Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

Divine Service Three

The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany January 29, 2023





The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

January 29, 2023

8:00 and 10:30 AM

Prayer for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Holy God, thank You for unfolding Jesus' saving purpose on earth in Your holy Word. In the pages of Scripture, Jesus is revealed as the One whose suffering and death paid the price for our sins, bringing us the promise of forgiveness of sins and life eternal with You. May the biblical accounts that we have been privileged to focus on in this season of Epiphany reassure us that Jesus came into the world for each of us as individuals as well as for all people. Help us so to treasure the exciting Epiphany message of faith and joy that we are emboldened to show and tell it to those whose lives are touched by ours. In Your Son's saving name. 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

904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

Exhortation

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **©** who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

Confession of Sins

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution [John 20:19–23]

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.



Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 1:1-5; antiphon: v. 6



For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,* but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the | wicked,* nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;

but his delight is in the law of the LORD,* and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not | wither.*
In all that he does, he | prospers.

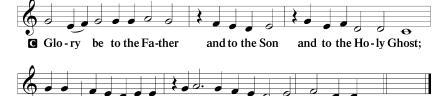
The wicked | are not so,* but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment,* nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous.

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.

For the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,* but the way of the wicked will | perish.

Gloria Patri



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.









Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you?

How have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

"With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

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





Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*

bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

Alleluia



Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.



Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
- "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
- "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
 - "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
 - "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
- "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.





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,

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

whose kingdom will have no end.

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.

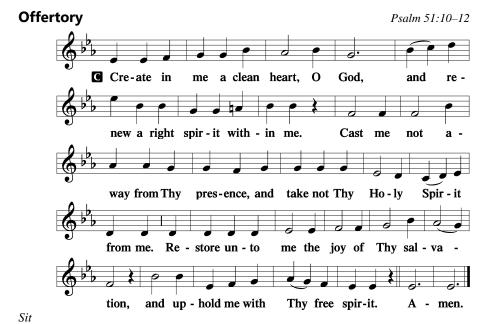
842 Son of God, Eternal Savior

Sermon

"Boasting in the Lord"

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Stand



Offering

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

Stand

Prayer of the Church

After each portion of the prayer:

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





Service of the Sacrament

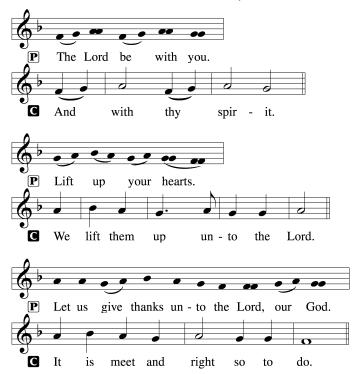
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Please read our Statement on Holy Communion on the inside cover of the bulletin before communing with us.

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Preface

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

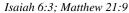


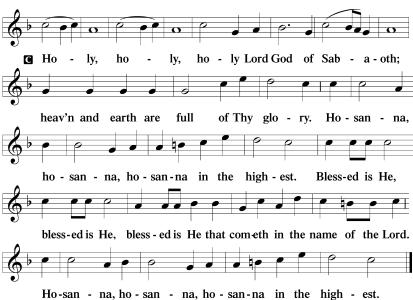
Proper Preface

It is truly meet, 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You

have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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





Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

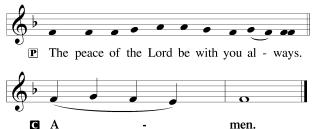
Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who
trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

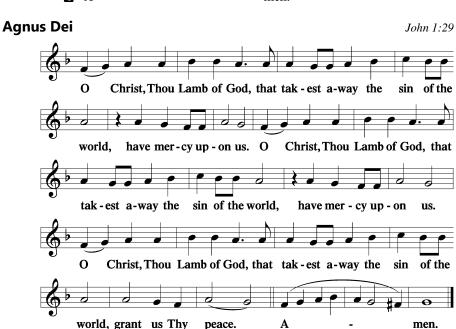


P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ⅓ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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





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.

765 God Moves in a Mysterious Way

403 O Savior of Our Fallen Race

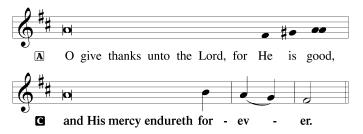
Stand





Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1



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.





Salutation 2 Timothy 4:22



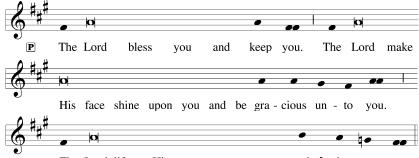
Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1



Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



810 O God of God, O Light of Light

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Soli Deo Gloria!

(To God alone be the glory.)

