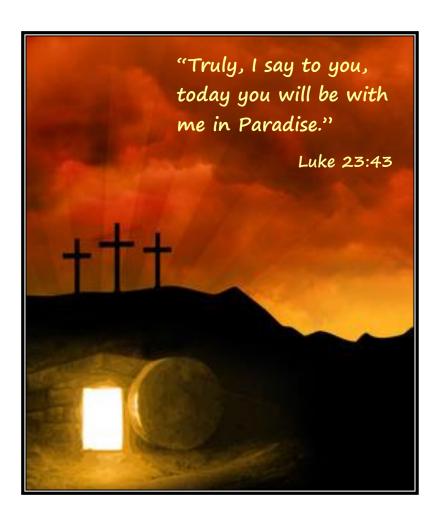
Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service One

Last Sunday of the Church Year November 20, 2022





Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 20, 2022

8:00 and 10:30 AM

Prayer for the Last Sunday of the Church Year

Lord Jesus, as another church year comes to a close, set our hearts on things above, not on earthly things. Forgive us for allowing the din of our daily activities to drown out Your command: "Keep watch because you do not know the day your Lord will come." We rejoice that by the Spirit's grace we can eagerly look forward to You, dear Jesus, as Savior as well as Judge. Truly, we Christians welcome the Last Day and lift up our heads, for our redemption draws near. Yet always remind us that You are also a righteous judge who will condemn unbelief. Excite us and Christians everywhere to reach out with the Gospel and rescue unbelievers before that great and awesome Day. Gracious Savior, enable us to live holy and godly lives so that we look forward to the Day of the Lord. 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

532 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

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

1 John 1:8-9

- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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

Psalm 134; antiphon: Psalm 33:8



Let all the earth | fear the LORD;*

let all the inhabitants of the world stand in | awe of him!

Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,* who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

Lift up your hands to the holy place* and bless the LORD!

May the LORD bless you from | Zion,* he who made | heaven and earth!

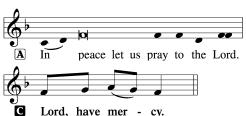
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

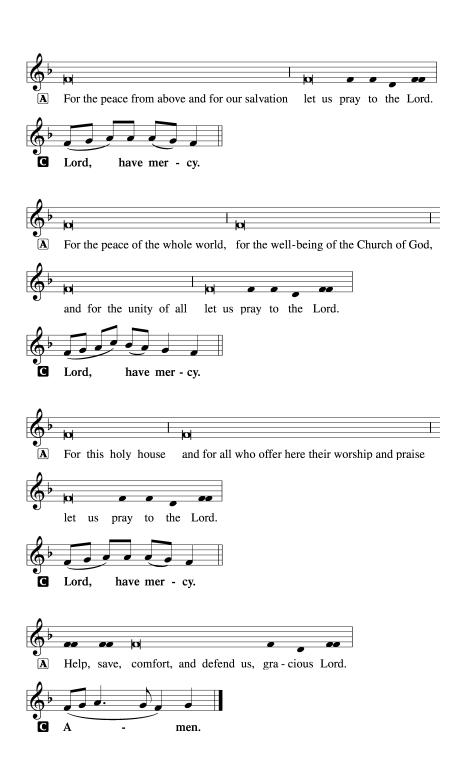
Let all the earth | fear the LORD;*

let all the inhabitants of the world stand in | awe of him!

Kyrie

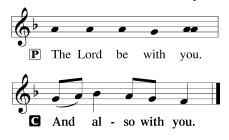
Mark 10:47







Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross. Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness, may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3:13-18

"Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.'"

Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. "They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him."

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

Gradual

Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5



These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood | of the Lamb.

Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,* in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

Epistle: Colossians 1:13–20

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



Holy Gospel: Luke 23:27-43

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.



And there followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and

the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

534 Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

Sermon

"Today You Will Be With Me in Paradise"

Text: Luke 23:27-43

Stand



Nicene Creed

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 \pm of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:

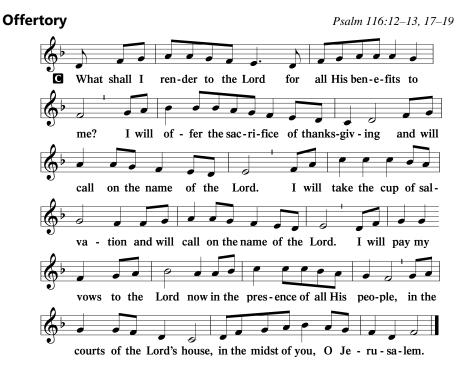
- P Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

Sit

Offering

(Please add your name to the red fellowship book and pass it to your fellow worshipers.)

