

# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

School and Early Learning Center

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May 21, 2023

*Be Firm in the Faith!*

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## 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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**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.

# **"Be Firm in the Faith!"**

**May 21, 2023**

## **Seventh Sunday of Easter – Confirmation Sunday**

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*Service of the Word – Page 38*

**Opening Hymn** #597....."May God the Father of our Lord"

1 May God the Father of our Lord,  
Who called you by his holy Word,  
Perfect, establish, settle you,  
Keep you through faith forever true.

2 In Jesus Christ may you be blessed  
And brought to his eternal rest.  
The work he has in you begun,  
He will perform till all is done.

3 The Holy Spirit give you pow'r,  
The strength of prayer in ev'ry hour,  
The wisdom, knowledge, fear of God,  
That lifts above his chast'ning rod.

4 May God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit, Three in One,  
Preserve you blameless till in grace  
You stand before his holy face.

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



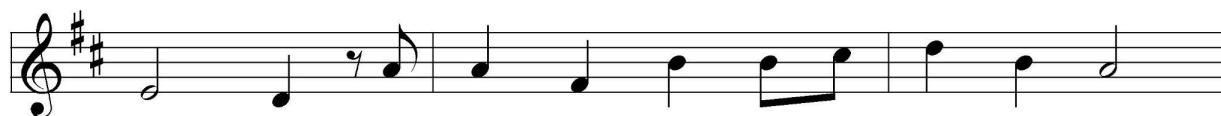
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



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.

Lord God, walk with us in life, and keep the evil one from obstructing our path. You see all; you know where the water is deep. Keep us from danger. Order our steps and guide our feet while we run the race of faith. May the good work of faith that you have begun in us be brought to completion on the day of Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

**The First Lesson** .....Acts 1:8-14

*The disciples wait for Jesus' gift of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>8</sup>[Jesus said to them], "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>After he said these things, he was taken up while they were watching, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>They were looking intently into the sky as he went away. Suddenly, two men in white clothes stood beside them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing here looking up into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." <sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mountain called the Mount of Olives, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they entered the city, they went to the upstairs room where they were staying. Peter and John were there, also James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. <sup>14</sup>All of them kept praying together with one mind, along with the women, with Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

**Grades 3 – 7**....."Walk With Them, Lord"

**Psalm of the Day**.....Psalm 31

M: In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me!

C: **Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!**

M: Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

C: **My times are in your hand; save me in your steadfast love!**

M: Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you

C: **Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD!**

**Second Lesson**.....John 17:1-11a

*To know Jesus as God's Son is eternal life.*

After Jesus had spoken these things, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you. <sup>2</sup>For you gave him authority over all flesh, so that he may give eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup>This is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you sent. <sup>4</sup>I have glorified you on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>Now, Father, glorify me at your own side with the glory I had at your side before the world existed. <sup>6</sup>"I revealed your name to the men you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me, and they have held on to your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. <sup>8</sup>For I gave them the words you gave me, and they received them. They learned the truth that I came from you. They believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>"I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All that is mine is yours, and what is yours is mine. And I am glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>I am no longer going to be in the world, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you."

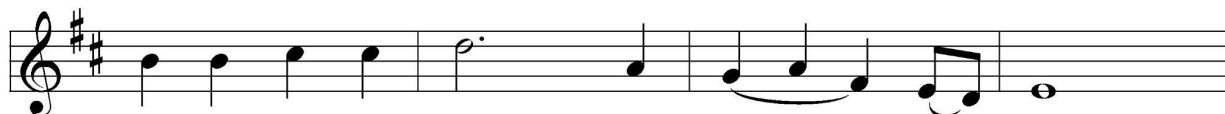
### Verse of the Day



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!

### Children's Sermon

*Young children are invited forward to the chancel steps.*

**Hymn** #431 vs 1, 2, 5 & 6....."I Walk in Danger All the Way"

1 I walk in danger all the way;  
The thought shall never leave me  
That Satan, who has marked his prey,  
Is plotting to deceive me.  
This foe with hidden snares  
May seize me unawares  
If e'er I fail to watch and pray;  
I walk in danger all the way.

