

***New Year's Day Service***  
***Sunday, January 1, 2023***  
***9:00 am***

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**Invocation and Opening Prayer**

P: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: **We thank You, our heavenly Father, that You have graciously kept us this past year; and we pray that You would forgive us all our sins where we have done wrong, and graciously keep us in the new year. For into Your hands we commend ourselves, our bodies and souls, and all things. Let Your Holy angels be with us that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn**#441 vs 1-6....."O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

- 1 O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home,
- 2 Under the shadow of your throne Your saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is your arm alone, And our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood Or earth received its frame,  
From everlasting you are God, To endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away;  
We fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

**Confession and Absolution**

P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

C: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: So you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: **I do.**

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in His name?

C: **I do.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by thee command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

P: May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution, and strengthen you by His Sacraments, that your joy may be full. Peace be with you!

C: Amen.

### **Responsive Reading of Psalm 90**

P: Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

C: **Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world-from everlasting to everlasting-You are God.**

P: You turn men back to dust saying, "Return to dust, oh sons of men."

C: **For a thousand years in Your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.**

P: The length of our days is 70 years-or 80, if we have the strength. Yet their span is but trouble and sorrow for they quickly pass and we fly away.

C: **Teach us to number our days aright that we may gain a heart of wisdom!**

P: Satisfy us in the morning with Your unfailing love that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

C: **May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us. Establish the work of our hands for us.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

C: **Eternal Father, before whom all generations rise and fall, teach us to think earnestly on the brevity of our lives, and on the immensity of your goodness. Help us to enter the new year, trusting in the name of your Son, and walking in the way of his peace. Amen.**

### **Epistle Lesson** .....Galatians 4:4-7

*When the time has fully come God sent his Son.. God uses and controls time*

<sup>4</sup>But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, <sup>5</sup>in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. <sup>6</sup>And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, "Abba, Father!" <sup>7</sup>So you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if you are a son, then you are also an heir of God through Christ.

### **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**#72....."O Lord, Our Father, Thanks and Praise"

1 O Lord, our Father, thanks and praise In this new year we render,  
For ev'ry evil had to flee Before you, our defender.  
Our life was nourished, we were fed With rich supplies of daily bread,  
And peace reigned in our borders.

2 Lord Jesus Christ, our thanks and praise In this new year we render;  
Your reign has kept your people free, Has shown your mercies tender.  
You have redeemed us with your blood; You are our joy, our only good,  
In life and death our Savior.

3 O Holy Spirit, thanks and praise In this new year we render,  
For you have led our eyes to see Your truth in all its splendor  
And thus enkindled from above Within our hearts true faith and love  
And other Christian virtues.

4 Our faithful God, we cry to you: Still bless us with your favor,  
Blot out all our iniquity, And hide our sins forever.  
Grant us a happy, good new year And, when the hour of death draws near,  
A peaceful, blest departure.

**Sermon**.....Mark Bartels....."God Guides Us Through Life"

*Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23*

<sup>13</sup>After the Wise Men were gone, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to Joseph in a dream. He said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, because Herod will search for the child in order to kill him." <sup>14</sup>Joseph got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and left for Egypt. <sup>15</sup>He stayed there until the death of Herod. This happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

<sup>19</sup>After Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. The angel said, <sup>20</sup>"Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to kill the child are dead." <sup>21</sup>Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. <sup>22</sup>But when he heard that Archelaus, Herod's son, had succeeded his father as ruler in Judea, he was afraid to go there. Since he had been warned in a dream, he went to the region of Galilee. <sup>23</sup>When he arrived there, he settled in a city called Nazareth. So what was spoken through the prophets was fulfilled: "He will be called a Nazarene."

**Hymn** by Harry Bartels.....to the tune of #428..... " Jesus, Graciously Direct Us"

1 Jesus, graciously direct us Through each day O'er life's way;  
From the Foe protect us. And though many woes surround us,  
We'll not fear, With You near, Nothing shall confound us.