Stand





Service of the Sacrament

+++

Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.

+++



Proper Preface

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:





Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

- Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

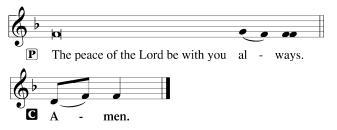
The Words of Our Lord

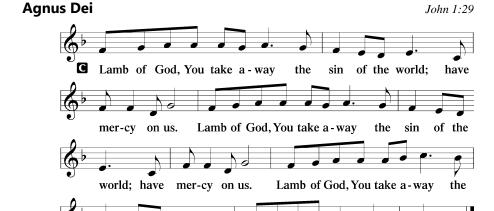
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

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 John 20:19





grant

us

peace.

sin

of the world;

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

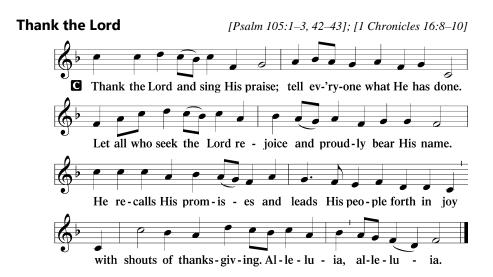
Personal prayer of thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

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.

454 Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle

761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Stand



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.



Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you



680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise



Soli Deo Gloria!

(To God alone be the glory.)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Announcements



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



Please join us this Wednesday evening for our Thanksgiving Worship Service at 7 p.m.



Please join us on Sunday, December 4, between services (9-10:30 a.m.) for a Cookie Exchange! Bring 3 dozen cookies

split into four cookies per ziplock bag (9 bags). This gives you the opportunity to experience different varieties. So... bring 9 bags - take 9 bags home.



MARK THIS DATE ON YOUR ADVENT CALENDAR!

We will be holding an Advent Celebration on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, starting at 6:00 PM with a Lasagna Dinner, hosted by the Fellowship Committee. A Christmas Carol Hymn Sing will follow at 7:00 PM and the evening will end with an Advent Worship Service at 7:15 PM.

The lasagna will be provided by the Fellowship Committee members and congregation members will be asked to bring a salad, bread, or a dessert. Coffee and tea will be available. In order to plan how much lasagna to make, please indicate your interest in attending on the sheet in the narthex.

JOIN US FOR FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, AND THE WORD.
BRING A FRIEND!

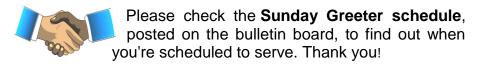


The Semi - Annual Voters' Assembly is scheduled for Sunday, December 11, between services. The main order of business is the 2023

Budget, as well as updates from the Boards. The agenda and accompanying packet of reports will be available on December 4 in the narthex. Please plan to attend.

Blessed Lord Jesus, thank You for hearing our prayer on behalf of **Barbara Taylor** and the family of **Richard Taylor**. Grant her Your peace in knowing that her beloved husband, **Dick** is dwelling in safety by You.

Thank You, Jesus, that when **Dick** walked through deaths' dark valley, You not only were with him, but You led him to the eternal pastures of heaven. Keep the hearts of those who loved Dick Taylor at peace. Amen.





Choir is starting up again! Jonathan will contact the current choir members. If you would like to join the choir, please contact Jonathan Hodel at 408-410-0656.



Wreaths across America allows you to sponsor a live Christmas wreath to be placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries for \$15 each. If you would like to sponsor a

wreath to be placed at Ft. Logan National Cemetery please pick up a form from the table by the family board in the narthex.

Canto Deo

Chamber Choir Advent Service of Lessons & Carols



The season of Advent comes gently into our hearts as the days grow shorter, nights seem darker, and the year begins its slow descent into winter. Our Advent Service of Lessons & Carols helps us to focus our gaze forward in hope, mingling ancient and modern carols with

words of comfort, peace, and expectation. Join us and let your spirit be renewed; pause, breathe deeply, and reflect on the journey in this world and in the world to come.

This service features well-loved works by Sir David Willcocks, Morten Lauridsen, Philip Stopford, and others. Listen for the comfort in Elizabeth Poston's Jesus Christ the Apple Tree or let your spirit soar with Willcocks' Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending. We hope you will join us for this very special, contemplative service, and make it an annual tradition of your own.

