

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

School and Early Learning Center



March 5, 2023

God So Loved the World

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.

"God So Loved the World"

March 5, 2023

Second Sunday in Lent

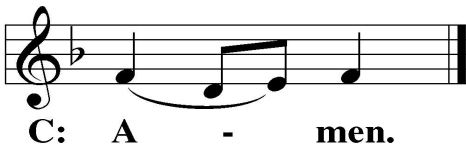
The Common Service – Page 15

Opening Hymn CWS#714 vs 1 & 2.....(Music located on back page)....."The Lamb"

1 The Lamb, the Lamb,
O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes
God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

2 The Lamb, the Lamb,
One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb,
Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

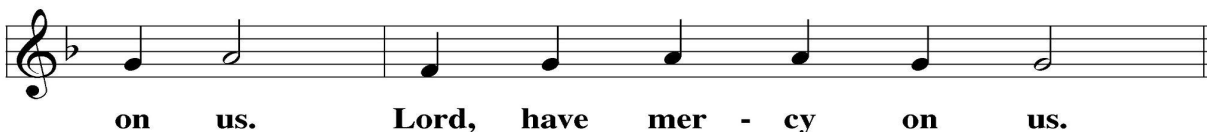
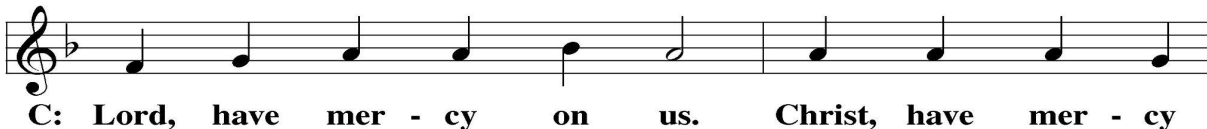


Confession of Sins

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - men.

Prayer and Praise

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

Glory Be to God



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



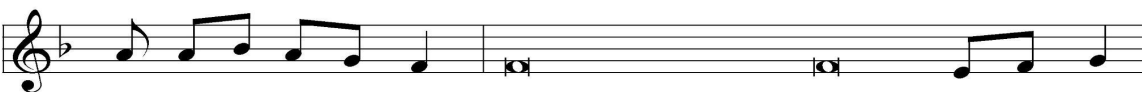
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.



C: **And al - so with you.**

M: Let us pray.

C: **Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**



C: **A - men.**

Old Testament LessonGenesis 12:1-8

Abraham believed God's promises

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Get out of your country and away from your relatives and from your father's house and go to the land that I will show you. ²I will make you a great nation. I will bless you and make your name great. You will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse anyone who dishonors you. All of the families of the earth will be blessed in you." ⁴So Abram went, as the Lord had told him. Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took Sarai his wife, Lot his brother's son, and all the possessions they had accumulated and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to travel to the land of Canaan. Eventually they arrived in the land of Canaan. ⁶Abram passed through the land until he came to the Oak of Moreh at the place called Shechem. The Canaanites were in the land at that time. ⁷The Lord appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your descendants." Abram built an altar there to the Lord, who had appeared to him. ⁸He moved on from there to the hill country east of Bethel and pitched his tent there, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the Lord and proclaimed the name of the Lord.

Psalm of the DayPsalm 121

M: I lift up my eyes to the mountains. Where does my help come from?

C: **My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**

M: He will not let your foot stumble. He who watches over you will not slumber.

C: **Yes, he who watches over Israel will not slumber. He will not sleep.**

M: The Lord watches over you. The Lord is your shade at your right hand.

C: **The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

M: The Lord will watch to keep you from all harm. He will watch over your life.

C: **The Lord will watch over your going and your coming from now to eternity.**

Verse of the Day

M: Jesus humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:8b)

Epistle Lesson.....Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

Abraham was justified by faith, not by works

What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered according to the flesh? ²If indeed Abraham had been justified by works, he would have had a reason to boast—but not before God. ³For what does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to a person who works, his pay is not counted as a gift but as something owed. ⁵But to the person who does not work but believes in the God who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited to him as righteousness.

