

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

School and Early Learning Center



November 26, 2023

"The Last Enemy to be Destroyed"

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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.

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Last Sunday of the Church Year - Christ the King Sunday

Service of the Word – Page 38

Opening Hymn #341 (vs 1-3)....."Crown Him with Many Crowns"

1 Crown him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

2 Crown him the Lord of love --
Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye
At mysteries so bright.

3 Crown him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those he came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

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 Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

The First Lesson.....Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23-24
God promises to gather his sheep

11For this is what the Lord God says. Here I am. I myself will seek the welfare of my flock and carefully search for them. 12As a shepherd searches for his flock when his sheep that were with him have been scattered, so I will search for my flock and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. 13I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own soil. I will shepherd them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys, and in all the settlements of the land. 14I will lead them into good pasture, and their grazing land will be on the high mountains of Israel. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and they will pasture on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15I myself will shepherd my flock. I myself will let them lie down, declares the Lord God. 16I will seek the lost. I will bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured. I will strengthen the weak. I will destroy the fat and the strong, and I will shepherd them with justice. 23Then I will raise up over them one shepherd, and he will tend them. My servant David will tend them, and he will be their shepherd. 24I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David will be the prince among them. I, the Lord, have spoken.

Choir.....“Days of Elijah”

Psalm of the Day.....Psalm 47
(seleted verses)

M: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.

C: For the Lord Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth.

M: God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

C: God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

M: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

C: For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

Gospel Lesson.....Matthew 27:27-31
Our king is crowned with thorns.

27Then the governor’s soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. 28They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. 29They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 30They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head. 31After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Children's Sermon

Young children are invited forward to the chancel steps.

Hymn of the Day #217....."The Head that Once Was Crowned"

1 The head that once was crowned with thorns
Is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adorns
The mighty victor's brow.

2 The highest place that heav'n affords
Is his, is his by right,
The King of kings and Lord of lords
And heav'n's eternal light.

3 The joy of all who dwell above,
The joy of all below
To whom he manifests his love
And grants his name to know.

4 To them the cross, with all its shame,
With all its grace, is giv'n;
Their name, an everlasting name;
Their joy, the joy of heav'n.

5 They suffer with their Lord below;
They reign with him above,
Their profit and their joy, to know
The myst'ry of his love.

6 The cross he bore is life and health,
Though shame and death to him;
His people's hope, his people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.

Sermon.....Pastor Mark Bartels....."The Last Enemy to be Destroyed"

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

20But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. 22For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. 23But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. 24Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. 25For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." 26Death is the last enemy to be done away with. 27Certainly, "he has put all things in subjection under his feet." Now when it says that all things have been put in subjection, obviously that does not include the one who subjected all things to him. 28But when all things have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected all things to him, in order that God may be all in all.

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering

Prayer of the Church

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.

M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.

M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.

M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn #320....."On My Heart Imprint Your Image"

On my heart imprint your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Have no pow'r to hide your face.
This the superscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation.

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.

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Holy Cross News & Notes

November 26, 2023

Calendar for the Week - November 27th – December 3rd

Monday

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

Wednesday

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

Sunday

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

ALTAR FLOWERS given this week by Dennis and Jan Schattschneider on the occasion of their wedding anniversary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES FOR PARENTS

1. Please be aware that there is no Sunday School on Sun., November 26 (the Sunday after Thanksgiving); grades 7-12 are welcome to sit in with the adult Bible class.
2. The Sunday School Christmas Service will take place Sunday, December 17, at 10:30 a.m. We are already beginning to learn our parts. December 3 and 10 we will be practicing our service in the sanctuary between services in place of regular Sunday School class. There will be Sunday School on the 17th to give us one last opportunity to prepare. Please make sure your student(s) is (are) in attendance for those three Sundays (12/3, 12/10 and 12/17). It is important to have as many students there as possible as we prepare for and celebrate the birth of our Savior. Thank you!
3. The Sunday School Christmas Service will be livestreamed for friends and relatives who cannot attend in person.

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!

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!

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.

11/19/23 - The Joyful Reunion - Pastor Mark Bartels

<https://vimeo.com/886143891?share=copy>

HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM OUR EARLY LEARNING TEAM!

Love spreading holiday cheer? This season, consider spreading some holiday cheer to our Early Learning Center classrooms!

We have ideas both big and small to help our children learn and grow.

Click the link below, or scan the code with your camera, to check out our Amazon wishlist. In the comment section, you will see which classroom the item is for. Dreamers: infant room, Explorers: one-year-old room, Growers: two-year-old room, Movers: 3K, Thinkers: 4K

Thank you very much for your love, generosity, and support!