Announcements



Assisting Elders: 8 a.m. – Scott Schlapkohl 10:30 a.m. – Andy Olson



THIS IS A PRETTY BIG PROMISE ... WE REALLY DON'T NEED PAPERWORK OR LEGAL?



I PROMISE I'LL FINISH MY HOMEWORK IF YOU LET ME PLAY A LITTLE MORE ... HERE'S A RAINBOW, EVEN



Please check the **Sunday Greeter schedule**, posted on the bulletin board, to find out when you're scheduled to serve. Thank you!

VALENTINES DAY BRUNCH



Feb. 12th - 11 AM

"The Greatest of these is Love..." 1 Corinthians 13:13

The Evangelism Board and the Fellowship committee are hosting a Valentines Brunch on Sunday, February 12th at 11 AM. The schedule for that day will be as follows:

- 9 AM Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
- 10 AM Church Service
- 11 AM Valentines Brunch



Please sign up in the Narthex so we know how many to expect. We have received a financial gift from Thrivent to purchase breakfast items. The brunch will include egg dishes, bacon and/or sausage, cheese and fruit plates, pastries, milk, juice, coffee, and bottled water. You do not have to bring anything, unless you want to. Please let us know.

As an outreach project, we are offering the opportunity to help others who are less fortunate by purchasing farm animals and clean water projects to assist 3rd world villages. This is through World Vision, a global Christian humanitarian organization. We have set a goal of \$400. You have the option of either designating the purchase of a specific animal or just offering a free-will donation. We will have a poster in the Narthex, showing costs of some of the items. Checks should be made to HCLC, noting either a specific item to purchase or a free-will donation. Cash is also acceptable.

Jesus said in Matthew 22: 37-39: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

We hope you will come and share fellowship and friendship with your brothers and sisters in Christ here at Holy Cross!



Congratulations to *Heart 2 Heart* founder Linda Garriity, who we have supported through donations over the past 2 years. She has been nominated for Fox 31 News' "Remarkable Women Award". The station manager called to tell her in mid-January, that her entry was 1 of 4 out of 400 that had been selected for consideration. Linda was shocked and assured him that she was not in the least bit remarkable! He laughed and said that was a typical response.

They will do an interview in February which will run for one week in March. Then, on March 29, they have a gathering of all the people at the station to announce the final winner. Family and friends will be included at that event.

A big "thank you" to all who have supported *Heart 2 Heart* through your donations. These donations have helped so many homeless veterans, battered women, and kids aging out of foster care and going out into the world on their own.

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.

Heart 2 Heart is in need of queen or king size sheets, pots and pans, cups, etc. We really went through our donations over the holidays!

If you have any items that you no longer need, you can bring them to church and Steve and Becky White will drop them off at Linda's.

The Beatitudes

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blessed forgiveness jesus meek peacemakers righteousness comforted God love mercy persecuted satisfied compassion heaven luke mount poor in spirit sermon empathy
humble
matthew
mourn
pure in heart
understanding

The Beatitudes

Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them. Matthew 5:1-2 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2 3	4 5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1.	7-20-	2-17-2	2-17	7-13	3-12	-20	-1_																
	19-5-																						
3.	1-19-	22-18-	22-1	17 _																			
	23-5-																						_
5.	23-20	-20-24	. _																				_
6.	25-13	3-16-8-	20-1	18																			_
7.	23-20-18-9-22-26-13-6											_											
8.	19-13	3-18-20	_																				_
9.	24-22	2-16-8-	12-5	5-23	³ _																		_
10.	25-20	-2-21-	20-	16																			

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

HUNGER	MOURN	SPIRIT	MERCIFUL	MEEK
POOR	PURE	KINGDOM	BEATITUDES	HEAVEN



Petitions and Prayers: When we call upon God in prayer, we are to confess who we are: sinners who are undeserving of His mercy.



Health concerns:

Lord Jesus, You are the Great Physician of our bodies and souls. Great is Your love and great is Your mercy. Grant those who are sick trusting hearts, enabling them to be assured that You work all things together for good to those who love You. Bring them healing in Your way and in Your time. Amen.

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- Kathy Harrington's sister, Barbara, 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:

Father, You made this world and filled it abundantly with living things. Most precious of all, You created human life. From the smallest baby to the largest adult, no matter our background, ethnicity, or wealth, we are all vitally important to You. Help our world become a place that values all life, just as You did when You sent Your son so that our lives could be preserved eternally. In Jesus' name. Amen.

"Life Quotes" from Lutherans for Life January 29, 2023

"Pre-born babies are patients who deserve the rights and protections applicable to children and adults."

Dr. William Lile, Pensacola, Florida A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace.

Psalm 86:6



Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

Psalm 16:1

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod) 9770 Foothills Canyon Blvd. Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

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 judge someone just because they sin differently than you.