¹³Indeed, the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not given to Abraham or his descendants through the law, but through the righteousness that is by faith. ¹⁴To be sure, if people are heirs by the law, faith is empty and the promise is nullified. ¹⁵For law brings wrath. (Where there is no law, there is no transgression.) ¹⁶For this reason, the promise is by faith, so that it may be according to grace and may be guaranteed to all of Abraham’s descendants—not only to the one who is a descendant by law, but also to the one who has the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷As it is written: “I have made you a father of many nations.”

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Children’s Sermon

Young children are invited forward to the chancel steps

Hymn CWS#714 vs 3, 4 & 5.....(Music located on back page).....“The Lamb”

3 The Lamb, the Lamb,
As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will
On our behalf the Law to fill.
Worthy is the Lamb Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

4 He sighs, he dies,
He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives,
He gives me His own righteousness.
Worthy is the Lamb Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

5 He rose, He rose,
My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong
Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.
Worthy is the Lamb Whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

SermonMark Bartels....."God So Loved the World"

John 3:1-7, 14-16

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these miraculous signs you are doing unless God is with him." ³Jesus replied, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God! ⁶Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh. Whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above. ¹⁴"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life.



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. A - men.

Offering

Prayer

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.

Preface

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and host of heaven, we praise you holy name and join in their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -



na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C: A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

The Distribution & Hymn #310....."I Come, O Savior, to Your Table"

1 I come, O Savior, to your table, For weak and weary is my soul;
O Jesus, you alone are able To satisfy and make me whole.

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Oh, grant that I in manner worthy May now trust solely in your Word,
And, conscious of the sins before me, Look only unto you, O Lord.

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet you your lamb will banish never, Nor will your faithfulness depart.

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

4 Oh, let me loathe all sin forever As death and poison to my soul,
That I through willful sinning never May see your judgment take its toll!

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

5 Your heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to you in faith are turning; So let me, too, come trustingly.

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

6 Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed.
Receive me graciously and gladden My heart, for I am now your guest.

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

7 You here will find a heart most lowly That feels unworthy in your sight,
That duly weeps o'er sin, yet solely Your merit pleads, as it is right.

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

8 By faith I call your holy table The testament of your deep love,
For by your gift I now am able To know the heart of God above.

Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

9 What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace.

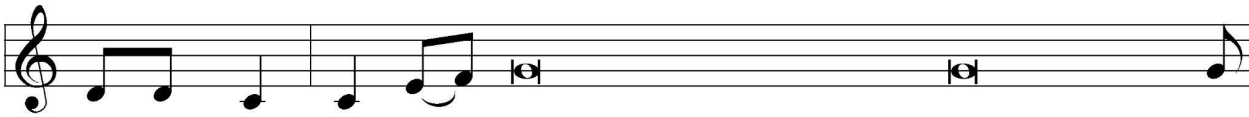
Refrain:

Lord, may your body and your blood Be for my soul the highest good!

Song of Simeon



C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing



to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-

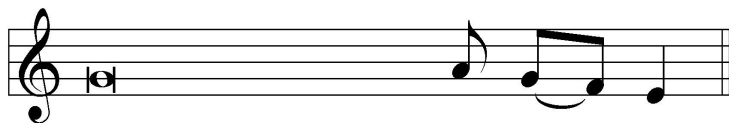


pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the



Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: **And his mercy endures for - ev - er.**

Prayer after Communion

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: **A - men.**

Benediction

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.



C: **A - men. A - men. A - men.**

Holy Cross News & Notes

March 5, 2023

Calendar for the Week – March 6th – March 12th

Monday

- Worship Committee - 5:00 pm
- Bible Information Class - 7:30 pm

Wednesday

- Lenten Service - 3:30 pm
- Public School Catechism-4:30 pm
- Handbells- 5:45 pm
- Lenten Service 6:30 pm
- Choir 7:15 pm

Thursday

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

Sunday

- Worship - 8:30 and 10:30 am
- Bible Class- 9:45 am
- Sunday School - 9:45 am
- Senior Appreciation Luncheon - 12:00 pm

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

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given by Dennis and Joan Behr on the occasion of their 36th wedding anniversary.

