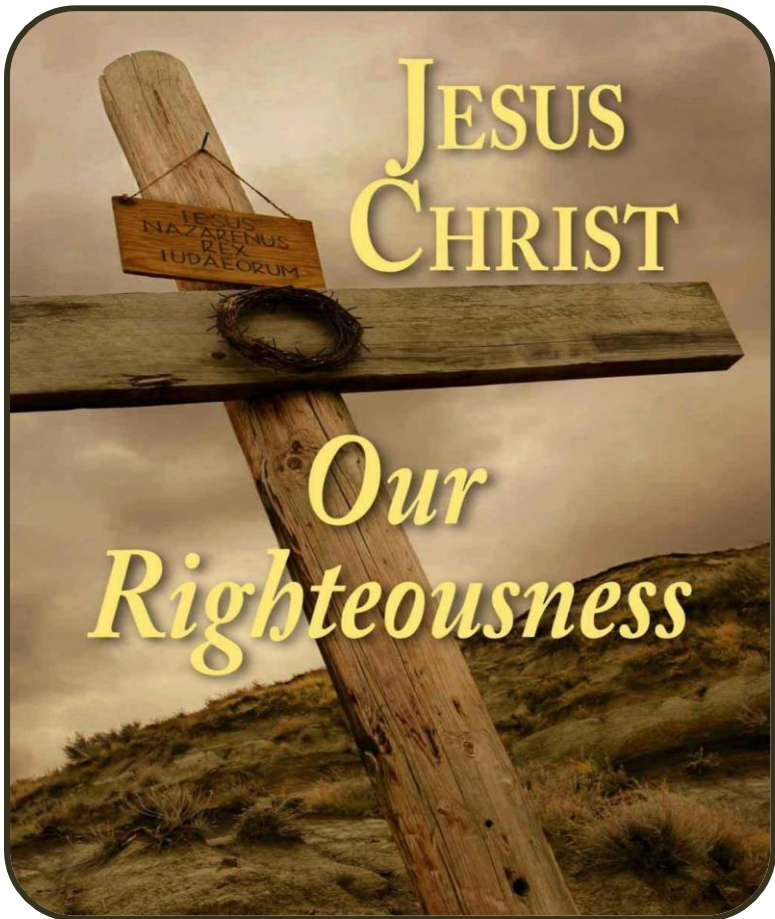


# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Divine Service Four

The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 12, 2023





## The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 12, 2023

10 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.

Church Office.....303-683-1300

Rev. Bruce Skelton, Pastor, Cell.....303-908-3339

Fax.....303-470-0165

***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:  
Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!***

### Prayer for the Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Lord Jesus: You are the truth and at all times speak the truth; You urge us to ask the Father for every good thing in Your name; You assure us that the Father will not refuse us; You tell us that the Father loves us and wants to hear our petitions. Oh, what grace and favor have been showered upon us, poor sinners that we are! How can we ever thank You for giving us Your Holy Spirit through whom You Yourself and Your words enter our hearts and minds, assuring us that we are God's dear children and that we can bring our petitions to God the Father in Your name? Grant that, in the face of such divine grace and favor, we never seek to make our way through this troublesome earthly life foolishly trusting in our own abilities and strength. Rather, dear Jesus, may we always ask the Father in Your name for the guidance, strength, and wisdom we need to make our way homeward. Amen.



## Confession and Absolution

### 704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

*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 98:7–9; antiphon: v. 2*



The LORD has made known his sal- | vation,\*  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

**Let the sea roar, and all that | fills it;\***  
**the world and those who | dwell in it!**

Let the rivers clap their hands;  
let the hills sing for joy together be- | fore the LORD,\*  
for he comes to | judge the earth.

**He will judge the world with | righteousness,\***  
**and the peoples with | equity.**

**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 has made known his sal- | vation,\*  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

### 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.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*



## Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15–20

"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*



**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 3:1–9

But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only

in a human way? For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?

What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia and Verse



*John 20:31*



### Holy Gospel: Matthew 5:21–37

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

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

[Jesus said:] "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable

to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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



## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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.**

*Sit*

## **496 Holy Spirit, Light Divine**

### **Sermon**

**“The Righteousness that Counts Before God”**

Text: Matthew 5:21-37

## **707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways**

*Stand*

### **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*

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

## Closing Collect

**P** Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**G** **Amen.**

## Benedicamus

*Psalm 103:1*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**G** **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.

**G** **Amen.**

## 394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise





## ***Soli Deo Gloria!***

***(To God alone be the glory.)***

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

### **Announcements**



Assisting Elders:

8 a.m. – Steve White

10:30 a.m. – Andy Olson



*Heavenly Father, we pray for Turkey and the surrounding region. We pray for comfort for all those impacted by the devastation caused by the recent earthquakes. We pray for those mourning the loss of their friends and family that they will find peace. We pray for those who have not yet heard the Gospel message. We pray for hope, mercy, and healing all over the world. Please cover all these individuals with your love. Amen.*



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



The LWML is having "Mite Box Sunday" TODAY and the second Sunday of every month. On these Sundays they have the big Mite Box in the narthex to gather free will offerings to support the mission projects they have selected to provide for this year.



