

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

School and Early Learning Center



November 12, 2023

"Waiting for the Last Judgment"

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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. 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.

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.

"Waiting for the Last Judgment"

November 12, 2023

Last Judgement Sunday

Service of the Word – Page 38

Opening Hymn #728....."Jerusalem the Golden"

1 Jerusalem the golden, With milk and honey blest—
The sight of it refreshes The weary and oppressed:
I know not, oh, I know not What joys await us there,
What radiancy of glory, What bliss beyond compare:
To sing the hymn unending With all the martyr throng,
Amidst the halls of Zion Resounding full with song.

2 Oh, sweet and blessed country, The home of God's elect!
Oh, sweet and blessed country That eager hearts expect,
Where they who with their leader Have conquered in the fight
Forever and forever are clad in robes of white.
Jesus in mercy bring us To that dear land of rest
Where sings the host of heaven Your glorious name to bless.

3 The Christ is ever with them; The daylight is serene.
The pastures of the blessed are ever rich and green.
There is the throne of David; And there from care released,
The shout of them that triumph, The song of them that feast.
To God enthroned in glory The Church's voices blend,
The Lamb forever blessed, The Light that knows no end.

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 Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and to the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Old Testament Lesson.....Daniel 7:9-10

Daniel describes the Ancient of Days at the Last Judgment.

9 I continued to watch until thrones were set up, and the Ancient of Days was seated. His clothing was white as snow, and the hair on his head was like pure wool. His throne was flames of fire. Its wheels were blazing fire. 10 A river of fire flowed out from his presence. Thousands upon thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and books were opened.

Psalm of the Day.....Psalm 90
(seleted verses)

M: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

C: Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity you are God.

M: For a thousand years in your sight are like a day, like yesterday that has gone by, or like a watch in the night.

C: You have laid out our guilty deeds in front of you. Our hidden sins are revealed in the light of your face.


M: You grind people to dust, You sweep them away like a flood.

C: The days of our lives add up to seventy years, or eighty years if we are strong. Yet the best of them are trouble and sorrow, for they disappear quickly, and we fly away.


M: Teach us to number our days in such a way that we bring a heart of wisdom.

C: Satisfy us in the morning with your mercy, so that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

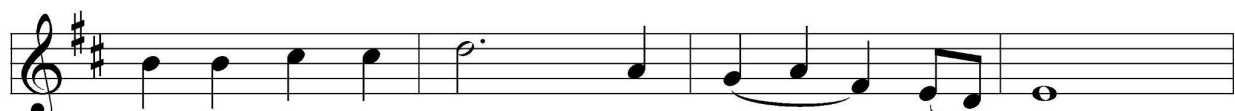
Verse of the Day



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!

Gospel Lesson.....Matthew 26:31-46

At the Last Judgment the Son of Man will divide believers from unbelievers for eternity.

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. 36 I was lacking clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

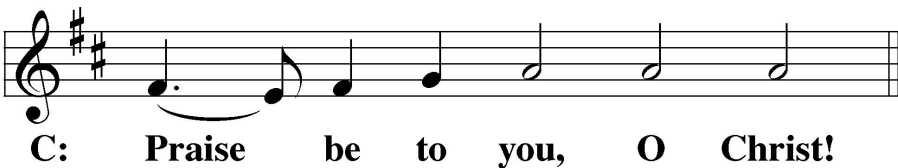
37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or lacking clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

40 "The King will answer them, 'Amen I tell you: Just as you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.'

41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire, which is prepared for the Devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you did not give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you did not give me anything to drink. 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, lacking clothes and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not take care of me.'

44 "Then they will also answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or lacking clothes or sick or in prison and did not serve you?'

45 "At that time he will answer them, 'Amen I tell you: Just as you did not do it for one of the least of these, you did not do it for me.' 46 And they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."



Children's Sermon

Young children are invited forward to the chancel steps.

Holy Baptism (10:30am).....Harper Gloria Endres

Hymn of the Day #208....."Great God, What Do I See and Hear"

1 Great God, what do I see and hear?
The end of things created;
The judge of mankind shall appear
On clouds of glory seated.
The trumpet sounds; the graves restore
The dead which they contained before:
Prepare, my soul, to meet him!

