

# **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**The Last Sunday of the Church Year**

**Divine Service One**

**November 22, 2020**





## The Last Sunday of the Church Year

**November 22, 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 the Last Sunday of the Church Year**

Lord Jesus, as another church year comes to a close, set our hearts on things above, not on earthly things. Forgive us for allowing the din of our daily activities to drown out Your command: "Keep watch because you do not know the day your Lord will come." We rejoice that by the Spirit's grace we can eagerly look forward to You, dear Jesus, as Savior as well as Judge. Truly, we Christians welcome the Last Day and lift up our heads, for our redemption draws near. Yet always remind us that You are also a righteous judge who will condemn unbelief. Excite us and Christians everywhere to reach out with the Gospel and rescue unbelievers before that great and awesome Day. Gracious Savior, enable us to live holy and godly lives so that we look forward to the Day of the Lord. Amen.



## Confession and Absolution

### 532 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

1 The Head that once was crowned with thorns Is  
2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords Is  
3 The Joy of all who dwell a - bove, The  
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, With

crowned with glo - ry now; A roy - al di - a -  
His, is His by right, The King of kings and  
Joy of all be - low, To whom He man - i -  
all its grace, is giv'n; Their name an ev - er -

dem a - dorns The might - y Vic - tor's brow.  
Lord of lords, And heav'n's e - ter - nal Light;  
fests His love And grants His name to know.  
last - ing name, Their joy the joy of heav'n.

- 5 They suffer with their Lord below,  
They reign with Him above,  
Their profit and their joy to know  
The myst'ry of His love.
- 6 The cross He bore is life and health,  
Though shame and death to Him:  
His people's hope, His people's wealth,  
Their everlasting theme.

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.

**G** Amen.

## Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

## Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- 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



In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a | new earth,\*  
the home of | righteousness.

**O LORD, make me know my end and  
what is the measure | of my days;\***  
**let me know how fleeting | I am!**

Behold, you have made my days a few | handbreadths,\*  
and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.

**And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?\***  
**My hope | is in you.**

Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.\*  
Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!

**Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry;**  
**hold not your peace | at my tears!\***

**For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my | fathers.**

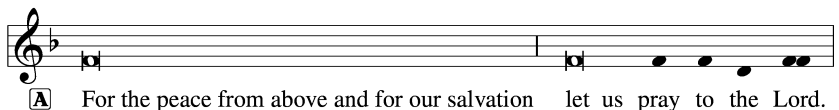
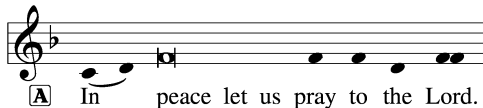
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

In keeping with his promise we are looking  
forward to a new heaven and a | new earth,\*  
the home of | righteousness.



## Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*





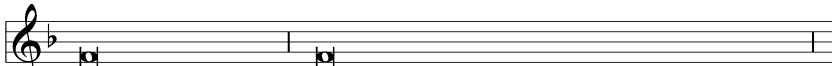
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



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



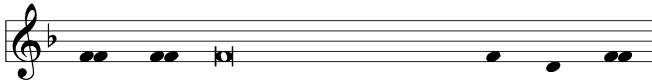
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



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



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



**C** A - men.

## Gloria in Excelsis

*Luke 2:14; John 1:29*



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,

You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

**Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24**

“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual



**These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.\*  
They have washed their robes and made them  
white in the blood of the Lamb.  
Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,\*  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**



## Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*

**G** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the verse, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

## Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:31–46

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

**G** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The musical notation is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people

one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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



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

*Sit*



## 756 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near  
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, Though their weight  
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, And I will  
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, For I am  
 5 Now in Christ, death can - not slay me, Though it might,



With His cheer; Nev - er will He leave me.  
 May be great, They will not de - feat me.  
 Trust Him still When He sends me sad - ness.  
 His dear lamb, He, my Shep - herd ev - er.  
 Day and night, Trou - ble and dis - may me.



Who can rob me of the heav - en That God's Son  
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sends them; He who knows  
 God is good; His love at - tends me Day by day,  
 I am His be - cause He gave me His own blood  
 Christ has made my death a por - tal From the strife



For me won When His life was giv - en?  
 All my woes Knows how best to end them.  
 Come what may, Guides me and de - fends me.  
 For my good, By His death to save me.  
 Of this life To His joy im - mor - tal!

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## Sermon

### "But in Fact Christ Has Been Raised"

Text: See the Epistle Reading

## 348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-ph'ant breaks,  
 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,  
 3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose  
 4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race  
 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
 But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.  
 And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.  
 The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.  
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text and tune: Public domain



## **Apostles' Creed**

**C** 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.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

*After each portion of the prayer:*

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



## **Offering**

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

*Stand*

## Offertory

*Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19*



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

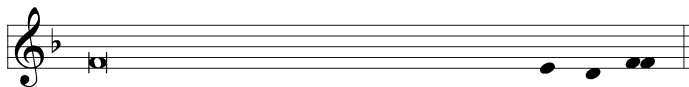
## Closing Collect

- P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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 ☩ give you peace.