## **Lent Services 2023**

**Join us for our  
Lent Services this season**

**Ash Wednesday,  
February 22, 2023**

**11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.**

**Imposition of Ashes and Communion**

**One Midweek Lent Service  
Wednesday, March 15, 2023**

**11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.**

**Communion Service  
6 p.m. Potluck Supper**

## **HEART HEART**

**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.



## LWML Prayer Service

All members are welcome to attend.  
Childcare available

**Saturday, February 25, 2023**

**8:30 am – Coffee & pastries**

**9:00 am – Service**

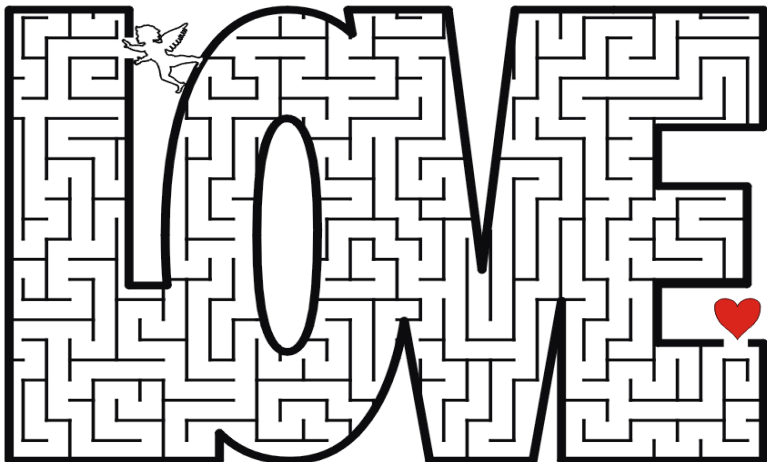
**Collection of Mites for Mission Projects**

**Trinity Lutheran Church  
4225 West Yale Avenue  
Denver, CO 80219**

The prayer service is a balance of God's Word,  
hymns and prayers along with time of spiritual reflection  
authored by Rev. Dr. Mitchel Schuessler

The service will be hosted by Trinity's Rev. Dr. Adam C. Koontz  
and accompanied by Rev. Thomas E Lock (Kantor)

Sponsored by LWML South Central Zone



# Love Word Search

1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Find the hidden words.



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

Is **PATIENT**

Is **KIND**

Is not **JEALOUS**

Does not **BRAG**

Is not **ARROGANT**

Does not act **UNBECOMINGLY**

Does not seek its **OWN**

Is not **PROVOKED**

Does not take into account a  
wrong **SUFFERED**

Does not rejoice in  
**UNRIGHTEOUSNESS**

**REJOICES** with the truth

**BEARS** all things

**BELIEVES** all things

**HOPES** all things

**ENDURES** all things



## God's Valentine

For God so lo **V** ed the world  
that He g **A** ve  
His on **L** y  
begott **E** n  
So **N**  
tha **T** whoever  
believes **I** n Him  
should **N** ot parish  
but have **E** ternal life

**Petitions and Prayers:** We pray because God has commanded us to pray.



**Health concerns:**

*Dearest Jesus, You suffered and died on the cross in our place, You have compassion on us in all of our difficulties. Grant peace of mind and strength of body to those who are ill so that they trust in You above all else. Amen.*

Please keep the following in your prayers:

- 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 – having a heart pump implanted while waiting for heart transplant
- Jamie (is missing and has mental health issues) and young daughter Jade (is being adopted by family in Colorado)

**Prayer of intercession:**

*\*Lord God, bless our soldiers, sailors, and airmen fighting for our nation at home and in distant lands. Keep them safe from all harm and danger, and grant that they may execute their services faithfully, that peace and good order may be maintained and preserved in our country. Bless their families who wait for them at home, and give them a happy reunion at their return, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

**“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life  
February 12, 2023**

“When God tells us He knew us before we were born in our mother’s womb, we can hardly say life doesn’t begin at fertilization. When God tells our days are numbered and He will decide when our life is over, we can hardly ask for our life to be taken prematurely rather than dying a natural death. As you ponder God’s Word and stand up For Life, your witness will have remarkable power and you, only you, will be impactful in your response. So, even if you are going it alone, you can and should contribute to the message For Life, and God will bless your efforts.”

*Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life  
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*



Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever!

*Psalm 118:29*

## 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](https://facebook.com/HolyCrossHighlandsRanch).



He loves me.  
He loves me.  
He loves me...  
**There is NO NOT!**

