

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Divine Service Four

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023





The Third Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2023

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.

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 Third Sunday in Lent

Dear Savior Jesus, during this Lenten season give to us a fuller appreciation of what You went through during the last days of Your life. It was our sins and wickedness that made it necessary for You to go to the cross. Yet, Lent reminds us that there is hope for all who trust in You. We are genuinely sorry for our transgressions. You willingly took upon Yourself our iniquities. You have carried our sorrows. Your sacrifice has wiped away all sin. Thank You, dearest Redeemer, for suffering in our place. Hear us, Lord, in Your mercy. Amen.



Confession and Absolution

435 Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

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 84:1–4; antiphon: v. 5



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

**How lovely is your | dwelling place,*
O | LORD of hosts!**

My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts | of the LORD,*
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the | living God.

**Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for
herself, where she may | lay her young,*
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God.**

Blessèd are those who dwell | in your house,*
ever sing- | ing your praise!

**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.**

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

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

During Lent the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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: Exodus 17:1–7

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink."

And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2



**[O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,*
the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him
endured the cross, despis- | ing the shame,*
and is seated at the right hand of the | throne of God.**

Epistle: Romans 5:1–8

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand



Alleluia and Verse

During Lent the Alleluia is omitted.

Holy Gospel: John 4:5–30, 39–42

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

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

[Jesus] came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

There came a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship

the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Just then his disciples came back. They marveled that he was talking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you seek?" or, "Why are you talking with her?" So the woman left her water jar and went away into town and said to the people, "Come, see a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" They went out of the town and were coming to him. . . .

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Savior of the world."

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

824 May God Bestow on Us His Grace

Sermon

“The Gift of God”

Text: John 4:5-30, 39-42

423 Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

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:
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 Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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.**

597 Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying



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. – Steve White
10:30 a.m. – Andy Olson

March Mission Project!

LWML Women of the Cross is collecting



**Peanut Butter and Jelly
(or Sunflower Butter or
any nut or seed butter)**

For the Douglas County Food Bank

There will be a collection bin in the narthex
Sunday, March 5 – Sunday, March 26.

Thank you!



*Dear heavenly Father, be with the family and friends of **Margaret Bloder** as they mourn her being called home Sunday, March 5. Comfort them with the beautiful truth that Margaret is safe in Jesus' arms, freed from the travails of earthly life. Amen*



Join us this morning between services for cake as we say farewell to Hannah Christian. Hannah accepted a call from Hope Lutheran Church and School in Shawnee, Kansas to teach 1st grade. She starts March 30th

Portals of Prayer for April-June 2023 are out!

Pick up your copy from the table in the narthex. We have digest size copies if you need larger print. These are a great resource to use in your daily devotions!



The church office will be closed this week, March 13-17, due to construction on the roof.



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.



If you wish to beautify the Lord's sanctuary Easter morning by donating an Easter lily, please sign up at the table in the narthex by **April 2**. If you wish to purchase one in honor of a special event or in memory of a loved one, please note that next to your name.

Please pay for your plants by placing a check for \$10 in the offering plate, **made payable to Holy Cross**. Note in the memo section that the check is for an Easter lily. Or place cash in the offering plate noted for Easter lily.

Plants can be taken home after the second service Easter morning.



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



FREE CONCERTS



The Passion of the Lord Through the Music of Dana Mengel

Sunday, March 12, 2023

2:00 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

2100 Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood, CO

Sunday, March 12, 2023

5:30 pm

Covenant Living

9153 Yarrow St., Westminster, CO



The Lutheran Chorale



We are not selling tickets but appreciate your free will offerings.

Visit www.thelutheranchorale.org for more information.

In May, the Chorale will perform music to be determined.

Sunday, May 7, 2:30 pm

Spring Concert at Atonement Lutheran Church

6281 W Yale Ave, Lakewood, CO

Sunday, May 7, 6:30 pm

Spring Concert at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

106 Rosalie Rd, Bailey, CO

WOMAN AT THE WELL WORD SEARCH



BiblePuzzles.org.uk

CATTLE	HUSBANDS	SAMARITAN
CHILDREN	JACOB	SAT
CHRIST	JERUSALEM	SIXTH
CITY	JESUS	SPIRIT
DEEP	JEWS	SYCHAR
DISCIPLES	LIFE	THIRST
DRANK	LIVING	WATER
DRINK	MEAT	WEARIED
EVERLASTING	MESSIAH	WELL
FATHER	MOUNTAIN	WOMAN
GIFT	PITCHER	WORSHIPPED
GOD	PROPHET	
HOOR	SALVATION	

Petitions and Prayers: When we pray, there is only one mediator (intercessor) between God and man: Jesus.



Health concerns:

Heavenly Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, bore our sicknesses and infirmities and “with His wounds we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5). Give Your Holy Spirit to those who are sick so that they have confidence that You hear them when they cry out to You. If it be Your will, ease their pain and heal them. Assure them of Your love for them. 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 –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:

** Dear Savior, You came to seek the lost and to save sinners. Our sins rise up to condemn us. Yet, with a love so vast and deep we cannot even begin to comprehend it, You came to take our place. You came to suffer and die for our sins and to reunite us with our Father in heaven. We are dust and to dust we will return. Help us to also remember that from that same dust we will arise, all because of Your love for us, our crucified and risen King. Amen.*

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life March 12, 2023

“Despite the hardships we experience and the sin we face, God’s work submerges us in a pool of joy; through our Baptism, He daily refreshes us, strengthening our bonds to Him and to each other. Yes, we Christians are connected more deeply than participation in any march or gathering can offer. By God’s grace, we have become family. We share a home and a future.”

Michelle Bauman, Y4Life

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org



**When the cares of my heart are many,
your consolations cheer my soul.**

Psalm 94:19

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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.



**God doesn't call
the qualified,
He qualifies the called.**