2 The dead in Christ shall first arise
At that last trumpet's sounding,
Caught up to meet him in the skies,
With joy their Lord surrounding.
No gloomy fears their souls dismay;
His presence sheds eternal day
On those prepared to meet him.

3 But sinners filled with guilty fears
Behold his wrath prevailing,
For they shall rise and find their tears
And sighs are unavailing;
The day of grace is past and gone;
They trembling stand before his throne,
All unprepared to meet him.

4 O Christ, you died, and yet you live;
To me account your merit,
My pardon seal, my sins forgive,
And cleanse me by your Spirit.
Beneath your cross I view the day
When heav'n and earth shall pass away,
And thus prepare to meet you.

SermonPastor Piet Van Kampen.....“Waiting for the Last Judgment”

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Concerning the times and dates, brothers, there is no need to write to you, 2 for you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When people are saying, “Peace and security,” destruction will suddenly come on them, like labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will certainly not escape. 4 But you, brothers, are not in the dark so that this day takes you by surprise like a thief, 5 for you are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep like everyone else, but rather let us remain alert and sober.

7 To be sure, those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. 9 You see, God did not appoint us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. 10 He died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. 11 Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are also doing.

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

7th and 8th Grade Handbells (8:30am).....“America the Beautiful”

Prayer of the Church

M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

C: **We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

C: **We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

C: **Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

C: **Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

C: **We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. 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 #417 (vs 1, 3)....."I'm But a Stranger Here"

1 I'm but a stranger here;
Heav'n is my home.
Earth is a desert drear;
Heav'n is my home.
Danger and sorrow stand
Round me on ev'ry hand.
Heav'n is my fatherland;
Heav'n is my home.

3 There at my Savior's side --
Heav'n is my home.--
I shall be glorified;
Heav'n is my home.
There are the good and blest,
Those I love most and best,
And there, I, too, shall rest;
Heav'n is my home

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.



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, 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". Thanks.

Holy Cross News & Notes

November 12, 2023

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

Monday

- Worship - 6:30 pm
- Bible Information Class- 7:30 pm

Tuesday

- Coffee at Elie's - 9:00 am
- PTO - 6:30 pm

Wednesday

- School Chapel - 8:10 am
- Wednesday Bible Study - 10:00 am
- Adult Handbell Choir - 6:00 pm
- Senior Choir - 7:00 pm

Thursday

- Esther Circle - 1:00pm
- All Boards - 6:00pm
- Church Council - 7:30pm

Saturday

- Jesus Cares - 10:00am

Sunday

- Worship - 8:30 and 10:30 am (September to May)
- Bible Class- 9:45 am
- Sunday School - 9:45 am

ALTAR FLOWERS given this week by Sandy Everson in memory of her parents.

HOSPITALIZED THIS WEEK Norm Marozick, Karen Bradley, Steve Juve and Cassidy Olson were hospitalized this week. Please pray for them and our homebound and for those in nursing homes.

SENIOR YOUTH COFFEE & TREATS

Today's coffee and treats between services are being sponsored and served by the Holy Cross LYS. Any donations collected during the freewill offering will go to support financial aid for students who attend the annual LYA Convention. This fall we've received an anonymous matching gift so that donations for LYA and Camp Rise will be matched up to \$2000. Thank you!

ANDREW SCHOENFELD RESPONSE TO CALL TO MICHIGAN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Members of Holy Cross,

Over the last several weeks I have deliberated between two Divine Calls. One to continue serving Holy Cross and the other to serve as AD, teacher, and coach at Michigan Lutheran High School. This process gave me the time to reflect on my current ministry, and to reflect on my own God-given talents and abilities, and where I can best serve God and his kingdom. I greatly appreciate all the kind words and prayers from the Holy Cross family during my deliberation. After prayerful consideration, the Lord has led me to return the Call to ML and continue serving here at Holy Cross. Please keep Michigan Lutheran High School in your prayers as they look for someone to fill their ministry needs.

In Christ,

Andrew Schoenfeld

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP/PIE SOCIAL

Thanksgiving Eve Worship will be held at 6:30 on Wednesday, November 22nd. The Thanksgiving Eve Pie Social will be held immediately following the 6:30pm service on November 22nd. Join us in fellowship while eating delicious pies. Please bring a pie to share if you're able, but it's not required. Just drop them off at the kitchen window on the way into worship service. Toppings and beverages will be provided. See you then!

