

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

School and Early Learning Center



March 12, 2023

There Is Water...and...There Is Water

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS!

OUR SAVIOR WELCOMES YOU AND SO DO WE! Whether you are a first time visitor or returning guest, we are delighted to share our worship with you! Please come back and worship with us again!

PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES We love to have children in worship! However, parents who find a need to take their children out of the service are welcome to use the narthex/lobby area while you quiet your little one. The infant care room is also available for nursing mothers. You'll be able to hear the service from the speaker system in the narthex and in the infant care room. A changing table is in the men's and women's bathrooms. If needed, please ask an usher for assistance.

REGISTRATION CARDS are in the hymnal racks. Guests may use the registration cards to let us know how we may further assist you. We encourage all members and guests to fill out a registration card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

A HEARING LOOP is installed in our sanctuary for your convenience. If your hearing aid has a t-switch, you'll need to activate it when you're in the sanctuary, in order to benefit from the hearing loop.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES Holy Cross offers a full Christian elementary school (grades PreK3 – 8), Kids Crossing Early Learning Center (6 weeks – 5 years), Sunday School and children's youth activities.

PRAYER CONCERNS? Contact Sherri Bartels, sbbartels.sb@gmail.com. Our prayer chain is a large group of Holy Cross members who join you in calling upon God with your prayer concerns. Galatians 6:2 says "Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

USHERS are on duty during church services. Please speak with them if you need assistance.

LIVE STREAM WORSHIP If you or a loved one are unable to attend worship, our 8:30 am service is live streamed on the church website.

PHONE-IN WORSHIP Sundays at 8:30 a.m. (Call any time after 8:20 a.m.; dial 1 (978) 990-5164 followed by access code 6279900#)

ON DEMAND WORSHIP View or listen to any of our past worship services by visiting our website and click the tab labeled Live Stream/Sermons and click sermons.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE Sunday, 8:30 am 10:30am and Monday, 6:30 pm.

TRANSPORTATION FUND If you have no other way to church, taxi rides to and from church are available. Please speak with the Pastor or call the church office at 249-3101.

THE LORD'S SUPPER is offered on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month and the following Mondays. We believe the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity of faith in our Savior as well as our unity in all scriptural teachings. Since the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod profess full unity in biblical teaching, members of these church bodies are welcome to commune with us. If you are a member of a different Christian church, we ask that you wait to commune until you have closely examined what we teach and are convinced that we are a church that preaches the true Word of God, and that you are in agreement with our teachings. Please speak with a pastor if you are a guest and would like to commune.

2023 FLOWER CHART The flower chart for 2023 is now posted on the bulletin board in the Welcome Center near the Fireside Room. Sign up with your name, phone number and occasion if you would like to provide flowers for the altar. You can bring in your own flowers or the Altar Guild will order flowers for you. The usual bouquet is \$40, but you can make it any amount you like. Make checks payable to **Holy Cross Altar Guild**. Drop off or mail your check in an envelope marked ALTAR FLOWERS. You may take the bouquet after the last church service and enjoy it at your home.

MISSION STATEMENT The mission of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School is to bring the Gospel of Christ to our community through the Means of Grace, reaching out to the lost, and nurturing our fellow believers. This we do through worship, education, service and fellowship that God's kingdom may grow.

"There Is Water...and...There Is Water"

March 12, 2023

Third Sunday in Lent

Service of the Word – Page 38

Senior Choir....."Behold the Lamb of God"

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Confession of Sins

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

Prayer and Praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord

Taste and See



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

The First LessonIsaiah 42:14-21

Nothing could keep God from bringing the light of salvation

¹⁴I have been silent for a long time. I have kept still. I have restrained myself. But now, like a woman giving birth, I will scream. I will gasp and pant. ¹⁵I will dry up mountains and hills. I will make all their grass wither. I will turn rivers into islands. I will dry up pools. ¹⁶I will lead the blind on a way they do not know. Along paths they do not know I will direct them. Ahead of them I will turn darkness into light and rough places into level ground. These are the things I will accomplish for them. I will not abandon them. ¹⁷They will be turned back and completely disgraced—those who trust in an idol, those who say to molten images, “You are our gods.” ¹⁸You deaf ones, listen! You blind ones, watch carefully so that you can see! ¹⁹Who is as blind as my servant? Who is as deaf as my messenger whom I sent? Who is as blind as my associate, as blind as the servant of the Lord? ²⁰You, Israel, see many things, but you do not observe. Israel opens his ears, but he does not hear. ²¹Because of his own righteousness, the Lord was pleased to make his law great and glorious.

