

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

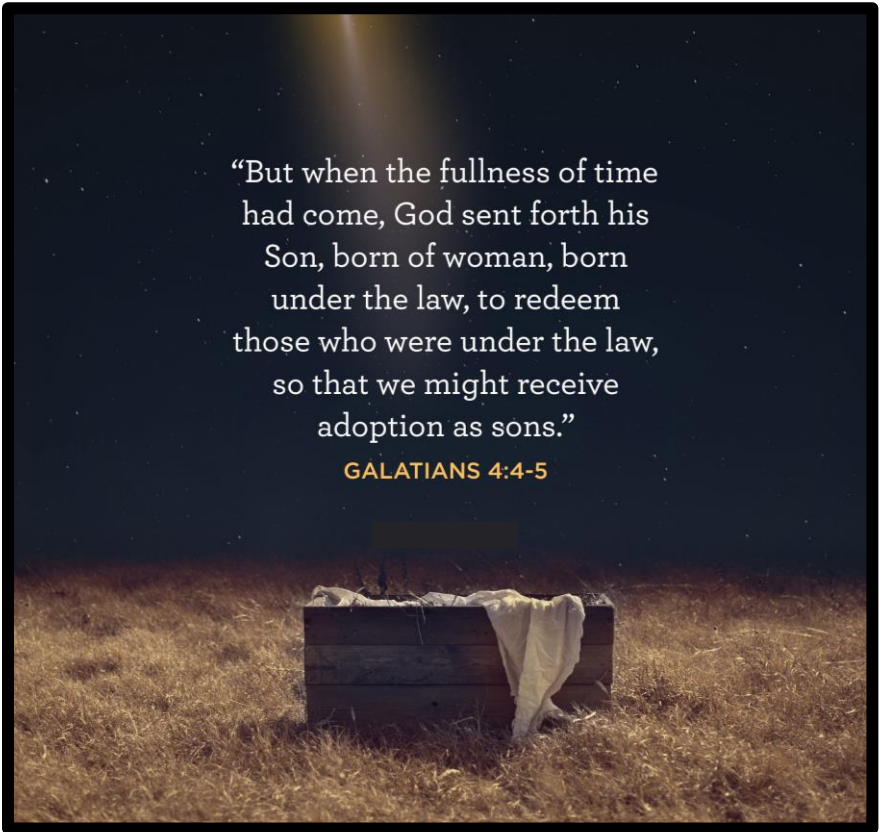
The First Sunday after Christmas

Divine Service One

December 27, 2020

“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.”

GALATIANS 4:4-5





The First Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 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 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

367 Angels from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, Watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, Bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, Watch - ing long in
△ 5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,

all the earth; Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing,
beam a - far; Seek the great De - sire of na - tions,
hope and fear, Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,
Spir - it, Son, Ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing

Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth.
Yon - der shines the In - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
In His tem - ple shall ap - pear.
To the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship;
Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Text and tune: Public domain

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

Stand



Service of the Word

Introit



The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the | nations,*
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.

**Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done | marvelous things!***
**His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salva- | tion for him.**

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;*,
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

**He has remembered his steadfast love
and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.***
**All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation | of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth;*,
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

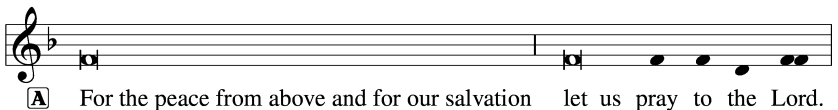
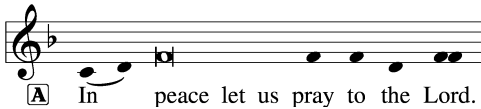
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the | nations;*,
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation | of our God.



Kyrie

Mark 10:47





C Lord, have mer - cy.



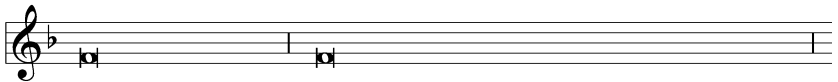
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



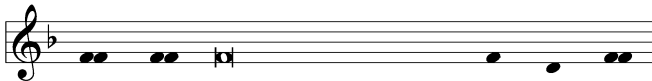
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



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

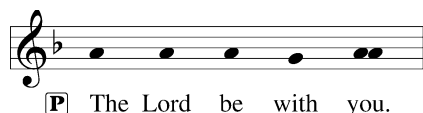


A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



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.

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.



Sit

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 61:10—62:3

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful
headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.
The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual



To us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
 and the government shall be upon his | shoulder.
 And his name shall be called
 Wonderful Counselor, | Mighty God,*
 Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.
 Sing to the Lord a | new song,*
 for he has done | marvelous things!



