

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Divine Service Four

The Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2020





The Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2020

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 Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

O almighty God, help us to repent of our sins and thus trust Jesus as our Savior; may we never believe that we are good enough to enter heaven on our own merits. Help us as we study Your written Word, to find in the Old Testament the Messiah described in vivid detail and to see in the New Testament that Jesus fits that description perfectly. Jesus lived a perfectly sinless life, died as Your offering for sin, rose from the dead, ascended into heaven, and rules over all things from the position of honor at Your right hand. Grant that we, as Jesus' sheep, trust the Good News that "Jesus is the Messiah." We pray in His name. Amen.



Confession and Absolution

515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience Their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Go forth as He ap - proach - es With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Shall live and reign for - ev - er When sor - row is no more.
A - rise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing And soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; The gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry The Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; At mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; The Bride - groom is at hand.
In tri - umph cast be - fore Him Their di - a - dems of gold.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion That sets Your peo - ple free!

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13

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 and call upon Him in prayer and praise,, 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.

Confession of Sins

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

Absolution

- 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



Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may | lay her young,*
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God.

How lovely is your | dwelling place,*
O | LORD of hosts!

Behold our shield, | O God,*
look on the face of your a- | nointed!

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand | elsewhere.*
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house
of my God than dwell in the tents of | wickedness.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield;
the LORD bestows favor and | honor.*
No good thing does he withhold from
those who walk up- | rightly.

O | LORD of hosts,*
blessèd is the one who | trusts in you!

Glorify be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may | lay her young,*
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



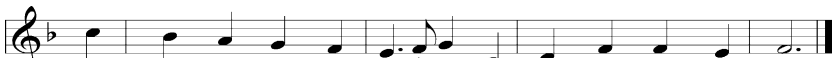
1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



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.

G And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Amos 5:18–24

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why would you have the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, and not light,
as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,

or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.

Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

"I hate, I despise your feasts,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.



Gradual



He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

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

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

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

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

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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



Apostles' Creed

G **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the
dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels

heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom, in
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.

Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the

cry re - joic - es; "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.

The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might

Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly

To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!"

Sermon:

"Oil in Your Lamp"

Text: **Matthew 25: 1 - 13**

Offering

There is an offering plate in the back of the sanctuary where you can deposit your offerings as you leave.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

Closing Collect

- P** Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

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

Benediction

- 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.
- G** Amen.

336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
 2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him
 3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion
 4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,

Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;
 Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;
 Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,
 High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;

Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
 Those who set at naught and sold Him,
 Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion
 Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,

Swell the tri - umph of His train:
 Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
 To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers,
 Claim the king - dom as Thine own.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
 Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

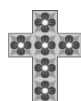
lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.
 rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

Text and tune: Public domain



Soli Deo Gloria!


(To God alone be the glory.)



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 © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements



Assisting Elders: 8 a.m. – Steve White
10:30 a.m. – Curt Engle

Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)
Based on Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



T Z F E S G H O G Q N O G T A
O B M P K S M I D N I G H T A
G O M Q I N A N H E A V E N S
C A Q L Q T I I E D I J K B L
L P O B R I D E G R O O M A E
M O J K E F D K L X M O H N E
F E O G S W O I H A Z S R Q P
V W E X G B I N O D A T H U X
I T B T P C L G R W R T E E T
R S R C U B O D A A M O Z T E
G S D I K T Y O N T W D W K X
I T T S M W G M G C R F O S W
N V I H O M Z I Z H P W D O Y
S N N T P X E W E D D I N G E
U T C Z G X C D S W I S E E C

FOOLISH	MEET	DROWSY	VIRGINS	BANQUET
MIDNIGHT	WEDDING	TRIMMED	RANG	KINGDOM
BRIDEGROOM	LAMPS	WISE	WATCH	COME
DOOR	ASLEEP	HEAVEN	OIL	WOKE



Congregational Christmas Giving **“Blessings at Christmas”**

This Christmas we again have the opportunity to support "Blessings at Christmas" through Bethesda Lutheran Communities Ministry headquartered in down-town Littleton. This project is sponsored by "Women of the Cross."

Gift-giving this year is purchasing Gift Cards in any amount determined by your Heart. Suggested stores for easiest shopping: Target, Walmart, JC Penney and Barnes and Noble.

