

# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church Missouri Synod)

**Divine Service Four**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**May 7, 2023**



*If I go and prepare a  
place for you, I will  
come again and will  
take you to myself,  
that where I am you  
may be also.*

*John 14:3*



## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

8:00 and 10:30 AM

### Prayer for the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Heavenly Father, may we in genuine faith always firmly cling to the truth that Jesus Christ is not only the world's Savior but also our dear Savior. Help us to trust Jesus quite apart from what our eyes might see or what the opinions and emotions of our sinful hearts might be. You favor us for the sake of Jesus, and therefore we are your dear children. Let not Satan convince us that we are lost souls because of our many sins. Rather, let us cling in faith to the assurance of our Savior that You will be merciful to us for His sake. May we in eternal joy behold the reality of what we have believed. In Your Son's precious 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

### 475 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing

*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, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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 30:1–5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1*



Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,\*  
his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

**I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up\*  
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.**

O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help,\*  
and you have | healed me.

**O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;\*  
you restored me to life from among  
those who go down | to the pit.**

Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints,\*  
and give thanks to his | holy name.

**For his anger is but for a moment,  
and his favor is for a | lifetime.\*  
Weeping may tarry for the night,  
but joy comes with the | morning.**

**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.**

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,\*  
his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

## Kyrie

Mark 10:47



**C** 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 God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will.  
Grant that we may love what You have commanded and  
desire what You promise, that among the many changes of  
this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;  
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## First Reading: Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

And Stephen said:

"Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the

witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6*



**Christ has risen | from the dead.\***

**[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and | honor.  
He has given him dominion over the works | of his hands,\*  
he has put all things un- | der his feet.**

## Epistle: 1 Peter 2:2–10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,  
a cornerstone chosen and precious,  
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,"

and

"A stone of stumbling,  
and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia and Verse



*John 20:31*



### Holy Gospel: John 14:1-14

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

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

[Jesus said:] "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we



do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it."

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

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



## Nicene Creed

**C** 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 ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

## 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

### Sermon

**"A Mansion Prepared"**

Text: John 14:1-14

*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.)*



## Service of the Sacrament



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



*Stand*

### Preface

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

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

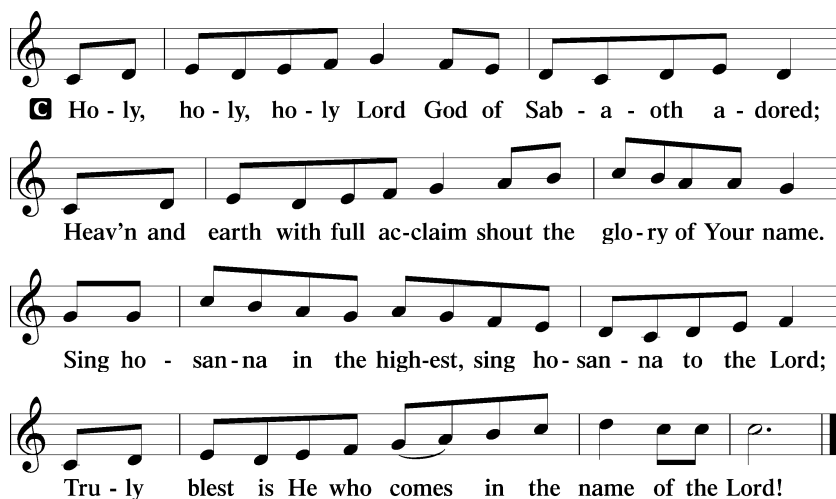
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

- 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.

## 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

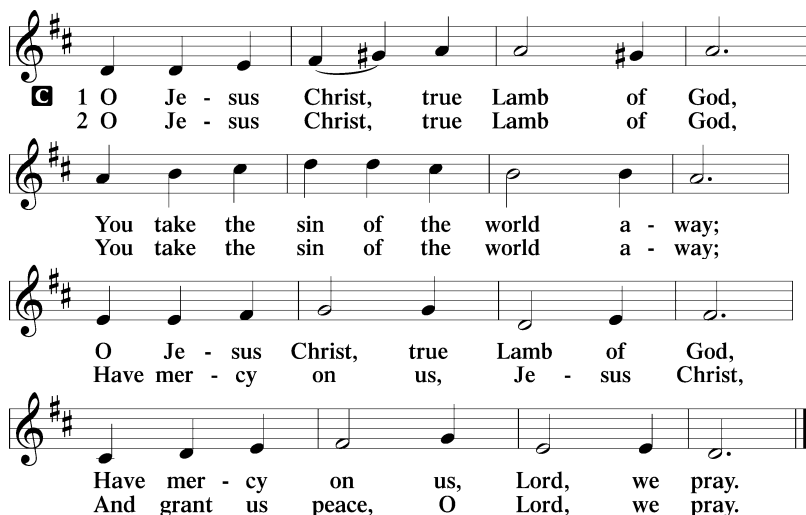
## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

*John 1:29*



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

### **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.*

**526 You Are the Way; through You Alone**

**722 Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me**

*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

*Luke 2:29–32*

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For ev - er Three in One;