Epistle: Galatians

4:4-7

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

386 Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



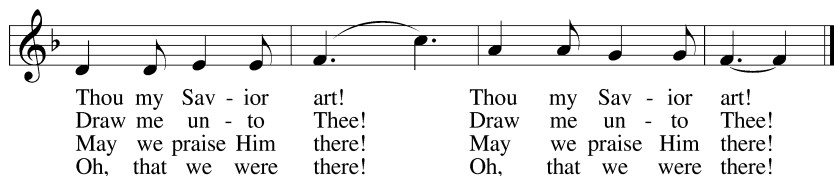
1 Now sing we, now re - joice,	Now raise to heav'n our voice;
2 Come from on high to me;	I can - not rise to Thee.
3 Now through His Son doth shine	The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
4 Oh, where shall joy be found?	Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth	Poor in a man - ger lies;
Cheer my wea - ried spir - it,	O pure and ho - ly Child;
Death was reign - ing o'er us	Through sin and van - i - ty
Where the an - gels sing - ing	With all His saints u - nite,



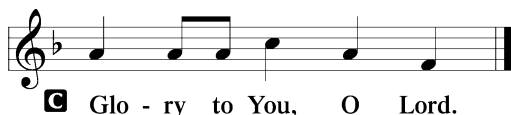
Not so bright - ly beam - eth	The sun in yon - der skies.
Through Thy grace and mer - it,	Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
Till He o - pened for us	A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing	In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Text and tune: Public domain

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:22–40

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



When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
 according to your word;
 for my eyes have seen your salvation
 that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
 a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
 and for glory to your people Israel.”

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

358 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

1 "From heav'n a - bove to earth I come To bear good
 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mar - y,
 3 "This is the Christ, our God Most High, Who hears your
 5 "These are the signs that you shall mark: The swad-dling

news to ev - 'ry home; Glad tid - ings of great
 cho - sen vir - gin mild; This lit - tle child of
 sad and bit - ter cry; He will Him - self your
 clothes and man - ger dark. There you will find the

joy I bring, Where - of I now will say and sing:
 low - ly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
 Sav - ior be From all your sins to set you free.
 in - fant laid By whom the heav'ns and earth were made."

8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
 Through whom the sinful world is blest!
 You came to share my misery
 That You might share Your joy with me.

- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.
- 15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

Text and tune: Public domain



Sermon

"Born Under the

Law"

Text: Galatians 4:4-7

389 Let All Together Praise Our God

1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an

glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies

give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.

Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain
Text (st. 1): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110017611

(412 The People That in Darkness Sat)

- 3 To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is giv'n,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All pow'r in earth and heav'n,
All pow'r in earth and heav'n.
- 4 His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,

The Wonderful,
The God by all
The God by all



the Counselor,
adored,
adored.

- D 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: Public domain

Stand



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 ^T everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:

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



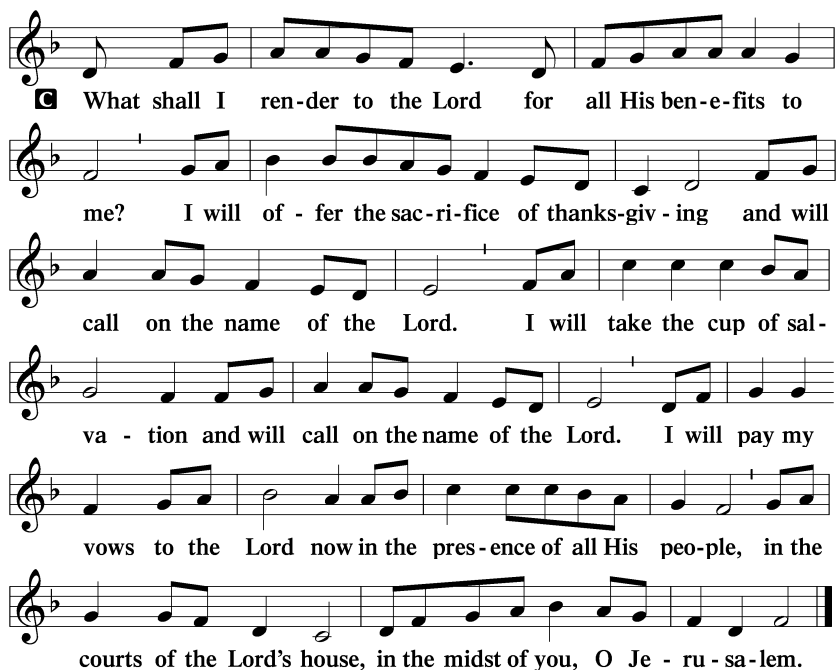
Offering

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

Musical notation for the Offertory, featuring a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, accessible style with eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The text is: "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." The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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

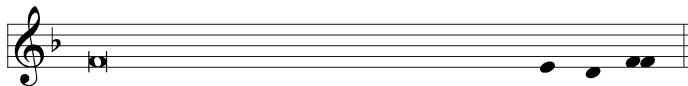
P Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Collect

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.



G A - men.

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.

Tune and text: Public domain



Assisting E



1. – Bob Stabo
1. – Gary Bartels

Soli Deo Gloria! (To God alone be the glory.)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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Announcements



Thank you to the following members for gracing our chancel with poinsettias this Christmas: the Greg Allan family; Tim and Nancy Gropp; John and Diane Lee; Marie McQuarrie; Terry and Connie Mitchell; Jerry and Shirley Tuell; Jane Wheatley; Steve and Becky White; Dave and Helga Weiss; and Julie Ann Zamora.