THANKSGIVING BASKET FOOD DRIVE

In this season of giving, we have a donation opportunity for the Goodman Community Center's 35th annual Thanksgiving Basket Drive. Cans and non-perishables will be collected in the black bins in the school's common area and in the narthex of the church through the morning of November 16, 2023. Go to goodmancenter.org/thanksgiving for more information.

ELC JOB OR VOLUNTEER ANNOUNCEMENT

"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'" Isaiah 6:8

If you, or someone you know, has a talent for working with children, is kind, patient, and positive, we need you! We have multiple openings, both part and full time, paid (\$15/hr) or volunteer. Please contact Katie Krug at kkrug@holycrossmadison.org if you are interested or would like more information.

Volunteer Positions:

Snuggling babies, reading books, playing with children, helping students during group lessons.

Paid Positions:

Infant room: 7am-12pm

1 year old room: 3:30pm-5:30pm

2 year old room: 7:30pm-4:30pm

Floater (goes to multiple rooms): 8:00am-5:00pm

After School Care: 3:00pm-5:30pm

SERMON VIDEO LINKS

Holy Cross will begin sharing videos of our most recent sermons with you. Our hope in doing this is twofold. First of all, we hope that, as you watch these videos yourself as a part of your own regular devotional life, the Holy Spirit would strengthen your faith during the week. Secondly, we ask that you share these videos with your friends, relatives, and neighbors as you see fit. You could forward this email on to those you think would be interested, or simply copy and paste the links to your social media feed for all your online friends. For example, if there's a sermon that addresses a particular topic, such as grief, you can pass it on to someone you know is grieving. Our Savior told His disciples to "preach the gospel to all creation" (Mk 16:15), and this is just one more we can fulfill His great commission. And we have the promise from God that, as the apostle Paul says, "Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ" (Ro 10:17). The Holy Spirit will work on human hearts wherever His Word is proclaimed.

11/5/23 - The Christian's Role in Church and State - Pastor Mark Bartels

<https://vimeo.com/881420846?share=copy>

COOKIE WALK

Saturday, December 9th! Time to start baking! Last year we raised around \$3,000 for the School Library! This year proceeds will be split between the Church and School. Last year we ran out of overflow cookies within our 1st hour. We would like for you to help donate MORE cookies, bars, candies, jams & one those Norwegian goodies! Please consider donating to this amazing cause to help support Holy Cross Church & School! Any questions please contact Jodi Hougan at jspeth11@gmail.com. We will also have our annual Scholastic Book Fair going at the same time!

GIVING OPPORTUNITY - SCHOOL WISHLIST TREES

When donating to our school, some people prefer to give toward an item for a specific classroom, as opposed to just giving to a general fund in which they have no idea toward what their donation goes. There is currently a way to make that happen!

Our Holy Cross Lutheran School teaching staff has compiled a wish list for their classrooms, and the teachers' aides have put together a display of those items in the cafeteria. There are "Wishlist Trees" with leaves in fall colors designated for each classroom, as well as a list of items posted next to them that each classroom teacher is "wishing" for. There are three trees: one for kindergarten through second grade, one for third through fifth grades, and one for sixth through eighth grades.

If you are interested in making a donation, please pick a leaf with a dollar amount written on it from the tree and then donate that amount toward the item of your choosing. There will be someone at a table in the cafeteria after each church service to take care of your donation.

On behalf of the Holy Cross teachers, thank you so much for your donation!

MYSTERY DINNER THEATER UPDATE

November 18, 2023

Please note if you are attending: the dress code is business casual. Please no jeans/tshirts.

Thanks!

THE FAMILY ALTAR

How about a 4 week spiritual-bonding-time with you and your children at home? Advent is almost here. Advent is the 4 weeks of the church year where we get ready to celebrate Jesus coming as a baby and into our hearts. Advent is a great time to have short daily devotions for the whole family... maybe after supper or at bedtime.

If your child attends our school, they'll be bringing an advent devotion booklet home from school.

If your child doesn't attend our school, devotion books are available at the welcome center.

If you know a family with children, take one from the welcome center and share it with them.

Help make Advent a special time of spiritual preparation for your family! Begin with the first devotion on the first day of advent: Sunday, December 3!