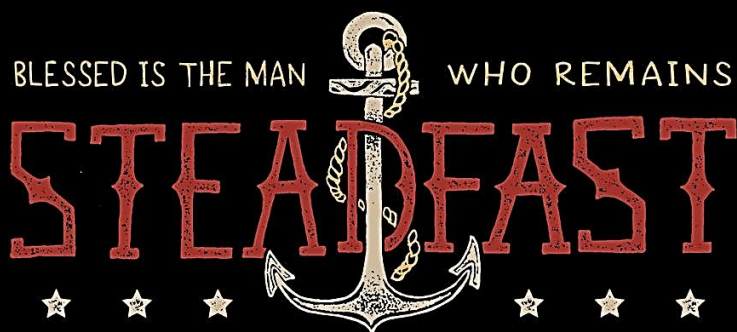


Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Divine Service Four

The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021



UNDER TRIAL, FOR WHEN HE HAS STOOD THE TEST HE WILL RECEIVE THE CROWN OF
LIFE, WHICH GOD HAS PROMISED TO THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.

— JAMES 1:12 —



The First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 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 First Sunday in Lent

Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ and also our dear Father, we thank You that You have permitted us to see another Lenten season, during which we are privileged to again meditate on the cross of Christ with its many spiritual blessings. Cause the message of the slain Lamb of God to impress upon our hearts and minds the awfulness of our sins so that we are led to the cross of Calvary for pardon and peace. Lead us to see that our sins caused His great agony in the garden; that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary; that He was forsaken by His own that we might not be forsaken by You; and that He died so that we might not die eternally. We ask this in His name, the sinless Lamb of God. Amen.



Confession and Absolution

424 O Christ, You Walked the Road



1 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.
2 No bread of earth a-lone Can fill our hun-g'ring hearts.
3 No blind-ing sign we ask, No won-der from a-bove.
4 When lures of eas-y gain With prom-ise bright-ly shine,
5 O Christ, You walked the road Our wan-d'ring feet must go.



You faced with us temp-ta-tion's pow'r And fought our an-cient foe.
Lord, help us seek Your liv-ing Word, The food Your grace im-parts.
Lord, help us place our trust a-lone In Your un-swer-v-ing love.
Lord, help us seek Your king-dom first; Our wills with Yours a-lign.
Stay with us through temp-ta-tion's hour To fight our an-cient foe.

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Stand

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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

L 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

L Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

L 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.

- L** 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.**

Prayer for Forgiveness

- L** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**



Service of the Word

Introit



When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in | trouble;*
I will rescue him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—*
the Most High, who is my | refuge—

no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.

For he will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.

On their hands they will | bear you up,*
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.

You will tread on the lion and the | adder,*
the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

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.

When he calls to me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in | trouble;*
I will rescue him and | honor him.

With long life I will sat- | isfy him*
and show him my sal- | vation.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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

Hymn of Praise

During Lent the Hymn of Praise is omitted.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

L Let us pray.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who

lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 22:1–18

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:9–15

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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



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.**

Sit

600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering

1 Mark how the Lamb of God's self - of - f'ring Our hu - man
2 From this as - sur - ance of God's fa - vor Je - sus goes
3 Grant us, O God, the strength and cour - age To live the
sin - ful - ness takes on In the birth - wa - ters of the
to the wil - der - ness, There to en - dure a time of
faith our lips de - clare; Bless us in our bap - tis - mal
Jor - dan As Je - sus is bap - tized by John.
test - ing That read - ied Him to teach and bless.
call - ing; Christ's roy - al priest - hood help us share.
Hear how the voice from heav - en thun - ders, "Lo,
So we, by wa - ter and the Spir - it Bap -
Turn us from ev - 'ry false al - le - giance, That
this is My be - lov - ed Son." See how in dove - like
tized in - to Christ's min - is - try, Are of - ten led to
we may trust in Christ a - lone: Raise up in us a
form the Spir - it De - scends on God's A - noint - ed One.
paths of ser - vice Through maz - es of ad - ver - si - ty.
cho - sen peo - ple Trans - formed by love to be Your own.

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Sermon

"Remaining Steadfast"

Text: James 1:12-18

418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days

1 O Lord, through - out these for - ty days You
 2 You strove with Sa - tan, and You won; Your
 3 Though parched and hun - gry, yet You prayed And
 4 Be with us through this sea - son, Lord, And

prayed and kept the fast; In - spire re - pen - tance
 faith - ful - ness en - dured; Lend us Your nerve, Your
 fixed Your mind a - bove; So teach us to de -
 all our earth - ly days, That when the fi - nal

for our sin, And free us from our past.
 skill and trust In God's e - ter - nal Word.
 ny our - selves, Since we have known God's love.
 Eas - ter dawns, We join in heav - en's praise.