Julie Ann Zamora needs a ride to and from church on Sunday mornings and Wednesdays (during Advent and Lent) from Wind Crest. If you are able to help out, please call her at 720-863-8688.

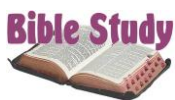
Portals of Prayer for January-March 2021 are out!

Pick up your copy from the table in the narthex. We have digest size copies if you need larger print. These are a great resource to use in your daily devotions!

Offering Envelope



The 2021 Offering Envelopes are available on the table in the narthex. If you didn't find yours or would like to request envelopes, please contact Dave Shavlik.



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.

***I have come into the world as light, so that
whoever
in me may
remain in
John 12:46***

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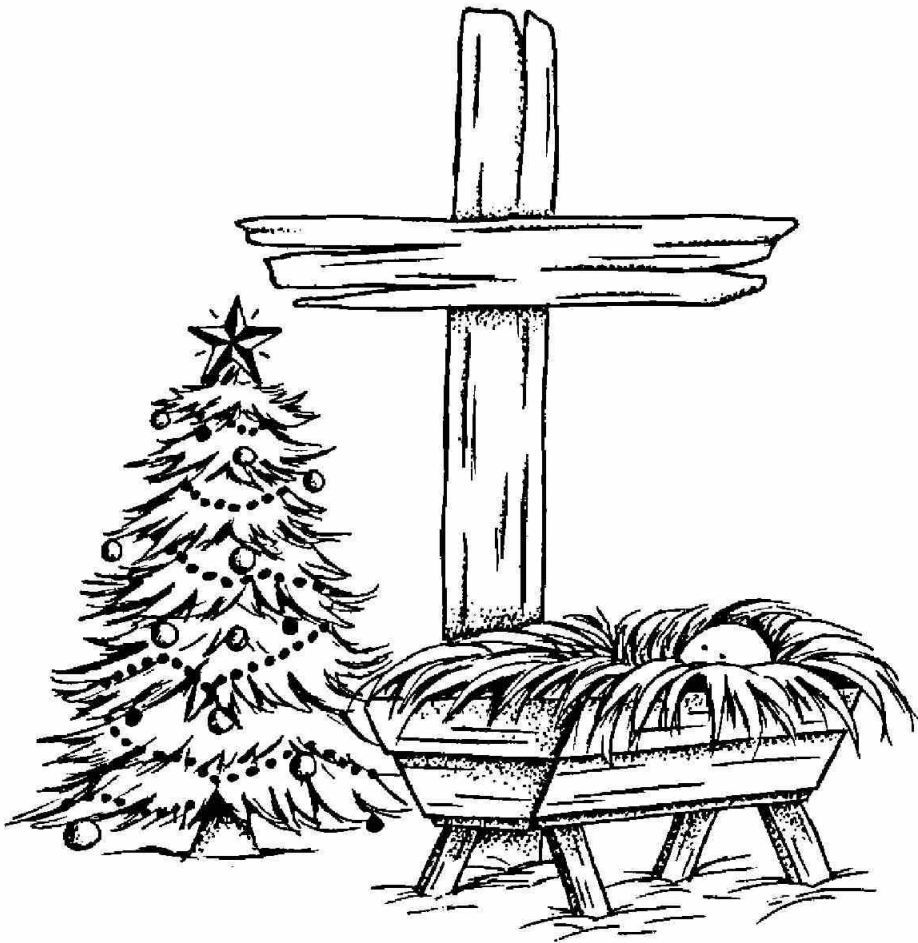


***believes
not
darkness.***

Thanks to Nadine Fafard (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-24-2001

THAT'S THE BEST ONE-STAR HOTEL THAT
I'VE EVER SEEN





Petitions and Prayers: Through Jesus who justified us by His death and resurrection, we are assured that God will hear us and will “freely give us all things.”



Health concerns:

Dear Jesus, Great Physician of body and soul, hear our prayer for those who are sick. Be for them the grace sufficient for them in this time of suffering. Remind them that in their weakness Your power is being brought to perfection. If it be Your will, bring healing to these people, even as we anticipate the ultimate healing in the joys of heaven. 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 Year

**Lord God Almighty, You are the beginning and the end. Teach us to begin each day and every year with the truth and encouragement of Your Word. Guide us also to close each night and season in the forgiveness of Your Son, Jesus Christ. At this time, show us Your mercy, giving us boldness to seek Your will and courage to be obedient to Your will. Be our life and salvation in this world as we anticipate worshiping You in the world to come. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life December 27, 2020

“The slaughter of the innocents continues in our time ... done not out of anger, but because the arrival of these little ones is deemed inconvenient or too expensive or sometimes simply because they are not the ‘right’ sex. We, like Rachel, weep over our lost children. But mourning their loss does not mean that we do not fight to end this assault on the sanctity of life. The holy birth of our Savior Jesus Christ, which has transformed the world for the good in so many ways, gives us hope that abortion, too, can be ended.”

*Steven Mosher, Population Research Institute
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*



**I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;**

Isaiah 61:10

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

8:25 a.m.



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**



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No Jesus No Peace
Know Jesus Know Peace