

# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

## Divine Service Four

### The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 10, 2021



And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 2:11



## **The Epiphany of Our Lord**

**January 10, 2021**

**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 Epiphany of Our Lord**

Lord Jesus, by Your preaching and the miracles that accompanied it, You revealed exactly who You are and exactly what You came into this world to accomplish. Your words and miracles forever stand as unshakeable proof that as the God-man You fully accomplished Your mission of earning forgiveness for a whole world of sinners. In this Epiphany season, as we study Your Word, strengthen our confidence in You as our only Savior and Lord. In Your name we pray. Amen.



## Confession and Absolution

### 400 Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning



1 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,  
2 Cold on His cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;  
3 Shall we not yield Him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,  
4 Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,  
5 Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,



Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;  
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;  
Fra - grance of E - dom and of - f' rings di - vine,  
Vain - ly with gifts would His fa - vor se - cure.  
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us thine aid;



Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,  
An - gels a - dore Him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,  
Gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,  
Rich - er by far is the heart's ad - o - ra - tion;  
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,



Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.  
Mak - er and Mon - arch and Sav - ior of all.  
Myrrh from the for - est and gold from the mine?  
Dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.  
Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Tune and text: 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

*Psalms 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

*[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



I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;\*  
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

**Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your  
kingdom is a scepter of up- | rightness;\*  
you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.**

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of  
gladness beyond your companions;\*  
your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and cassia.

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

I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;\*  
therefore nations will praise you forever and ever.

## Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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

## Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



**G** 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-shiped 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.

O God, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;  
but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will be seen upon you.  
And nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
Lift up your eyes all around, and see;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from afar,  
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.  
Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and exult,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.  
A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.  
They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual



**Praise the LORD, all | nations!\***

**Extol him, all | peoples!**

**For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\***

**and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.**

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\***

**bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!**

## Epistle: Ephesians 3:1–12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

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

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

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse



## Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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

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

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come



and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

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

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



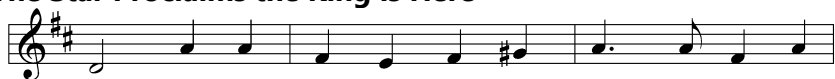
### **Apostles' Creed**

**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.**

### 399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,  
 2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed  
 3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood The heav'n - ly  
 4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter  
 Δ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly  
 on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they  
 Lamb in meek - ness stood That He, of whom no sin was  
 red - dened in - to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it -  
 Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.  
 trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.  
 known, Might cleanse His peo - ple from their own.  
 flowed In streams that na - ture ne'er be - stowed.  
 dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

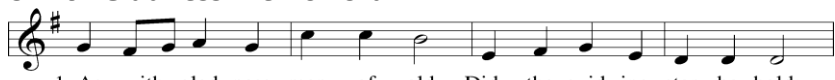
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### Sermon

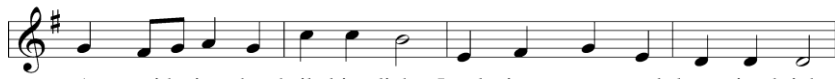
#### "Wise Men Seek Christ"

Text: Matthew 2:1-12

### 397 As with Gladness Men of Old



1 As with glad - ness men of old Did the guid - ing star be - hold;  
 2 As with joy - ful steps they sped, Sav - ior, to Thy low - ly bed,  
 3 As they of - fered gifts most rare At Thy cra - dle, rude and bare,  
 4 Ho - ly Je - sus, ev - 'ry day Keep us in the nar - row way;  
 5 In the heav'n - ly coun - try bright Need they no cre - at - ed light;



As with joy they hailed its light, Lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;  
 There to bend the knee be - fore Thee, whom heav'n and earth a - dore;  
 So may we with ho - ly joy, Pure and free from sin's al - loy,  
 And when earth - ly things are past, Bring our ran - somed souls at last  
 Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down;



So, most gra - cious Lord, may we Ev - er - more be led by Thee.  
 So may we with will - ing feet Ev - er seek Thy mer - cy seat.  
 All our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav'n - ly King.  
 Where they need no star to guide, Where no clouds Thy glo - ry hide.  
 There for - ev - er may we sing Al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Tune and text: Public domain



## 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.

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

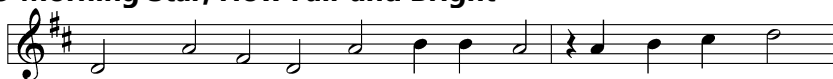
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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.

