

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
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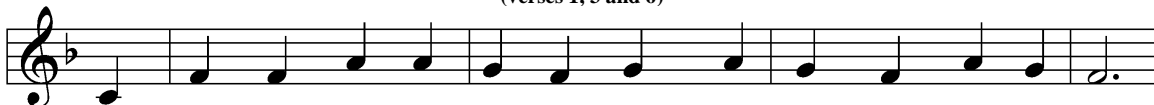
3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 18, 2021

+ *God Gathers Us In His Presence* +

WELCOME:

OPENING HYMN: *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”* LSB 549
(verses 1, 3 and 6)



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
6 Let ev - 'ry kin-dred, ev - 'ry tribe, On this ter - res-trial ball



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: O God the Father, Lord of the harvest and Sender of laborers,

People: **HAVE MERCY UPON US.**

Leader: O God the Son,

Merciful Shepherd who has compassion on all the harassed and helpless,

People: **HAVE MERCY UPON US.**

Leader: O God the Holy Spirit, Giver of life and light,
by Whom seeds of the Gospel grow into a harvest of faith,

People: HAVE MERCY UPON US. Amen.

Leader: Gracious God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
You have revealed Yourself to our lost and fallen world;
and You have commissioned Your Church to proclaim the good news
of Jesus' loving mercy and forgiving grace to all.

**People: Yet, we confess that we have at times ignored Your mission.
Out of apathy, fear or selfishness
we have at times managed to neglect the need everyone has of You,
Your love and Your redemption.
For the sake of Christ, sent to the world out of love,
send us Your Spirit, forgive us anew, and stir within us
hearts dedicated to Your mission
and lives directed by Your commission. Amen.**

Leader: God has sent me here to proclaim this good news to you,
for the sake of Christ, I forgive you all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

+ *God Gives Us the Gift of His Word* +

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: *Psalm 100*

Shout happily to the LORD, all the earth.
Serve the LORD cheerfully.
Come into His presence with a joyful song.
Realize that the LORD alone is God.
He made us, and we are His.
We are His people and the sheep in His care.
Enter His gates with a song of thanksgiving.
Come into His courtyards with a song of praise.
Give thanks to Him; praise His name.

The LORD is good. His mercy endures forever.
His faithfulness endures throughout every generation. – GW®

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: *Romans 5:6-11*

Look at it this way: At the right time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for ungodly people. Finding someone who would die for a godly person is rare. Maybe someone would have the courage to die for a good person. Christ died for us while we were still sinners. This demonstrates God's love for us.

Since Christ's blood has now given us God's approval, we are even more certain that Christ will save us from God's anger. If the death of His Son restored our relationship with God while we were still His enemies, we are even more certain that, because of this restored relationship, the life of His Son will save us. In addition, our Lord Jesus Christ lets us continue to brag about God. After all, it is through Christ that we now have this restored relationship with God. – GW®

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 9:35-38*

*J*esus went to all the towns and villages. He taught in the synagogues and spread the Good News of the kingdom. He also cured every disease and sickness.

When He saw the crowds, He felt sorry for them. They were troubled and helpless like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is large, but the workers are few. So ask the Lord who gives this harvest to send workers to harvest His crops." – GW®

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give thanks to the
 Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en___ Je - sus
 Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, Give
 thanks to the Ho - ly One, Give thanks _____ be - cause He's giv - en___
 Je - sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say “I am
 strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,” _____ Be - cause of
 what the Lord has done for us. And now let the
 weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am
 rich,” _____ Be - cause of what the Lord has done for us.
 Give thanks, _____ give thanks. _____

ANTHEM:

“Holy is the Lord, God Almighty”

Worship Team

+ *We Give Thanks for God’s Word* +

OFFERING:

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

APOSTLE’S CREED: (** catholic means the universal Christian Church*)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

On the third day He rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

+ *The Service of Holy Communion* +

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at Holy Cross in the joyful confession that our Lord gives us His very Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins in this sacrament. God intends this gift for His children who recognize their sin, trust in Christ as their Savior, desire to live for Him alone and join in this joyful confession.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

THE LORD’S SUPPER:

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

Leader: For the early disciples,
who were sent forth by Christ to proclaim the coming of the Kingdom,

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: For the Apostles, who in obedience to His Word
carried the Gospel through the empire and to the world beyond,

