

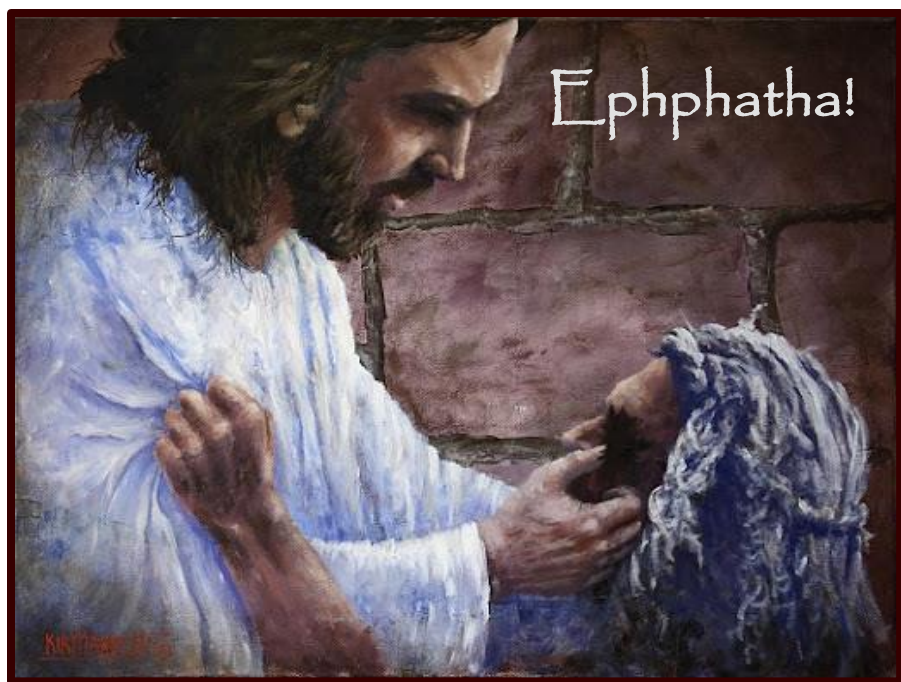
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service Four

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021





The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 5, 2021

8:00 and 10:30 AM

Prayer for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, remind us that by nature every human heart is shrouded in darkness. None of us can by his own reason or strength believe in You who is the only true light. But what we cannot do on our own, the Holy Spirit can work in us through the Gospel. He sends its beams of light into our dark, perverted hearts, works faith in You, the true light, and awakens in us the desire to live as children of light who will one day enjoy the eternal light in Your heavenly mansions. Grant that we trust that whoever in faith comes to You, the true light, can no longer love darkness and the works of darkness; he must be engaged in works that reflect Your light. We pray in Your name, O precious light. Amen.



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Cor. 11:17-34), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to speak with the Pastor prior to communing with us for the first time. We thank you for respecting our belief and practice regarding the Lord's Supper.



Confession and Absolution

545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth

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,
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, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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

- G** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Prayer for Forgiveness

P 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

Psalm 28:1–2, 6–7; antiphon: v. 8



The LORD is the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.

**To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not | deaf to me,*
lest, if you be silent to me,
I become like those who go down | to the pit.**

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to | you for help,*
when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctu- | ary.

Blessèd | be the LORD!*

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for | mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts, and | I am helped;*
my heart exults, and with my song I give | thanks to him.

**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 the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 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.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 35:4–7a

Say to those who have an anxious heart,

“Be strong; fear not!

Behold, your God

will come with vengeance,

with the recompense of God.

He will come and save you.”

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,

and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

then shall the lame man leap like a deer,

and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.

For waters break forth in the wilderness,

and streams in the desert;

the burning sand shall become a pool,

and the thirsty ground springs of water.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.



Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*

for those who fear him lack | nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*

but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle: James 2:1–10, 14–18

My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has

promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. . . .

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



John 20:31



Holy Gospel: Mark 7:31–37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

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

[Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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



Nicene Creed

G I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the
living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic
Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

797 Praise the Almighty

Sermon

“Body Building”

Text: Ephesians 4:1-16

Stand

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:

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

Sit

Offering



Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

G 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.



The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Personal prayer before Communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



Distribution

Personal prayer of thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

749 There Is a Balm in Gilead

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the be - gin - nings, Un -
For as in lead the be - gin - nings, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

P Let us bless the Lord.

C 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.

C Amen.

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing



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. – Scott Schlapkohl

10:30 a.m. – Curt Oliver



*Dear Jesus, in choosing death over life in our place, You gave us eternal life. We entreat You to grace **Elle** and each member of the **Skelton** family with your peace as they mourn the passing of their beloved husband/son/brother **Erik** this past Tuesday. May those who loved Erik know your solace in their heartache, loss and grief. Comfort **Elle, Pastor, Debbie, Jenny, Justin, Carol** and **Gretel** with the beautiful truth that they will be reunited in heaven one day with their loved one. Amen.*

***Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.***

Matthew 5:4

Dan Kingsbury is out of town this morning celebrating the adoption of four grandchildren. There will **NOT** be the preschool Sunday School class this morning. Join us next week when we resume classes.



Wednesday Morning Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 8 at 10 a.m. We will be studying the book of Isaiah. Please join us!



Pre-confirmation Class will be held Wednesday afternoons at 4 p.m. beginning September 8. Pre-confirmation class is for those in grades 4-5. It will be held at the church. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 303-683-1300.