2 Keep us every day confessing From within All our sin,  
Humbly You addressing, Seeking Your forgiveness ever,  
Won for us On the cross, by God's Son, our Savior.

3 From the right hand of the Father You now rule Over all,  
Our almighty Brother. Thus shall we with dauntless gladness  
Serve You, Lord; You afford Joy through every sadness.

4 Pour out on us Your good Spirit That Your will We fulfill,  
In true hearts e'er bear it; And that by Your Spirit's keeping  
We till death Hold the faith, Life with You thus reaping.

5 Oh, the day when You receive us To You there Where You are,  
When heav'n's peace You give us! Then shall we midst angels singing  
Join their cry There on high, Praise to You e're bringing!

### **The 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.

### **Offering**

### **Communion - The Words of Institution**

### **Distribution Hymn**#38..... "From Heaven Above to Earth I Come"

- 1 "From heav'n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev'ry home;  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing:
- 2 "To you this night is born a child Of Mary, chosen virgin mild;  
This little child of lowly birth Shall be the joy of all the earth.
- 3 "This is the Christ, our God most high, Who hears your sad and bitter cry;  
He will himself your Savior be From all your sins to set you free.
- 8 Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, Through whom the sinful world is blest!  
You came to share my misery That you might share your joy with me.
- 9 Ah, Lord, though you created all, How weak you are, so poor and small,  
That you should choose to lay your head Where lowly cattle lately fed!
- 10 Were earth a thousand times as fair And set with gold and jewels rare,  
It would be far too poor and small A cradle for the Lord of all.  
- 13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled  
Within my heart, made clean and new, A quiet chamber kept for you.
- 14 My heart for very joy must leap; My lips no more can silence keep.  
I, too, must sing with joyful tongue That sweetest ancient cradle song:  
- 15 Glory to God in highest heaven, Who unto us his Son has given!  
While angels sing with pious mirth A glad new year to all the earth.

## **Prayer of the Church and the Benediction**

P: Lord of the past, present, and future, give us a never-ending faith in Your Son whose very name "Jesus" proclaims that He has come to save us from our sins. You have warned us that the Son of Man is coming again at an hour we do not expect. Stir our hearts so that we remain spiritually awake, watchful, and prepared. Give us a hope in Christ that looks forward to His return with a confidence that knows that You have made us children of God through faith in Him.

**C: Now and in the New Year, Lord, be with us.**

P: Lord of the past, present, and future, we praise You for Your care and goodness to us during the past year, and we ask You during the year ahead to provide us with food, shelter, and clothing; good weather, good government, and good crops; peace in our world, prosperity in our nation, and harmony in our communities; faithful friends, loving families, a caring congregation; and everything we need to enjoy the life You have given us in this world.

**C: Now and in the New Year, Lord, be with us.**

P: Lord of the past, present, and future, come to the aid of those who need healing. Assure them of Your mercy, give them patience, relieve their pain, restore their health, and grant them a confident trust in You.

**C: Now and in the New Year, Lord, be with us.**

P: Lord, bless us and keep us, make Your face shine on us and be gracious to us, lift up Your countenance on us, and give us peace. We pray in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, with whom You and the Holy Spirit live and reign as one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn #64..... "Let Us All with Gladsome Voice"**

- 1 Let us all with gladsome voice  
Praise the God of heaven,  
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice,  
His own Son has given.
- 2 To this vale of tears he comes,  
Here to serve in sadness,  
That with him in heav'n's fair homes  
We may reign in gladness.
- 3 We are rich, for he was poor;  
Is not this a wonder?  
Therefore praise God evermore  
Here on earth and yonder.
- 4 O Lord Christ, our Savior dear,  
Bless us and be near us.  
Grant us now a glad new year.  
Amen, Jesus, hear us!