Seniors Appreciation Luncheon

The 12th of March marks Daylight Saving Time and the annual Seniors Appreciation Luncheon. We value our seniors and thank them for their commitment, sacrifice, and service over the years that has distinguished the Holy Cross congregation and grown God's kingdom. At noon we will serve salads, soups, and desserts to members who are 60 years and older. As always, there is no charge. Please use the sign up sheet located in the welcome center to let us know if you can attend.

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!

Endowment Fund Update

A huge thank you to all who gave to the special drive we had for our Endowment Fund during 2022. As a result of your gifts, along with matching donations, our Endowment Fund added \$111,400 in donations! Our Endowment Fund now sits at about \$360,000! THANK YOU SO MUCH! Your gifts will help fund special Holy Cross projects for years to come!

Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are a Thrivent Member, you have the option to direct your 2022 Choice Dollars to Holy Cross until March 31. If you haven't already done so, don't miss this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent gives back! Directing Choice Dollars online is fast and easy. If you need assistance, call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

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
- Haley Arndt: The Holy Cross School Board has extended a Call to Haley Arndt to serve as our 7th grade homeroom teacher. This will, ideally, free up some administrative time for Vice Principal Andrew Schoenfeld. Amber lives in Watertown with her husband and 4 children. Her husband is a teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Lake Mills.
- Pastor Kassera: James Kassera has the Call to serve as our Associate Pastor. Currently, he serves as pastor at Divine Mercy Lutheran Church in Hudson Oaks, Texas. He has served there for 5 years. Prior to that he served at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Albert Lea, Minnesota for 6 years.
- 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.

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.

Our theme this year is 'His Final Steps'

March 8 - His Final Steps Led to His Father's House

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

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 OperationGO 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.

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).

Summer ELS Youth Convention

The ELS Board for Youth Outreach is excited to announce that the 2023 LYA Youth Convention will be held at Bethany Lutheran College from Thursday, July 27 - Sunday, July 30. This annual event brings together youth from across the country. The Convention theme is "Created" (based on Genesis 1:27) and will feature keynote speaker, Seminary President Timothy Hartwig. Register at els.org/lya/ Cost is \$250 per person. After June 1, the cost increases to \$300. Register early to ensure your top picks for classes and activities! Please watch for more information on financial assistance and transportation.



1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal
 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their
 4 He sighs, he dies, He takes my sin and
 5 He rose, he rose, My heart with thanks now

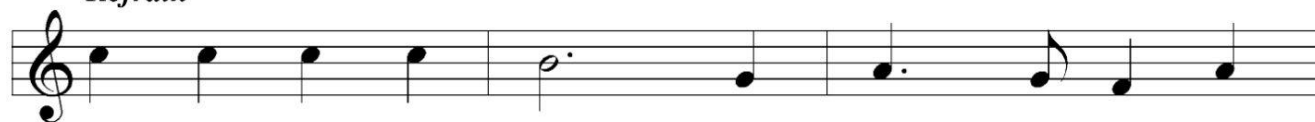


sac - ri - fice? Faith sees, be - lieves God
 of - fer - ing. The Lamb, the Lamb, Let
 shep - herd kill So still, his will, On
 wretch - ed - ness. He lives, for - gives, He
 o - ver - flows. His song pro - long 'Til

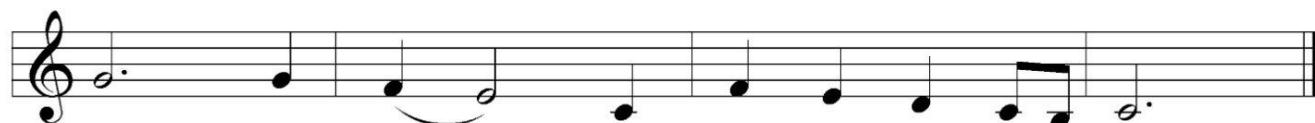


will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
 earth join heav'n his praise to sing.
 our be - half the law to fill.
 gives me his own right - eous - ness.
 ev - 'ry heart to him be - long.

Refrain



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me his



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on his throne.

As the Lord provided for Abraham a sacrifice in place of his son Isaac, so also he lovingly provides for us his own Son, Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God sacrificed for the sins of the world.

Tune: WINTER (48 48 and Refrain)

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