

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service Four

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021

A photograph of wooden blocks spelling out the word "FAITH" in a row. The blocks are light-colored with dark letters. In the background, more blocks are visible but out of focus, creating a sense of depth. The surface the blocks are on is also wooden and reflective.

Help My unbelief
Mark 9:14-29



The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 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

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!

Prayer for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Dearest Jesus, You who are one with the Father, help us to know that the power behind Your promises is Your deity. You, the only-begotten Son of the Father, are God and, as such, will keep every promise You make. Open our understanding to trust that, because You are God, You could lay down Your life for the sheep and be the sin offering that truly takes away the sin of the world. You could take up Your life again, rising from the dead. You are the resurrection and the life who says, "He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies." You will be our judge on the Last Day when You will judge us based on Your life and death for us. Warm our hearts with Your rich promises as we are told in John 10, "I give them [My sheep] eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand." We bow our hearts before You, our Savior and God. Amen.



Confession and Absolution

528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

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

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 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.

G Amen.



Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 31:14–16; antiphon: v. 24



Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,*
all you who wait | for the LORD!

But I trust in you, | O LORD;*
I say, “You | are my God.”

My times are | in your hand;*
rescue me from the hand of my enemies
and from my perse- | cutors!

Make your face shine on your | servant;*
save me in your | steadfast love!

Glorify 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.

Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,*
all you who wait | for the LORD!

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



- 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.

Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50:4–10

The Lord GOD has given me
the tongue of those who are taught,
that I may know how to sustain with a word
him who is weary.

Morning by morning he awakens;
he awakens my ear
to hear as those who are taught.
The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.
I gave my back to those who strike,
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;
I hid not my face
from disgrace and spitting.

But the Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like a flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.
He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary?

Let him come near to me.

Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;
the moth will eat them up.

Who among you fears the LORD
and obeys the voice of his servant?

Let him who walks in darkness
and has no light

trust in the name of the LORD
and rely on his God.

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 3:1–12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For we all stumble in many ways, and if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Stand



Alleluia and Verse



John 20:31



Holy Gospel: Mark 9:14–29

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

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

When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him. And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." Immediately the father of the child

cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

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.**

849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Sermon

"Saving Faith"

Text: Mark 9:14-29

770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Stand

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:

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

Sit

Offering

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 Collect

P Lord Jesus Christ, giver and perfecter of our faith, we thank and praise You for continuing among us the preaching of Your Gospel for our instruction and edification. Send Your blessing upon the Word, which has been spoken to us, and by Your Holy Spirit increase our saving knowledge of You, that day by day we may be strengthened in the divine truth and remain steadfast in Your grace. Give us strength to fight the good fight and by faith to overcome all the temptations of Satan, the flesh, and the world so that we may finally receive the salvation of our souls; for You live and reign with the Father 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

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.

533 Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure



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



Wednesday Morning Bible Study

meets on Wednesdays, 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.



The **Men's Study Group** is meeting again every other Saturday at 8 a.m. beginning Saturday, September 25. We are exploring Luther's Large Catechism. Join us for study and fellowship.

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](https://www.facebook.com/holycrosshighlandsranch) and click on videos to see the Bible Study and worship services.

Mark 9:14-29

Jesus heals a possessed boy

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

Prayer	Stood	Hand	Lifted
Dead	Come out	Command	Mute
Deaf	Unbelief	Help	Believe
Believes	Possible	Everything	Pity
Childhood	Father	Mouth	Foams
Ground	Throws	Spirit	Possessed
Son	Teacher	Wonder	Jesus
saw			

SAVING FAITH

Guide Abraham to the the unknown land.



Faith

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, 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:

- 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:

A Prayer for the Sanctity of Life

**O Lord of Life who formed us from the womb, keep us from the sin of becoming comfortable with the idea that people, from the womb, are not created instantly at conception but gradually evolve. Help us to see that if we permit the evil of evolution to enter the back door of our minds, we become more susceptible to lowering our views on the sanctity of life, and then the evil of abortion will quickly follow. In the name of Jesus, whose life gave us life. Amen.*

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life September 12, 2021

“God has taken away your sins. He has changed your heart. He gives you the ability to put yourself last so that you can humbly serve others. That's greatness and a great life in God's eyes. That humble serving attitude values and serves every life whether that life is a few cells old or a gene short of worldly greatness.”

*Rev. Peter Sulzle,
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



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

Psalm 28:7

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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.



God's Garden

Lettuce be kind

Squash gossip

Turnip for church