Tickets are NOT required for this event.

Saturday, November 26, 2022 7:00PM

> Holy Ghost Church 1900 California St. Denver, CO 80202

Sunday, November 27, 2022 3:00PM

Bethany Lutheran Church 4500 E. Hampden Ave Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113



Congregational Christmas Giving "Blessings at Christmas"

This Christmas we again have the opportunity to support "Blessings at Christmas" through AbleLight (formerly Bethesda Lutheran Communities) Ministry headquartered in down-town Littleton. This project is sponsored by "Women of the Cross."

Gift-giving this year is purchasing Gift Cards in any amount determined by your Heart. Suggested gift cards for easiest shopping: Walmart or VISA cards.

Place your "Gift Card" in the slotted Christmas-wrapped box. This will be located on your right side as you depart the Sanctuary. (Cards will be collected after second service.) We will receive your gifts <u>beginning Sunday, November 6 through the deadline of Sunday, November 27.</u>

Should you wish to make a cash donation or by check, make your check to: LWML - Women of the Cross - Memo: For AbleLight Christmas Blessings, and put in the slotted Christmas-wrapped box.



AbleLight will purchase meaningful and useful gifts using the donated gift cards for those living in AbleLight's home situations. AbleLight will wrap and place the gifts under the Christmas trees.

Thank you for your generosity in making someone's Christmas special! Women of the Cross





The Lutheran Chorale Christmas Concert

Welcome Joyous Season!

Sunday, December 4, 2022 -- 2:30pm

Mount Olive Lutheran Church

11453 E Wesley Ave,
Aurora, CO 80014

and

Sunday, December 4, 2022 -- 6:30pm
St. Philip Lutheran Church

St. Philip Lutheran Church
7531 S Kendall Blvd,
Littleton, CO 80128

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus with favorite carols and anthems that are sure to delight!

The Liturgical Year

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EASTER ASH WEDNEDAY ADVENT ORDINARY TIME ASSUMPTION WHITE GOOD FRIDAY LENT HOLY WEEK GREEN ALL SAINTS **FEASTS** PALM SUNDAY **PURPLE EPIPHANY** ASCENSION RED PENTECOST

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

AISLE ALTAR BIBLE BLESSING CHAPEL CHOIR **CROSS** FAITH **FORGIVE** GOSPEL JOY LISTEN LOVE MERCY ORGAN **PASTOR** PRAYER PREACH PULPIT SACRED SING SOLACE

STEEPLE

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The words appear UP, DOWN, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.



Petitions and Prayers: Even when we are weak and lacking the right words, God the Holy Spirit helps us to pray.



Health concerns:

Dear Jesus, You are the Great Physician. You took our flesh upon Yourself: You know our weaknesses because You bore them on the cross. We pray that You would deliver those with illnesses and afflictions. Likewise, enable them to believe that Your grace is sufficient for them in all circumstances. Thank You that we can look to You for hope and healing. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Kathy Harrington's sister, Barbara, in Hospice
- Harlan (Lisa Oliver's father) in the hospital
- Frank Koessel in hospice
- Devon Hanson (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell) mental health issues
- Roger Frank (brother of Connie Mitchell) cancer
- Mary (relative of Tabris') pray for protection and wisdom for her family concerning special needs.
- Angela (single mother in Illinois) friend of Helen Tabris should officially be on heart transplant list soon
- Jamie (is missing and has mental health issues) and young daughter
 Jade (is being adopted by family in Colorado)

Prayer of intercession:

A Prayer for the End of the Church Year

Graciously heavenly Father, thank You for the many blessings You have granted us this past year as Your Church and as Your children individually. Thank You for Your mercy extended to us as undeserving sinners, for covering us with the righteousness of Your Son's shed blood. Lord Jesus, keep us close to the Word and faithful to the end as we look forward to Your return and to life eternal with You and the Father. Amen.

"Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life November 20, 2022

"In the Christian calendar, secular time is swallowed up in Sacred Time, which is a foreshadowing of the eternal Day of the Lord, when all that we have foolishly sought after and worried about will vanish as will the night vanish on the dawning of the Lord's Day. Rejoice, the Lord is near."

James M. Kushiner, executive director, Fellowship of St. James A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org



This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

2 Samuel 22:31

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
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
or 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.



Don't tell God what you want; thank Him for what you have!