## **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.

## **Holy Cross News & Notes**

January 1, 2023

### **Calendar for the Week: January 2nd - January 8th**

#### **Monday**

- Worship Committee - 5:00 pm
- Worship - 6:30 pm

#### **Wednesday**

- School Chapel - 8:10 am
- Bible Study-10 am

#### **Sunday**

- Worship - 8:30 am & 10:30 am
- Special Voters Meeting - 11:30

### **Kids Crossing Director Call news**

On December 16, the Board for Kids Crossing Early Learning Center decided to extend a call to Katie Krug to serve as Kids Crossing's Director. Currently, Kaite serves as the Director and Teacher for the preschool and daycare ministry at Peace Lutheran in Kissimmee, Florida. She has been serving in that role since graduating from Martin Luther College with a Bachelor of Science in Education majoring in Elementary Education/Early Childhood Education. Please keep Katie in your prayers as she deliberates where best to serve, and feel free to share any words of encouragement with her at the following email: [kkrug@mypeacekids.org](mailto:kkrug@mypeacekids.org)

### **Calling all musicians!**

We would love to have more people involved in the music program at Holy Cross. If you're interested in playing an instrument for a worship service or joining Senior Choir, please email Jim Baxter, organist, at [baxter4822@gmail.com](mailto:baxter4822@gmail.com) or speak to him after a service. If you're interested in joining the Adult Handbell Choir, please email Nedra Griffin at [ngriffinfab5@gmail.com](mailto:ngriffinfab5@gmail.com) or call 608-225-4789.

### **Special Voters Meeting for the Calling of a Pastor**

The Holy Cross Board of Elders and Church Council are calling a special Voters Meeting for **Sunday, January 8**. 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.

### **Kindergarten Information Night**

Do you have a child or know a child that will be entering Kindergarten this next fall? Holy Cross is hosting Kindergarten information night on **Tuesday, January 17th at 4:30 pm**. Learn more about our program, meet the teacher, aid & principal and tour the classroom. Any question or for more information contact Pam Starkenburg at [pstarkenburg@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:pstarkenburg@holycrossmadison.org)

### **Holy Cross Open House - Summer in the Winter**

Join Us for our School and Early Learning Center Open House on Saturday, January 28th from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Our theme this year is "Summer in the Winter." We'll have live music from Bahama Bob, bounce houses, games in the gym, summer-time treats, a photo booth and more. Bring the family and have summer fun on a cold January Saturday. Invite friends who may be interested in our School or Early Learning Center. Staff will be here to join in the fun, meet prospects, and talk with them about whether our school or early learning center is a good fit for them. More details to come soon!

**Kids Crossing Job Opportunities:** Contact Linda Grennan at [lgrennan@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:lgrennan@holycrossmadison.org) for more info

- 1 year old assistant teacher - full time
- 2 year old assistant-afternoons
- 3 year old lead & assistant teacher
- 4 year old lead teacher

**Seminar: How to Develop Healthy, Trusting Relationships and How to Repair Broken Ones**

**When:** Saturday, February 4, 2023

**Time:** 9 am to 4 pm

**Where:** DoubleTree Hotel

**Cost:** \$ 100 in January/February

For more information or Register go to [www.christiancounselingmadison.com](http://www.christiancounselingmadison.com)

**FREE Books: learn a Lutheran response to evolution**

You can request 3 FREE print books (32-48 pages each). Choose from 13 titles including, "Did Dinosaurs Roam the Earth?" "Conversation With an Atheist," and "Christian Doctrine in Genesis." Request yours at [www.LutheranScience.org/FreeBooks](http://www.LutheranScience.org/FreeBooks) or by writing to the WELS group (include your address): Lutheran Science Institute, 13390 W. Edgewood Ave, New Berlin WI 53151. This offer expires Feb. 28, 2023. Offer subject to change without notice.

**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.

**A HEARING LOOP** is installed in our new 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.

**Last week Church attendance: 194 (Christmas Day)**

***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.