Psalm of the DayPsalm 143

- M: Lord, hear my prayer. Give ear to my cry for mercy.
- C: **In your faithfulness, answer me in your righteousness.**
- M: Do not bring charges against your servant, because no one living can be righteous before you.
- C: **My spirit grows faint inside me. Within me my heart is devastated.**
- M: Hurry! Answer me, Lord. My spirit fails.
- C: **Do not hide your face from me, or I will be like those who go down to the pit.**
- M: Let me hear about your mercy in the morning, for I trust in you.
- C: **Teach me the way that I should go. May your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**

Second LessonEphesians 5:8-14

Live as children of the Light

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth. ¹⁰Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord, ¹¹and do not participate in fruitless deeds of darkness. Instead, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention the things that are done by people in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes things visible. ¹⁴Therefore it is said, “Awake, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Verse of the Day



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Hymn of the Day #345....."In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story Gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming Adds more luster to the day.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

SermonPastor Eugene Kock..... "There Is Water...and...There Is Water"

John 4:5-15

So he came to a town in Samaria called Sychar, near the piece of land Jacob gave to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there. Then Jesus, being tired from the journey, sat down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. ⁷A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone into town to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus 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." ¹¹"Sir," she said, "you don't even have a bucket, and the well is deep. So where do you get this living water?" ¹²You are not greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave us this well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his animals." ¹³Jesus answered her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but whoever drinks the water I will give him will never be thirsty ever again. Rather, the water I will give him will become in him a spring of water, bubbling up to eternal life." ¹⁵"Sir, give me this water," the woman said to him, "so I won't get thirsty and have to keep coming here to draw water."

Hymn #355....."Take the World, but Give Me Jesus"

- 1 Take the world, but give me Jesus!
All its joys are but a name.
But his love abides forever,
Through eternal years the same.

Refrain:

Oh, the height and depth of mercy;
Oh, the length and breadth of love!
Oh, the fullness of redemption,
Pledge of endless life above!

- 2 Take the world, but give me Jesus,
Sweetest comfort of my soul.
With the Savior watching o'er me,
I can sing, though thunders roll.

Refrain

Oh, the height and depth of mercy;
Oh, the length and breadth of love!
Oh, the fullness of redemption,
Pledge of endless life above!

3 Take the world, but give me Jesus!
In his cross my trust shall be
Till with clearer, brighter vision
Face to face my Lord I see.

Refrain

Oh, the height and depth of mercy;
Oh, the length and breadth of love!
Oh, the fullness of redemption,
Pledge of endless life above!

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

M: Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

C: We confess that without your love we are lost.

M: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

M: Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

C: By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

M: Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

C: Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

M: Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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 Hymn #356....."You Are the Way; through You Alone"

- 1 You are the way; through you alone Can we the Father find;
In you, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.
- 2 You are the truth; your Word alone True wisdom can impart.
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.
- 3 You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in you Not death nor hell shall harm.
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

Closing Prayer

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



Announcements

If you attended online services at Holy Cross, please send an email to frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org, and in the subject line write "Attended" and after that the number of people who watched from your home. So if three of you watch the service on Sunday, your subject line would say, "Attended 3". Please don't write anything in the text of the email, since our secretary, Jodi Hougan, will not be responding to emails that say "Attended" in the subject line. Thanks.

Holy Cross News & Notes

March 12, 2023

Attendance Last Week: 298

Calendar for the Week - March 13th - March 19th

Monday

- Funeral Planning Meeting - 1:00 pm
- Bible Information Class - 7:30 pm

Tuesday

- Coffee at Elie's - 9:00 am
- Senior Ministry - 9:15 am

Wednesday

- School Chapel - 8:10 am
- Lenten Service - 3:30 pm
- Public School Catechism - 4:30 pm
- Adult Handbells - 5:45 pm
- Lenten Service - 6:30 pm
- Senior Choir - 7:15 pm

Thursday

- Membership Committee - 9:15 am
- Esther Circle - 1:00 pm

Saturday

- Jesus Cares Ministry - 10:00 am

Sunday

- Worship - 8:30 and 10:30 am
- Sunday School - 9:45 am
- Adult Bible Study - 9:45 am

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK Arleen Zuelsdorf was hospitalized this week. Please pray for her and our homebound and for those in nursing homes.

Special Voters Meeting for the Calling of a Pastor

The Holy Cross Board of Elders and Church Council are calling a special Voters Meeting on **Sunday, March 26th at 11:30 am**. The purpose of this special Voters Meeting is to extend a Divine Call to fill the Pastoral vacancy here at Holy Cross. Please pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in this very important matter and please plan to attend this special meeting.