2 I pass through trials all the way,  
With sin and ills contending;  
In patience I must bear each day  
The cross of God's own sending.  
Oft in adversity  
I know not where to flee  
When storms of woe my soul dismay;  
I pass through trials all the way.

5 I walk with Jesus all the way;  
His guidance never fails me.  
He takes my ev'ry fear away  
When Satan's pow'r assails me,  
And, by his footsteps led,  
My path I safely tread.  
In spite of ills that threaten may,  
I walk with Jesus all the way.

6 My walk is heav'nward all the way;  
Await, my soul, the morrow,  
When you farewell can gladly say  
To all your sin and sorrow.  
All worldly pomp, begone!  
To heav'n I now press on.  
For all the world I would not stay;  
My walk is heav'nward all the way.

**Sermon** .....Pastor Mark Bartels..... "Be Firm in the Faith"

*1 Peter 5:6-11*

<sup>6</sup>Therefore humble yourselves under God's powerful hand so that he may lift you up at the appointed time.  
<sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Have sound judgment. Be alert. Your adversary, the Devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist him by being firm in the faith. You know that the same kinds of sufferings are being laid on your brotherhood all over the world.  
<sup>10</sup>After you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you into his eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will himself restore, establish, strengthen, and support you. <sup>11</sup>To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

**Hymn** #436....."Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep"

1 Jesus, Shepherd of the sheep,  
Who your Father's flock does keep,  
Safe we wake and safe we sleep,  
Guarded still by you.

2 In your promise firm we stand;  
None can take us from your hand.  
Speak -- we hear -- at your command,  
We will follow you.

3 By your blood our souls were bought;  
By your life salvation wrought;  
By your light our feet are taught,  
Lord, to follow you.

4 Father, draw us to your Son;  
We with joy will follow on  
Till the work of grace is done,  
There to live with you.

5 We, in robes of glory dressed,  
Join th' assembly of the blest,  
Gathered to eternal rest  
In the fold with you.

### **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**

#### **The Rite of Confirmation** (10:30)

Ian Matthew Apps

Trayden Nathen Brunner

Jessica Michelle June Coffey

Guinevere Clara Dettmers

Jesse Leo Cook Dreyer

Cristabelle LeeAnne Perkins

Kaden Rolff

Katelyn Ruth Starkenburg

### **Prayer of the Church**

M: Let us pray to the Lord, asking His blessing on our confirmands who commit their hearts and lives to Him today. Let us pray for ourselves also, as we commit ourselves to the Lord anew.

C: **Christ Jesus, assure us and our confirmands of the forgiveness of sins you give to all who believe in you as Savior. Fill them with your Spirit and the joy of salvation.**

M: Lord God, we earnestly seek your blessing and guidance.

C: **Cause our confirmands to know you, love you, and trust in you. Keep them grounded in your Word and secure in their faith in the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

M: Guide them with your truth and guard their hearts, today and always. Holy Spirit, empower them to walk in your ways.

C: **Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you. Bless and keep us all in the true faith, unto life everlasting. In Jesus' name.**

*Special prayers and petitions*



## 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 #332 vs 2 & 3....."Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

2 Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

3 Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

## Closing Prayer

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

## 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.



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

## Announcements

If you attended online services at Holy Cross, please send an email to [frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org](mailto: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**

May 21, 2023

**Attendance Last Week: 317**

### **Calendar for the Week - May 22nd – May 28th**

#### **Monday**

- Worship - 6:30 pm

#### **Tuesday**

- Holy Cross Olympics - 9:45 am

#### **Wednesday**

- Wednesday Bible Study - 10:00 am

#### **Thursday**

- 8th Grade Graduation Service - 6:30 pm

#### **Friday**

- Last Day School & Picnic - Noon Dismissal

#### **Sunday**

- Worship - 9:00 am

**HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK** George Cooper was hospitalized this week. Please pray for him and our homebound and for those in nursing homes.

#### **Altar Flowers**

The flowers on the altar are given by the Dettmers family for Chloe Dettmers' and Angelina Todd's birthdays.