Place your "Gift Card" in the slotted Christmas-wrapped box. This will be located on your right side as you depart the Sanctuary. (Cards will be collected after second service.) We will receive your gifts beginning Sunday, November 1 through the deadline of Sunday, December 6.

Should you wish to make a cash donation or by check, make your check to: LWML - Women of the Cross - Memo: For Bethesda gift cards, and put in the slotted Christmas-wrapped box.



Bethesda Lutheran Communities will purchase meaningful and useful gifts using the donated gift cards for those living in Bethesda's home situations. Bethesda will wrap and place the gifts under the Christmas trees.

*Thank you for your generosity in making someone's
Christmas special! Women of the Cross*

The 2020 Lutheran High School Auction will be a global event!



The 21st Annual Lutheran High School auction is moving to 100% online, with no in-person event due to the decrease in gathering size limitations to 100 people. The Auction has always been a highly social event of celebration of Lutheran High School, and we feel it would be difficult to try and create that atmosphere with a quarter of our normal attendance.

Cheryl Cattau will be in contact with anyone who purchased a ticket for the event about reimbursement.

We still need your participation on the night of Friday, November 20! We are still encouraging people to host a gathering in their home! Sign up here: [LuHi Auction host form](#)

For people who do not want to host or attend with a group, you can help as well! Everyone can participate in the evening by bidding online, donating, and tuning into the livestream that evening. Here is what you need to do:

1. Go to [LuHi Auction 2020](#)
2. Click the "sign in" button in the right hand corner of the welcome page
3. Pick how you would like to sign in....email, facebook or google
4. Create a password
5. Enter login information
6. Add a credit card in the secured link
7. You're all set!
8. You will receive a text confirmation that will allow you to link directly from your device
9. Begin browsing items, bidding, or giving!

Bidding can begin as soon as items get listed (some already are!). Please tune into the livestream that evening at 7:30 p.m. - it will involve Mr. Zoeller. More on that later...

Thanks for adjusting with us! Even though we'll miss the social aspect of our annual auction this year, we can still rally together to make the night a huge success!

Thank you!

Kristin Gehrke & Cheryl Cattau - Auction Coordinators

Petitions and Prayers: According to Isaiah, we pray because God has promised to hear us.



Health concerns:

Dear Jesus, You are the Great Physician. You took our flesh upon Yourself: You know our weaknesses because You bore them on the cross. We pray that You would deliver those with illnesses and afflictions. Likewise, enable them to believe that Your grace is sufficient for them in all circumstances. Thank You that we can look to You for hope and healing. Amen.

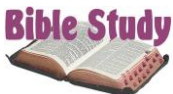
Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Theresa Kingham – cancer
- Kevin Koessel (Karlee Shavlik's brother) – cancer
- Julie Ann Zamora – multiple health issues

Prayer of intercession:

A Prayer for the Return of Christ

**Gracious God, You are the ever-present help in time of trouble. We know that on any given day Christ may return in glory. Prepare our hearts and minds for His return by forgiving our sins and cleansing us from all unrighteousness. Keep us ever alert so that we shall be ready for You to welcome us into Your heavenly kingdom. In the mighty name of Jesus we pray. Amen*



Find Pastor Skelton's Bible Study based on First Samuel posted on facebook.com/holycrosshighlandsranch and click on videos to see the Bible Study and worship services.

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life November 8, 2020

Maybe you enjoy showing hospitality to others, whether at home or as part of a joint effort at church. Perhaps you invite people who are lonely or people who are hungry or homeless or far away from home. Perhaps you are reaching out to refugees or to international students. Perhaps you take a casserole to a family with a new baby or buy toothpaste and toilet paper for the local homeless shelter. If so, you are showing hospitality to Jesus. What an honor to be able to do so!”

Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org



*[Jesus said:] "As long as I am in the world,
I am the light of the world."*

John 9:5

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!***



Check out
The Lutheran Hour
Sunday mornings at
6 a.m. on 850 KOA Radio
or
go to www.lhm.org and click on
"Listen Now" anytime.

**Holy Cross
Lutheran Church**



Holy Cross Lutheran is on Facebook.
Check us out and Like us at
facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch.

***True independence is
dependence on God.***