## 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.

**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.

## 829 Christ the Eternal Lord

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## Announcements



Assisting Elders:

8 a.m. – Scott Schlapkohl

10:30 a.m. – Andy Olson



*Heavenly Father, You have led our graduates through days and years of study to commencement. Bless them with true discernment so that, even as they take pride in their achievements, they also have the humility to understand and believe that the benefits of education are gifts from You, to be used to serve others. Keep their faith in You and their love for You strong so that they are kept safe from the evil one. Amen.*

*Class of*  
  
**2023**

### **Congratulations to our 2023 Graduates!**

**Amanda Allen** is graduating from Regent University School of Law with a Master of Arts in Law.

**Emily Donahue** is graduating from ThunderRidge High School on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 with High Academic Honors. She will be attending the University of Wyoming in Laramie majoring in Finance and Business.

**Nche Ogu** is graduating from ThunderRidge High School on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. He will be attending CU Boulder this fall to study computer engineering.

**Theo Ryder** will graduate from Concordia University Wisconsin on May 13, 2023. He is a Landscape Horticulture Major with an emphasis in Turf Management. Theo has accepted a position with the Milwaukee Country Club and plans to start full-time employment on Memorial Day as a 2nd Assistant Superintendent. His long-term goal is to be a Superintendent at a golf course. He shares an apartment in Cedarburg with three CUW graduate students. They usually attend church at First Immanuel Lutheran Church in Cedarburg.



**Housing for intern student needed** – Breana Downs, a student at Pacific Lutheran University in Parkland, WA is looking for housing for June, July and August while she internships for Rocky Mountain Wildlife Alliance in Sedalia. If you are interested, please call Breana at 360-591-8950 as soon as possible.



As one of our chosen Mission Projects for May and June 2023 we are collecting items for the Alternatives Pregnancy Center (Denver). Below is a list of requested items that they need. Place your items in the container on the table in the narthex.

**ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW**

**\* Items needed the most**

- \* 3 – 12 month Onesies
- \* 6 – 12 month Outfits
- \* Hooded towels
- \* Baby wash cloths
- \* Toiletries—baby shampoo, body wash and lotion
- \* Baby wipes
- \* Burp cloths
- \* Bibs
- \* Teethingers/rattles
- \* Baby toys
- \* Baby books
- Infant mittens
- Baby hats (knit of cotton)
- Pacifiers
- Bottles



***A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.***

***John 13:34***



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

# FREE CONCERTS



## Something Old, Something New...

Sunday, May 7, 2023  
2:30 pm

**Atonement  
Lutheran Church**  
6281 W Yale Ave.  
Lakewood, CO

Sunday, May 7, 2023  
6:30 pm

**Shepherd Of The Rockies  
Lutheran Church**  
106 Rosalie Rd.  
Bailey, CO



## The Lutheran Choral



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

Visit [www.the.lutheranchorale.org](http://www.the.lutheranchorale.org) for more information.

## CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, NEBRASKA



*Vocal Jazz Choir*

KURT VON KAMPEN, DIRECTOR

**SUNDAY, MAY 7TH AT 7:30 PM**

SCHOOLHOUSE THEATER  
PARKER, CO

FEATURING BLUHI JAZZ  
FROM LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

**Petitions and Prayers:** In love, God gives us His Holy Spirit to help us in prayer. The Holy Spirit intercedes for us, but always “according to the will of God.”



### **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:

- Devon Hanson (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell) – mental health issues
- Dillon (grandson of Connie and Terry Mitchell - 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 Father in heaven, thank You for sending Your Son who became sin for us, satisfying Your justice. We praise You for Your wisdom in Your divine plan of salvation. We thank You for forsaking Your Son that You might not forsake us. We glorify You for the certain promise of eternal life and resurrection given in the empty tomb. As we wait for Jesus' return, mold our attitude to be like His. We look forward to the day when we will see You on Your throne with Your Son at Your right hand in glory. We pray in the name of Your Son's holy and blessed name. Amen.*

### **“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life May 7, 2023**

“We were created by a loving God, redeemed by His self-sacrificial act of love, and called to love one another. God loves us; therefore, our life has value. God calls us to love; therefore, our life has purpose. And this, dear friend, is the greatest purpose.”

*Hannah Nissing, Bulldogs4Life, the Y4Life team at Concordia, Nebraska  
A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*



***Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.  
No one comes to the Father except through me."***

***John 14:6***

## **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

Website.....[www.hclchr.org](http://www.hclchr.org)

***Reaching lost souls with the Gospel:***

***Nourishing and equipping the saints for life and ministry!***



**Check out**

***The Lutheran Hour***

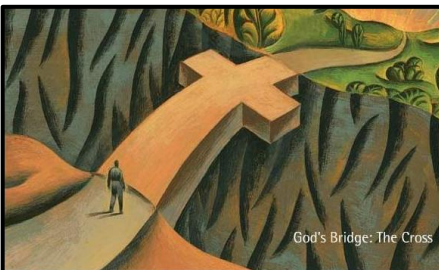
**Sunday mornings at**

**6 a.m. on 850 KOA Radio or  
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).



**Jesus built your  
bridge to Heaven  
with 2 pieces of  
wood and 3 nails.**