacrament at the Last Supper. In these words He states that He gives us His body and His blood to eat and to drink, with the bread and the wine, for the forgiveness of our sins and in remembrance of Him.

**When:** We do not have Holy Communion every Sunday, but if you wish to receive it, please speak with our Pastor to find out when the next communion day is or to set up a time with him to receive it.

**Where:** Communion is taken at the chancel rail in the front of the church. However, our Pastor and the Elder on Duty are happy to go to persons with special needs. Please let us know in advance if you need any assistance going to the rail or if you would like to have communion at your seat.

**Why:** Jesus commanded it of His followers so that they would remember what He had done for them, receive the forgiveness of their sins, and be strengthened in their faith.

**How:** We proceed in 4 stages.

1. After Pastor speaks the words of institution (the words that Jesus Christ said) over the elements, he will invite those wishing to partake of the wine using the "common cup" to come forward.
2. If you wish to receive the common cup, you may come forward to the chancel rail through any aisle at that time, but please exit using the center aisle following the final blessing by the Pastor.
3. Those wishing to partake of the wine using individual cups are then welcomed up the side aisles in groups by the ushers. Following the final blessing, depart down the center aisle placing your cup on one of the receiving trays on the ends of the front rows of chairs.
4. Pastor and the Elder on Duty will then go to persons with special needs, such as those in wheelchairs or who have difficulty walking, and commune them.

Holy Communion is a special time for us. It is a time for reflection, prayer, thanksgiving, and for receiving God's forgiveness as brothers and sisters united by a common faith in Jesus Christ. Thank you for respecting our communion practice.



## First Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2019

8:00 and 10:30 AM

### Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)

9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.

Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

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 THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

Dear Savior, thank You for becoming a man. What a sacrifice that was! You left the glories of heaven; You put off using Your divine power, wisdom, knowledge, and authority; You were born in humility and raised in poverty; and, throughout Your life, You knew the horror of how Your life would end. You did all this, not for a friend or for some holy person but for us—sinners. Because You came in the flesh, our lives contain a promise of restoration—a promise made sure in Your life, death, resurrection, and ascension. Through You, the Word made flesh, we are restored to a right relationship with God. Lord Jesus, thank You for becoming what we needed most, a Savior from sin. Amen.



## Confession and Absolution

### 384 Of the Father's Love Begotten

*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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**



## Service of the Word

### Entrance Hymn

#### 380 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;  
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3 Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be-hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir-gin's womb.  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail the in-car - nate De - i - ty!  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,



With the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth-le-hem!"  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Je - sus, our Im-man-u - el!  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec-ond birth.



Hark! The her-ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

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### Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

# Gloria in Excelsis

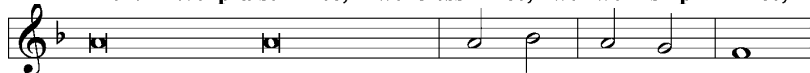
Luke 2:14; John 1:29



Glory be to God on high: 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;



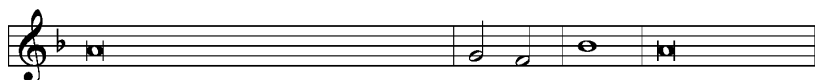
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



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



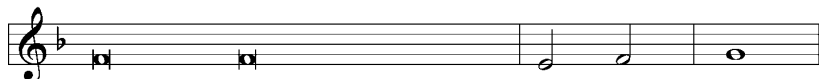
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



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.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Let us pray.

**P** O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 63:7-14

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, the sixty-third chapter.

I will recount the steadfast love of the LORD,  
the praises of the LORD,  
according to all that the LORD has granted us,  
and the great goodness to the house of Israel  
that he has granted them according to his compassion,  
according to the abundance of his steadfast love.  
For he said, "Surely they are my people,  
children who will not deal falsely."  
And he became their Savior.

In all their affliction he was afflicted,  
and the angel of his presence saved them;  
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;  
he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.  
But they rebelled  
and grieved his Holy Spirit;  
therefore he turned to be their enemy,  
and himself fought against them.

Then he remembered the days of old,  
of Moses and his people.  
Where is he who brought them up out of the sea  
with the shepherds of his flock?  
Where is he who put in the midst of them  
his Holy Spirit,  
who caused his glorious arm  
to go at the right hand of Moses,  
who divided the waters before them  
to make for himself an everlasting name,  
who led them through the depths?  
Like a horse in the desert,  
they did not stumble.  
Like livestock that go down into the valley,  
the Spirit of the LORD gave them rest.  
So you led your people,  
to make for yourself a glorious name.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

### 388 Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the moun - tain, O-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

Go tell it on the moun - tain That Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch - ing O'er si - lent flocks by night,

2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled When lo, a - bove the earth

3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger The hum - ble Christ was born;

*Refrain*

Be - hold, through - out the heav - ens There shone a ho - ly light.

Rang out the an - gel cho - rus That hailed our Sav - ior's birth.

And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ - mas morn.



## Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7

**P** The Epistle is from Galatians, the fourth chapter.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

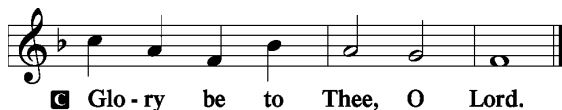
*Stand*

### Alleluia



### Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.



When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt I called my son."

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah,  
weeping and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;  
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: "He shall be called a Nazarene."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



## Nicene Creed

**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  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit*

## **375 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising**

### **Sermon**

**“The Bright Side of a Dark Beginning”**

Text: See the Holy Gospel Reading

### **Offering**

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

*Stand*

### **Prayer of the Church**

*After each portion of the prayer:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.





## Service of the Sacrament



*Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.*



### 379 O Come, All Ye Faithful

#### Preface

*2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1 Psalm 136*



**P** The Lord be with you.



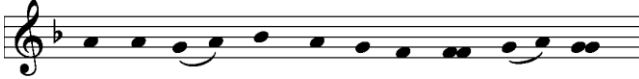
**G** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**G** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**G** It is meet and right so to do.

#### Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



**C** 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.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## The Words of Our Lord

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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

John 20:19



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**G** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

John 1:29



**G** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.



## Distribution

**358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come** vs. 1, 3, 5, 15

**369 Where Shepherds Lately Kneled**

**368 Angels We Have Heard on High**

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

*Luke 2:29–32*

**Lord, now let your servant go in peace, according to your word,  
for my eyes have seen Your salvation,  
which You have prepared before the face of all people;  
a light to lighten the gentiles and the glory of Your people,  
Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end.**

**Amen.**

## Thanksgiving

*Psalms 107:1*

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

**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.



## 387 Joy to the World



## *Soli Deo Glória!*

*(To God alone be the glory.)*



*Thus the Lord's Supper was instituted in the church so that as this sign reminds us of the promises of Christ, the remembrance might strengthen our faith and we might publicly confess our faith and announce the blessings of Christ.*

**Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper,**  
a report of the CTCR of the LCMS, p.12.

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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