

June
2015

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
9770 Foothills Canyon Boulevard
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129
www.hclchr.org
303-683-1300



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Words from the Cross

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Holy Spirit did not begin His work on the first Pentecost. He had spoken and written through the prophets of the Old Testament as well. In fact, we see the Spirit's work in everything that was truly good that was worked in the hearts of men after the fall. During that time, however, His work was largely inconspicuous. But on that first Pentecost, He came out of concealment, audibly in the form of a mighty, rushing wind and visibly in the form of fiery tongues. He then revealed His divine power and glory by distributing His most glorious gift, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, to people from all nations under heaven. Previously, the Holy Spirit had only trickled like a light spring rain, but on Pentecost He poured Himself out in a mighty flood.

When asked why this was the case, my answer is that it was to show the greatness of the redemption brought about by Christ alone. Nothing is more important than the forgiveness of sins that was obtained by Christ's perfect life, suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension. We had to be reconciled to God the Father through the Son before the Holy Spirit could do His work. Thus, the true means by which the Holy Spirit enters the hearts of people is not by the frightening preaching from the smoking and quaking Mount Sinai, but by the proclamation of grace shown on Mount Calvary. Neither is it shown by the damning Law of our works, but by the sweet and comforting Gospel of the free grace offered us in Jesus Christ.

Who of us, having truly experienced the destructive power of the Law, would not prefer to experience the gentle, consoling touch of the Spirit of grace? Who of us, having felt the sting of death, does not desire to receive the Spirit of life? Who of us, having felt the powerlessness and slavery of sin, does not wish to obtain the Spirit of strength and freedom? Who would want to continue going about in restlessness and discord of conscience, when He could have the Spirit of comfort, rest, and peace? Who would want to be tormented and harassed by doubts about God's grace and His blessedness, instead of rejoicing in the Spirit of righteousness and confidence?

The answer is: All of those who feel the misery in which they live, all whom the Law has visited and thrown into despair, and all who hunger and thirst in spirit for the water of life would earnestly desire all of this. They should not lose heart or exert themselves trying to work out their own salvation. They should not think they are unworthy of the high grace of Holy Baptism given them by the Holy Spirit, and they should not believe they must first prepare themselves to receive it. They can do nothing except believe in the true and precious Holy Spirit-given Word which teaches that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, including them. They will then immediately experience the heart of God opening over them and the streams of the Spirit flowing down from it to fill their poor, aching hearts.

To those who in their hearts are the most wretched of sinners, these promises of God apply: "I have blotted out your transgressions like a cloud and your sins like mist" (Isaiah 44:22a), and "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price" (Isaiah 55:1).



Continued...

...continued

Beloved, despite the trials of this world and Satan, whenever a poor sinner ventures by faith to receive Christ, the dove of the Holy Spirit comes at once to hover over him and to grant him the forgiveness and peace that God alone bestows. And so we sing:

*Holy Spirit, all divine, Dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down every idol throne, Reign supreme and reign alone.*

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Skelton



Holy Cross Lutheran Church Early Learning Center

Thank you for everyone's help setting up, baking, and/or buying pies at our Mother's Day Pie Sale. We were able to raise \$763.00. The raised amount will go towards "Imaginative Play in the Classroom!" The pie sale was a success because of you! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

A special thanks to:

The ELC Board and the following individuals and families: Marianne Disse, Peggy Keeling, Lynne Rodefeld, Fred and Tina Boehne, Debbie Dohne, Vincenza Bakery, Terry Cassara, Jackie Neal, Shirley Tuell, the Weber Family, Angela Burgess, the Pinkston Family, Wanita Wood, Kim Seter, Marie McQuarrie, the Barta Family, the Shavlik Family, David and Helga Weiss, Walt and Jane Wheatley, Bob and Gayle Stabo, Lorraine Hodel, Deanna Otto, Mary Mason, White Fence Farm, Chad Otto, and to those who donated to this fund!

We are excited for our Summer Enrichment Camps to begin June 8 for ages 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 8 years!

Each week we will have a different theme (with Water/Splash Days on our playground each week on Wednesday and Thursday):

June 8	Garden/ Nutrition
June 15	Father's Day/ Dinosaurs
June 22	Games/ Camping
June 29	4th of July/ Picnic
July 6	Ocean/Beach
July 13	Science
July 20	Vacation/Travel
July 27	Field Day/ Sports
August 3	Child Care for Continuing Families

Our school year starts August 10 and 11!

We will be hosting an Open House on Tuesday, June 16, from 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. This is a great time to come meet our staff, tour the school, and ask any questions!

**Active members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church receive a 15% discount off the tuition rates!*

The registration packets can be found online or in person! If you have any questions, please contact Megan Keeling at 303-683-1311 or email to director@holycrosselc.org.

In his name,
Megan Keeling, Director