**C** A - men.



***Soli Deo Gloria!***

*(To God alone be the glory.)*

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book


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**680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise**

  
1 Thine the a - men Thine the praise Al - le -  
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly Thine the  
3 Thine the tru - ly Thine the yes Thine the  
4 Thine the king - dom Thine the prize Thine the  
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night No more

  
lu - ias an - gels raise Thine the ev - er - last - ing head  
prom - ise let there be Thine the vi - sion Thine the tree  
ta - ble we the guest Thine the mer - cy all from Thee  
won - der full sur - prise Thine the ban - quet then the praise  
dy - ing on - ly light Thine the riv - er Thine the tree

  
Thine the break - ing of the bread Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
All the earth on bend - ed knee Gone the nail - ing gone the  
Thine the glo - ry yet to be Then the ring - ing and the  
Then the jus - tice of Thy ways Thine the glo - ry Thine the  
Then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly Then the ho - ly ho - ly

  
sto - ry Thine the har - vest then the cup Thine the  
rail - ing Gone the plead - ing gone the cry Gone the  
sing - ing Then the end of all the war Thine the  
sto - ry Then the wel - come to the least Then the  
ho - ly Cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee Thine the

  
vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.  
splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

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***Please join us this Wednesday evening  
at 7 p.m. for Thanksgiving Communion  
Worship Service.***

## The End of the Church Year



In the Old Testament God appointed certain days and periods of time for His people to observe. Those festivals marked the great acts of salvation that God had done for His people. In the New Testament no days or festivals were commanded. Yet the Church, in the freedom of the Gospel, has continued the precedent set in the Old Testament of structuring the church year around the great acts of salvation God has done for us in Christ. The church year can also be referred to as the liturgical calendar.

This Sunday, November 22, the Last Sunday after Pentecost, can be referred to as the Last Sunday of the Church Year or as Christ the King Sunday in celebration of the eternal rule of our Savior. With the end of the church year, the cycle begins again. Next Sunday, November 29, begins a new church year with the Season of Advent.

The Season of Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ, both His coming in the incarnation at Christmas and His second coming at the end of the world as King and Judge. The chief emphasis in Advent is on preparation, preparation that is penitential, anticipatory, and hopeful in spirit. The color of the paraments during Advent is blue, emphasizing its hopeful and anticipatory nature.

## Announcements



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

## Inside Workday and Christmas Tree Decorating



Clean the sanctuary  
and narthex for the  
Christmas Holiday Season  
and decorate the Christmas trees!



**Saturday, November 28, 2020 at 9 a.m.**

Bringing extra vacuum cleaners  
would be helpful!





Our semi-annual voters' assembly is scheduled for the second Sunday of December.

With our mortgage retired and our aging building needing repairs/replacements, the Council decided it would be prudent and responsible to be **proactive instead of reactive** by properly funding future repairs. With that goal in mind, we commissioned an independent Reserve Study at the beginning of 2020. This involved a comprehensive evaluation of the different components that make up HCLC - the building itself, the exterior, and the interior. The reserve study provided valuable information and a path for the future of our facility, through a 30 year timeline for repairs and/or replacements. This assessment indicated that HCLC would need to set aside a monthly amount to fund the anticipated need.

After much discussion, we decided that we have three budget options, which are available on the table in the narthex.

1. funding the unrestricted building reserve at 100%, which is \$9,200 per month, evaluating any shortfall at the end of the year
2. funding the unrestricted building reserve at 50%, which is \$4,600 per month, and deal with any issue that may come
3. not funding the reserve, putting any remaining positive balance into the building reserve at the end of the year

This information is printed out and located on the table in the narthex.

**The Voter's Meeting will be held on  
December 13, 2020 at 9:30 am between services.**

+++++



**Update:** Margaret Bloder's new Phone number is 303-933-9967.



## **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*

**Petitions and Prayers:** When we pray, there is only one mediator (intercessor) between God and man: Jesus.



### **Health concerns:**

*Gracious Father, grant these people healing as best suits Your will for their lives. Help them to pray, "If it be Your will," and so let them place themselves in Your care forever. You have shown Your love to all who suffer by sending Jesus, who bore all for us in His life and death. We pray in His name. Amen.*

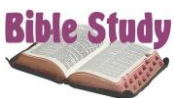
Please keep the following in your prayers:

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

### **Prayer of intercession:**

*A Prayer for the End of the Church Year*

*Graciously heavenly Father, thank You for the many blessings You have granted us this past year as Your Church and as Your children individually. Thank You for Your mercy extended to us as undeserving sinners, for covering us with the righteousness of Your Son's shed blood. Lord Jesus, keep us close to the Word and faithful to the end as we look forward to Your return and to life eternal with You and the Father. Amen.*



Find Pastor Skelton's Bible Study based on First Samuel posted on [facebook.com/holycrosshighlandsranch](https://www.facebook.com/holycrosshighlandsranch) and click on videos to see the Bible Study and worship services.

### **"Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life November 22, 2020**

"This Thanksgiving, let's remember exactly what God has bought for us with the blood of His Son—not just anything, but everything that matters: Pardon from sin and release from guilt. Peace with God and a home in heaven. We come empty-handed to this banquet of blessings. No marshmallow-topped side dish of good works can earn us a place at this buffet. We have nothing to offer God in exchange, yet '[t]he LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy" (Psalm 126:3)."

*Sarah Habban, Time of Grace*

*A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*



*Then the King will say to those on his right,  
'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom  
prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'*

*Matthew 25:34*

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***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:  
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**Check out  
The Lutheran Hour  
Sunday mornings at  
6 a.m. on 850 KOA Radio**

**or  
go to [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org) and click on  
"Listen Now" anytime.**

**Holy Cross  
Lutheran Church**



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Check us out and Like us at  
[facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch](https://facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch).



**When you think God is No Where;  
God is Now Here.**