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: For those known and unknown missionaries,
who first brought the Gospel to these shores,

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: For all those who, in the ages of darkness, kept alive the light,
and who, while all slumbered and slept,
were faithful to their Lord's command,

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: For all who in their own times
have recalled the Church to her great task of evangelizing the world,

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: For those who have gone to the ends of the world with the joyful news,
and have sought out the dark places of the earth
to bring light to them that dwell in the shadow of death;
and for those who have gone across the street, playground or office
to share the One they know with those they know,

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: For all your missionary servants
who have joined the noble army of martyrs,
for all converts to the faith
who have sealed their testimony with their blood
and for all who, at this hour, suffer persecution and harm
for the sake of their faith in You.

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: For the innumerable company
who now praise Your Name out of every kindred and nation and tongue,

People: WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD.

Leader: We acknowledge, O Lord, that we have proved unworthy of Your mercies,
and confess how little we have done to hand on, in freedom
and in fullness, the faith which was brought to us through many perils
and purchased with such pain.
For the Church's negligence in this her duty,

People: FORGIVE US, LORD.

Leader: We pray, O Lord, that You would stir up in our hearts
a desire to meet the world's greatest need and thus we pray
that You would send us forth as laborers in Your harvest fields;

People: HEAR US, WE PRAY, O LORD.

Leader: Finally, Lord for these prayers
and all those we offer individually in our hearts and minds
we pray that You would bind them together
in the prayer You have taught us,

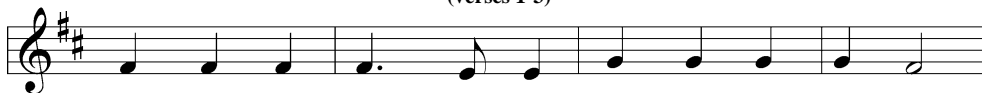
**People: Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For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

+ *God Sends Us Forth for Lives of Love and Service* +

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

THE BLESSING:

(verses 1-3)



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



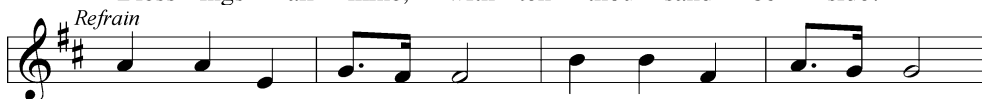
There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

SERVING GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Preacher: Pastor Nader Hanna Liturgist: Pastor Mark Siegert
Organist: Kenneth Culley Keyboard: William Morrison
Bible Study Leader: Karl Fink Scripture Reader: Haley Ellis
Powerpoint Operator: Don Plog Ushers: Kevin Helm and Mark Hennings
Recorder of Service: Grace Hennings
Rite of Confirmation: Pastor Mark Siegert, Rev. Dr. Thomas Hendry, Kayleigh Lopez

FLOWERS TODAY are given to the glory of God by Ethel Bowman in honor of the Confirmation Class of 2020 and 2021.

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"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" (verses 1, 3, and 6) LSB 549
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"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart" LSB 806
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"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (verses 1-3) LSB 809
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PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDING WAIVER:

When you enter a Holy Cross Lutheran Church worship service/event, you will be entering an area where photography, video and audio recording may occur. Refer to posted signage dated 2021.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Take some time this week with your family, or on your own, to have some couch conversations about our text and theme for worship: **Luke 24:36-49**

Last week we heard the story about Thomas who wanted proof that Jesus was alive. Today in our Gospel lesson, we see Jesus appearing to his disciples to prove that he had risen. He showed that he was flesh and blood and not an

image or a spirit. Jesus then told them that they would be the ones to tell the world about what they had seen and heard, but they would not be going alone. Jesus promised to send them a helper, the Holy Spirit.

- What makes it hard to share the message of Jesus with others?
- How does it change knowing that you do not go out alone to tell others?
- Jesus is on a mission and he invites you to join him. He does not give you a mission to do for him. He' is on a mission and invites you to come with him. How does this change your perspective?



Please join in on the luncheon directly after today's 11:00 am worship service to honor and congratulate the Confirmation Classes of 2020 and 2021.