## 395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's  
2 Come, heav'n - ly Bride-groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in  
3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls  
4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
our hearts now shine; There light a flame un - dy - ing!  
from God a - bove A ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son, Our Lord and mas -  
In Your one bod - y let us be As liv - ing branch -  
Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls  
Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!  
es of a tree, Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.  
with heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure!  
here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious,  
Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us  
Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing



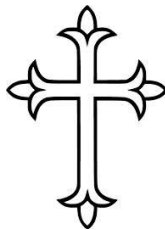
Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.  
For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.  
Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!  
Our joy be all with music crowned,  
Our voices gladly blending!  
For Christ goes with us all the way—  
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!  
His love is never ending!  
Sing out! Ring out!  
Jubilation!  
Exultation!  
Tell the story!  
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,  
The Lord we love is first and last,  
The end and the beginning!  
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,  
Transport us to that happy place  
Beyond all tears and sinning!  
Amen! Amen!  
Come, Lord Jesus!  
Crown of gladness!  
We are yearning  
For the day of Your returning!

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

#### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book  
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## **Announcements**



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



*The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Jerry and Shirley Tuell in celebration of their wedding anniversary.*



*If you purchased a poinsettia and would like to take it home, please choose one from the narthex today. If there are any left over, they will be available to anyone who wants one through next Sunday.*



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.

## **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.

**Check your mailboxes in the narthex for your financial statements for 2020.**

## **New Small Group Bible Study**



There is a new small group Bible Study beginning on Friday, January 15, at 7 p.m., held over ZOOM. It will be led by Rachel Ruetz and will be geared towards college aged/young adults but open to everyone. It will be loosely based on Ken Ham's book *How Could a Loving God ...?*. Since it will be a small group and virtual for the time being, please contact Rachel at [rmruetz@me.com](mailto:rmruetz@me.com) or see her after service for more information and to get the Zoom link.

**Petitions and Prayers:** In love, God gives us His Holy Spirit to help us in prayer. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us, but always “according to the will of God.”



### **Health concerns:**

*Precious Lord and Savior, You alone are able to help us. Be with those people who are physically sick and in need of Your healing touch. We ask You to guide their doctors so that they receive the best possible care. Heal and restore them to health as suits Your wisdom. 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 Epiphany of Our Lord*

*\*Gracious God, You have carried out Your all-inclusive plan of salvation from the foundation of the world, revealing Your Son, Jesus Christ, as the Savior and the Redeemer of the nations. Let Christ's light radiate within us, granting us faith and courage that serve as beacons of light in the darkness of this world, shining the illuminating Gospel of Christ Jesus on all who need His forgiveness and mercy and in whose name we pray. Amen.*

### **“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life January 10, 2021**

“The world needs your voice to declare Jesus’ words of eternal life. The world needs your voice to declare God’s value of life in all of its stages. The world needs your voice to declare God’s convictions born of His Word. The world needs your voice to declare that God’s word of forgiveness purchased with the blood of Jesus extends to all of us sinners, including those who have chosen abortion. The world needs your voice!”

*Rev. David Eibel, Living Word Lutheran Church, Grapevine, Texas  
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*



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.



**Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.**

*Isaiah 60:1*

## **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**

**(Missouri Synod)**

**9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd.**

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

**Holy Cross  
Lutheran Church**



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***Arrived Safely!  
Mother and Child doing well.***