Wednesday Lenten Services

The season of Lenten is a special time of looking first at the depth of our sin, and then at the depth of Christ's love for us in his passion and suffering. ***No Monday Night Services during Lent***

Our theme this year is 'His Final Steps'

March 15 - His Final Steps Led to [Some Greeks](#)

March 22 - His Final Steps Led to a [Fig Tree](#)

March 29 - His Final Steps Led to [His Enemies](#)

Funeral Planning

Monday, March 13, 1:00 pm

While your funeral may still be many years down the road, making plans for your funeral can be a great testament to your faith for your family and friends. The hymns you pick and the bible verses you would like read can be very comforting and thought-directing for your loved ones. The Senior Ministry Committee invites you to join us on Monday, March 13 at 1 pm. Pastor Bartels, along with a speaker from Gunderson Funeral Home, will help walk you through some of the things to think about as you do some future planning for your funeral. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Thank you!

Operation GO Mission Trip Program

Julianne Dollard, one of the LLHS teens from our congregation is readying to GO with the Gospel this summer under the Lakeside Lutheran Operation GO mission trip program, organized and run by Pastor Dustin Yahnke. We look forward to announcements after 1st service today, when Julianne will briefly share with us the plans for her upcoming mission trip. Thanks for keeping these teens in prayer as they get ready for their trip and taking other actions as you're able.

Call News

- **Amber Zoellner:** Our 6th grade teacher, Amber Zoellner has decided to step down from teaching at the end of this school year. She writes:

Dear Holy Cross, It has been a blessing and privilege to teach your sixth through eighth graders these past two years. Recently God has blessed my family with a third baby on the way. With this change in our lives, we feel it is best for me to step away from teaching to focus on raising our children. Therefore, I am resigning my call at the end of this school year. We trust that God will continue to watch over the lambs of Holy Cross Lutheran School and that he will provide what they need. As Romans 8:28 reminds us, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. In Christ, Amber Zoellner

- **Pastor Kassera:** James Kassera has returned the Call to serve as our Associate Pastor. He writes:
Dear Members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School, Recently you extended a call for me to be your associate pastor, and I would like to thank you for the opportunity for myself and the Divine Mercy congregation to evaluate where God would have me serve. After a great deal of deliberation, I am convinced that the Lord has directed me to return the call to you and remain at Divine Mercy Lutheran Church, Weatherford, Texas. It was a blessing to talk with Pastor Bartels, your leadership, and your members and learn more about your congregation. There are so many wonderful things happening at Holy Cross. It is clear that you are joyful and eager to do the Lord's work in Madison. God bless your efforts as you move forward and extend another call. In Christ, Pastor James Kassera

- **Haley Arndt:** The Holy Cross School Board has extended a Call to Haley Arndt to serve as our 7th grade homeroom teacher and middle school ELA teacher. Haley writes:
Dear Members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, On Wednesday, March 1, 2023, you called me to be your 7th grade homeroom teacher and middle school ELA teacher. I want to thank many of you for reaching out and offering your encouragement and prayers as I decided whether or not to stay home and continue to teach virtually, or to accept the call to Holy Cross. I needed to consider where God would have me serve best in his kingdom. It sounds like God has truly blessed, and is continuing to bless, the work you are doing in Madison and the surrounding area. I am excited to see what God accomplishes through Holy Cross in the future.

Because of this, God has led me to accept the call to join you in ministry at Holy Cross. I rejoice with you in the expansion of God's kingdom through the rapid growth of your church and school, and I feel like my entrance back into the physical public ministry will be blessed at Holy Cross. All of you are in my prayers as I thank God for this opportunity and ask him to guide me in the work I begin with you. God be with you all, Haley Arndt

- **Principal Poetter:** Chris Poetter has received a Call to be principal and upper grades teacher at Peace Lutheran School in Kissimmee, Florida. Please keep him in your prayers as he deliberates where he can best serve.

Prayers: May the Holy Spirit grant wisdom and guidance during the deliberation of these Calls.

Chocolate Extravaganza

We are excited to announce that our Chocolate Extravaganza will be returning to Holy Cross this year on Saturday, April 1st, from 5:30pm to 9:00pm. The evening will be filled with fine-chocolate tasting, hors d'oeuvres, great fellowship and a silent auction. You'll have fun, get to spend time with fellow Christians, and best of all, funds raised will go to Partners in Christ, which provides tuition and educational assistance to families here at Holy Cross. Please reserve April 1 on your calendar, and watch announcements for more information. If you or someone you know would like to make a monetary contribution or donate a silent auction item, please reach out to Tricia Blaschka (troachie1@hotmail.com) or Nicolle Ward (dego88m@gmail.com).