

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Divine Service Four

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021



For God So Loved the World



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 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 Fourth Sunday in Lent

O Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, as we continue our Lenten journey to the cross, use Your holy Law to make us conscious of our sin so that we bow in repentance before You. We know well what everlasting punishment our rebellion against Your will has earned. Yet You, O Jesus, are the friend of sinners. You came into the world that the Father might lay upon You the iniquity of us all. Because of Your faithful and steadfast love we find mercy and healing for our sin-sick souls. Hear us, holy Jesus. Amen.



Confession and Absolution

543 What Wondrous Love Is This



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll

caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

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.

G Amen.

Exhortation

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

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

G 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



The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?*

The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

**Though an army encamp against me,
my heart | shall not fear;***

though war arise against me, yet I will be | confident.

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after: *
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days
of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his | temple.

**For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble; *
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will lift me high up- | on a rock.**

**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 is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear? *
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Old Testament Reading: Numbers 21:4–9

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual



**[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross,
despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.**

Epistle: Ephesians 2:1–10

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive

together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

During Lent the Alleluia is omitted.

Holy Gospel: John 3:14–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their deeds were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his deeds have been carried out in God.”

P 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

542 When I Behold Jesus Christ



Refrain

What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?

You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?

You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

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Sermon

"For God So Loved the World"

Text: John 3:14-21

702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -

guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

Text and tune: Public domain



Offering

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

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 and Benediction

Psalm 103:1

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

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** Amen.

895 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voice - es,
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,

Who won - drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,

Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;

With count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day,
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain



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



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.



Thank you for your February donations to the Douglas County Help and Hope Food Bank, which have been dropped off.

March collection will continue through Sunday, March 28. Your donations are needed and very much appreciated by the Food Bank and certainly those families who are in need.

**LWML – Women of the Cross is still 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
through Sunday, March 28.**

Thank you for your generous donation!

***Portals of Prayer for
April-June 2021 are out!***

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

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgement, but has passed from death to life.

John 5:24

HEART HEART - a Non-Profit

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.

The organization was founded by our neighbor, Linda Garrity, about 10 years ago. Caseworkers provide the names, ages, and needs of the families and a few of us “grandmas and grandpas” put together the orders for these families and load them into the cars for deliveries.

Donations come in from our neighbors and from those who have heard about Heart 2 Heart through word of mouth. Additionally, we scour thrift stores and purchase some new items, especially toys for the kids. One organization provides homemade quilts!

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 and we will drop them off at Linda's. If you have any questions, please call me, Becky White, at 303-506-8417. Thank you.

Steve and Becky White – 303-979-5978

John 3:16

Word Search Puzzle

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

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD, THAT HE
GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, THAT
WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT
PERISH BUT HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

John 3:16

Petitions and Prayers: God desires that we continually set aside a quiet time and private place to talk with our Father in prayer.



Health concerns:

Lord Jesus, great is Your love and great is Your mercy. Grant those who are sick hearts that trust in Your promise never to leave them nor forsake them. Whether or not removing their suffering and restoring their health is Your will for their lives now, keep them in Your grace and strengthen their faith. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Kevin Koessel (Karlee Shavlik's brother) – cancer

Prayer of intercession:

A Prayer for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Heavenly Father, in our selfish pride we do not always want to acknowledge and confess our sins. We believe that somehow we can be good enough to satisfy You, and we feel more than satisfied with our own efforts. During this Lenten season enable us to follow our Savior along the road that led to His suffering and death. Help us to trust that He walked that road for us, that in His own body He carried our sins to the cross, and that He suffered the punishment we rightly deserve for our self-satisfaction and our sins. Let us look not to our own efforts but to the mercy and forgiving love found only in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life

March 14, 2021

“Christ does not refuse our sense of tragedy or awareness of pain. He bears it in love, affirming our condition, carrying our sorrows to the end, all the way to the heart of God.”

*Jill Carattini, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



Bible Study

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 will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness,
and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High.**

Psalm 7:17

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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.



**Love went
from the cradle
to the cross.**