#### **Usher Announcement**

We are looking to expand the number of people helping with the usher program. Thank you to all who have helped usher and look forward to your continuing as we add more to our overall cadre of ushers. Our goal would be to enlist enough people and establish a schedule so people only have to usher once a month. Training and orientation will be provided for new ushers. There are sign up sheets on the table at the entrance to the sanctuary. Or, you can indicate your interest in ushering by calling Kermit Traska at 606-345-3021 or emailing him at [ktraska66@gmail.com](mailto:ktraska66@gmail.com).

#### **Thank You Bethany Lutheran College Choir**

Today at our 8:30 am service, the Bethany Lutheran College Concert Choir will be here, with conductor Dennis Marzolf to lead us in our worship service. Thanks to Professor Marzolf and Bethany Choir.

#### **Summer Worship Schedule Memorial Day - Labor Day**

Beginning May 28, we will have one worship service each Sunday, beginning at 9 am. We'll also have Monday Evening Worship at 6:30 pm. There is no Sunday School or Sunday morning Bible Class during our summer schedule. (No Monday Night service on May 29, which is Memorial Day.)

#### **Holy Cross Confirmation**

Today at our 10:30 am service, 8 young people will be received into communicant membership in the Church through the rite of Confirmation. Our confirmands are:

- Ian Apps
- Trayden Brunner
- Jessica Coffey
- Guin Dettmers
- Jesse Dreyer
- Cristabelle Perkins
- Kaden Rolff
- Katelyn Starkenburg

### **Back to the Basics**

Join us for Wednesday morning 10 am Bible Study! Pastor Kock will begin a new series this Wednesday called, "Back to the Basics." This will be a great review of the basics of the Christian faith. Invite a friend. Plan on learning and having some good Christian fellowship!

### **Farewell to Mr. Chris Poetter/Card Basket**

Today we will be collecting cards to give to Mr. Poetter during the last week of school and a chance to thank Mr. Poetter for his 7 wonderful years of service to Holy Cross. There will be a box out to collect the cards.

### **Job Opening at Holy Cross**

#### **Administrative Assistant/Communications Assistant**

This position will serve primarily as the administrative assistant for the church, and requires strong communication and customer service skills. The position will also serve as communications assistant for the church, school and early learning center, assisting with website communication, social media communication and newsletter communication. The position requires strong organizational skills, an orientation to detail, a working knowledge of Microsoft Office programs and Google Suite programs with advanced knowledge in Microsoft Word. Database experience is a plus. Experience with managing facebook and website content is highly desired. For information or to apply, contact Pastor Mark Bartels at [mbartels@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:mbartels@holycrossmadison.org)

### **Holy Cross Vacation Bible School**

*Monday, June 26th to Thursday, June 29th.* This year we will be traveling back in time to Jerusalem! Stop by the front office or email [frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org) for registration form.

### **VBS - Make an Impact**

Vacation Bible School makes an impact on kids' lives. How about helping make an impact this year! VBS will be June 26-29 (Monday - Thursday). While we've already got most of our teaching staff, our craft leader and our music leader in place, they could use helpers. If you're willing to help with crafts, music, recess or in the classroom, please email Jodi at [frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org). Thank you!

### **Memorial Day AMMO Can**

Lutheran Military Support Group AMMO Can Campaign – As Memorial Day approaches, Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) is seeking donations in support of our military men, women and their families. LMSG, a partnership of ELS and WELS veterans, is working to grow awareness of and bring Christian support to military members and their families in our congregations and beyond. By placing your gift in the AMMO can located on the countertop in the welcome center you are supporting the work of local congregations that are ministering to nearby military families, the WELS chaplain program, the MCP (Military Contact Pastor program training and more. Questions? Visit [www.lutheranmilitary.org](http://www.lutheranmilitary.org). THANK YOU for standing shoulder to shoulder with those serving our nation!!

### **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/](http://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.

### **An Opportunity to Serve: Camp Basic**

Camp Basic (WELS Christian Camp for special needs) is looking for camp counselors! Counselors help their campers get ready in the morning, sit with them at meals, encourage them to participate in activities and help them with bedtime routines. In the evenings you prepare for the next day and enjoy some free time with the other counselors! Camp BASIC is an excellent opportunity to acquire volunteer hours. For more information visit <https://campbasic.com/volunteers>