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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:

- L** 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

- L** 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.

Benedicamus and Benediction

Psalm 103:1

- L** Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Numbers 6:24-26

- L** 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 Amen.


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

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us;
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



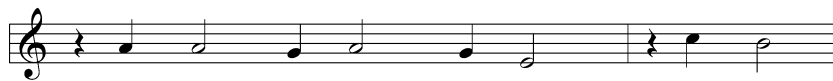
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none,
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main eth.

Announcements

***Thank you to Curt Oliver, our Head Elder,
for leading us in worship this morning.***

***Thank you to Scott Schlapkohl, Elder, for
leading Bible Study this morning.***



Assisting Elders: 8 a.m. – Steve White
10:30 a.m. – Gary Bartels



**Thank you to our Early Learning Center
children for the Valentine decorations on the
bulletin board in the narthex.**



We are raising funds to support seminarian, Camille Cox, who is attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. We have a goal of \$5,000 and you can keep track of our progress on the thermometer in the narthex.



If you would like to send a card of encouragement or support to Camille you can send it to:

Camille Cox
6600 N. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825



**Women of the Cross LWML
is in need of a Treasurer!
ASAP!**



**If you can help us out, please contact Marie McQuarrie at
303-719-1685 or 720-525-8713.**

***The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the
horn of my salvation, my stronghold.***

Psalms 18:2



**LWML – Women of the Cross is collecting
standard family size
peanut butter and jelly
to be donated to the
Douglas County's "Help & Hope Center"
in Castle Rock, CO.**

(previously known as Douglas/Elbert Task Force)

These items will be distributed to families in need.

**We will be collecting donations
Sunday, February 7 - Sunday, March 28**
(All Sundays in February and March)

Thank you for your generous donation!

HEART  HEART

We have been working with this neighborhood group for a few years. **Heart 2 Heart** provides start-up goods for the homeless who are moving into their own housing. This includes Veterans, sheltered families and battered women, and young people transitioning from foster care. Other organizations find the housing and basic furniture, we provide the start-up needs.

Needed donations include lightly used bedding, towels, books, toys, kitchen items such as pots, pans, dishes, cups, mugs, glasses, silverware, coffeemakers (each Veteran gets one), plastic storage like Glad or Tupperware, baking dishes, spatulas, etc. We do not deal with food, furniture, or clothing. However, we do purchase outfits for newborns, as no baby should leave the hospital in hand-me-down clothing.

If you have something that you no longer need, you can bring your items to church (the table outside the office door) and we will get them to **Heart 2 Heart**. If you have any questions, please call me, Becky White, at 303-506-8417. Thank you.

Steve and Becky White – 303-979-5978

Petitions and Prayers: God's promise-filled Word teaches us to confidently come to our heavenly Father in prayer—at all times and under all circumstances!



Health concerns:

Lord Jesus, lift the spirits and strengthen the faith of those people who are ill, helping them to look beyond this present affliction. Remind them that You are near, even in this time of pain and suffering. Heal them if it be Your will; if not, give them the strength to endure in faith. We pray in Your name, our only Lord and Savior. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Joyce Hansen - cancer
- Kevin Koessel (Karlee Shavlik's brother) – cancer
- Pastor Skelton – recovering from heart surgery

Prayer of intercession:

A Prayer for the First Sunday in Lent

Heavenly Father, as our Lenten pilgrimage begins, help us ponder anew Your great love for us as demonstrated by the suffering and death of Your Son on our behalf. By Your Word, You revealed the great depth of our sin and the tremendous cost of our redemption. Confessing our sins, we ask Your mercy: it was our transgressions that Jesus carried to the cross. Help us remember that we are dust and to dust we will return. Grant that we always rejoice in the life You give us in Jesus our Savior. Amen.

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life February 21, 2021

“God controlled your salvation from start to finish. He gave you faith in Baptism and strengthens faith through the Word. You can trust that He will continue to keep control of your life because you rest in the palm of His loving hand. Stand firm because God is in control.”

*Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Redwood Falls, Minnesota*

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • 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.



Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above ...

James 1:17

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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 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.



**Give up skipping
church for Lent!**