Holy Cross Early Learning Center

Lutheran Preschool/Full-day Child Care in Highlands Ranch, Colorado

Dear members of Holy Cross,

As we begin an exciting new chapter in our school's ministry we are in need of some additional help. The ELC is looking for an **Assistant Director** and **two afternoon teacher's aides**. If you are interested or know of someone that might be interested, please email Mary at directorhclelc@gmail.com or call the school at 303-683-1311. Please also keep our school in your prayers. Thank you!

Mary Schmidt
ELC Director

Early Learning School Cook Needed!



Our Early Learning Center is looking for a cook. Tasks include making a morning snack, making and serving lunch, preparing an afternoon snack, assisting in meal planning, and clean-up. Hours are 9 a.m.-1 p.m. M-F and wages are \$13/hour. Please contact the ELC office at 303-683-1311 if you are interested in joining our Early Learning Center team.

Nursery Attendant Needed!



We are looking for a nursery attendant(s)/teacher(s) during our Sunday School hour! Our family of little ones is growing and having a nursery available will allow our parents to attend Bible Class while their little ones also hear about their Lord and Savior. Contact Dan Kingsbury at 214-862-3028 for more information.



Find Pastor Skelton's Bible Study based on First Samuel posted on facebook.com/holycrosshighlandsranch and click on videos to see the Bible Study and worship services.

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



What is “prayer”?

Have you ever wanted to talk to God? Well, guess what ... you can! God promises to hear and answer us when we pray. Because we want to concentrate on what we are praying and who we are praying to, we may close our eyes, fold our hands and bow our heads so that we are not distracted by the things around us. You don't have to do all that, though. You can pray anywhere and at anytime.

What should we pray for?

We not only ask God for what we need, but we praise and thank Him for what He has already given us. If you want to, you can pray to God just to talk to him. We pray especially that God would keep us strong in our faith, and that He might bring others to faith too.

Are there different types of prayer?

There are many different types of prayer. Much of our worship is prayers, including the Confession, the Agnus Dei, and the Post-Communion Cantic. You can find prayers for different times and needs on pages 305–18 in *Lutheran Service Book*.



Parents: Direct your child to the different prayers in our worship. (For example The Prayer of the Church) Turn to pages 327 in *Lutheran Service Book*. Read through Luther's Morning and Evening Prayers. Try using them at home with your children when they wake up in the morning and before they go to bed at night.



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***Everyone should eat and drink
and take pleasure in all his toil—
this is God's gift to man.***

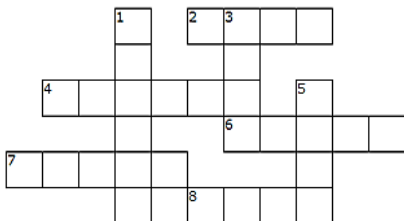
Ecclesiastes 3:13

He does all things well!

"Everything he does is wonderful. He even makes the deaf to hear and gives speech to those who cannot speak."

Mark 7:37b (NLT)

Based on Mark 7:31-37



ACROSS

2. Unable to hear
4. One of the long, thin parts of the hand that bend and hold things
6. To use the voice to say words or converse with someone
7. The Son of God
8. To make healthy again

DOWN

1. The fleshy part inside the mouth used in tasting and in speech
3. The two organs in the head by which people or animals hear sounds
5. To say or to give information to someone; to report

HEAL JESUS	DEAF FINGER	SPEAK TONGUE	TELL EARS
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G I W S Y T E N H P Z N R T E
 H M R D Y U S S N K T T A L K
 Y A N B G K L P F Q H R T F C
 E A L N F D M J I J K E L G T
 H P O H Y E J R H T K D A H M
 I T P U X A J V K A E O J L G
 A C P D T F Y E E N M U T E H
 Z L J X Z I I P E O R K X S R
 M M A N X C S P F J R J T U V
 F V A B E E O J X I Z V R N P
 J S U Z C Z H D G B N M K Z L
 V E E O K G C F D C X G G Z X
 G X S F T O U C H E D A E A X
 P R Q U E R G Z M Z U D V R S
 Q T R L S V I L O O S E D S H

EARS OPENED TOUCHED	LOOSED SPEAK SPIT	MAN MUTE FINGER	HEAL JESUS DEAF	TONGUE TALK HAND
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Petitions and Prayers: With one heart, mind, and purpose, the early church continually prayed, making their petitions known to God.



Health concerns:

Heavenly Father, as You sent Your Son to be with us in times of illness and pain, we beseech You to bring healing to those who are ill as best suits Your will. Bless the efforts of their doctors, surgeons, and health care workers to facilitate their return to health. Keep Your holy angels around them in their times of worry and pain. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Angela (single mother in Illinois) friend of Helen Tabris who is waiting to get on the heart transplant list.
- Sonja Bowles – Cancer
- Kevin Koessel (Karlee Shavlik's brother) – cancer
- Harlan Kurtz (Lisa Oliver's father) – finding right medications
- Julie Ann Zamora – on-going health issues

Prayer of intercession:

**Lord of all, remind us this day that no matter what our vocations, we should work knowing that You are our true master. Let us be ever mindful of serving You as we serve others in our work. Let us be good examples of dedication first to You, Lord, and then examples of dedication to our earthly work. Give us rest and relaxation this day from our labor. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

**“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life
September 5, 2021**

“The people you tell today are the ones who get to tell the next group of people yet to be born. Someday our children will be telling their children about their Savior, knowing God's Word and His story of grace, because you model it and share it every day. Because you put your trust in God.”

*Linda Buxa, Time of Grace
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

***Come to me, all who labor and are
heavy laden, and I will give you rest.***

Matthew 11:28



**The Lord is my strength and my shield;
in him my heart trusts, and I am helped.**

Psalm 28:7

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

Mary Schmidt, 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!



**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
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**A labor of Love...
Christ on the cross**