Ashlyn Kaysie Bowman, Brady Aaron Bowman and Andrew Vincent Helm were confirmed this morning as the Confirmation Class of 2021. Pastor Mark Siegert was assisted by the Reverend Dr. Thomas Hendry (Andrew's grandfather) and Kayleigh Lopez for the Rites of Confirmation Ceremony. The Confirmation Class of 2020 consisted of Mikayla Bowman, Haley Ellis, Lily Ellis, Cooper Tai and Apollo Hada. We were unable to celebrate their achievement because of COVID so we are celebrating the Confirmation of both classes this year.



Ashlyn Kaysie Bowman

because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." ~ Hebrews 13:5b (NIV)



Brady Aaron Bowman

He said: "In my distress I called to the Lord, and he answered me. From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help, and you listened to my cry." ~ Jonah 2:2 (NIV)



Andrew Vincent Helm

How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation. ~ Daniel 4:3 (NIV)



Adventure Card Fundraiser

Holy Cross Scouts BSA Troops 657 & 657G are having their annual Adventure Card fundraiser. Adventure Cards are discount cards that Scouts sell to raise money for their summer adventures! This year the cards are \$10 and every card has offers for the following locations - **Smart & Final, Dick's Sporting Goods, Buffalo Wild Wings, Papa John's, Carl's Jr., Aquarium of the Pacific** as well as hundreds of

coupons nationwide if you download the app!

You can help support Troop 657 & 657G by purchasing a card from Mikayla or Brady Bowman at Sunday services until Sunday, May 9th. Thank you, Troop 657 & 657G

Living Way Bible Study

The Living Way Bible Study resumed on **April 7th**, but you can always join. The Bible Study is held every **Wednesday in the Parish Hall from 1:00–2:30pm**. The Study of Matthew continues thru June 23rd. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Fuqua. **Hope to see you there!**

* April 21–Lesson 18 * April 28–Lesson 19 * May 5–Lesson 20 *



Wednesday's at 7:00 pm

Join Pastor Seth, Kayleigh and our furry friend Rosie on Facebook Live to sing some songs, hear a story, spend time in prayer and get s'more Jesus at the end of the day.

Follow the Bethany Lutheran Page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Bethany.Long.Beach/>



BibleProject

A new series of weekly online Adult Bible Discovery lessons are available that you can do on your own and at your own pace. Each lesson contains a short audio

message, a video, and some reflection questions. There are more resources in each lesson so you can dig deeper if you desire. Just go to the Bethany website (<http://www.bethanylutheran.org/>), click on "Bible Discovery Resources" and then click on "Adult Bible Discovery". Each lesson will be stand alone, so you can join any time. Material is from BibleProject.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HEAR TODAY'S SERMON OR PREVIOUS SERMONS AGAIN...


You can view them on our website at:

<https://www.holycrosscypress.com/worship-bulletins/>



Tuesday through Thursday (9:00 AM to 1:00 PM)
 (Remember to wear a face mask upon entry to the Church Office.)

This week at Holy Cross Lutheran Church (following HC published "Safe Together" Protocol)

	4/18	10:00 am	Sunday School, Youth Group and Bible Study
		10:00 am	Confirmation Class of 2021 Ceremony (Private Family Ceremony)
		11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service with HC
		12:00 noon (after Worship Service)	Luncheon Celebration for Confirmation Classes of 2020 and 2021 (All invited)
Monday	4/19	6:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Boy Scouts
Tuesday	4/20	9:00 am - noon	555 Team - Making Time for Prayer (Room 7)
		10:00 am - noon	Food Pantry
		10:00 am	MAC
Wednesday	4/21	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Matthew Bible Study resumed on April 7th
		7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Choir/Worship Team
		7:00 PM	S'more Stories resumed on April 14th
Thursday	4/22	5:30 pm – 9:00 pm	Salam Ministries
Friday	4/23		
Saturday	4/24	8:00 am	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	4/25	10:00 am	Sunday School, Youth Group and Bible Study
		11:00 am	Traditional Worship Service

Any additional events require prior approval by the Leadership Board.



Support Holy Cross through Scrip!

We have scrip that can be purchased for gifts as well as for your use all year long. Over 75 to choose from, including Walgreens, Walmart, Wendy's, Applebees, Arby's, Arco, Auto Zone, Barnes & Noble, Bath & Body Works, Bear Bucks, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Boston market, Burger King, and many, many, more.
 Just contact Liz Ruhl (mruhl7777@aol.com) or the Church Office.



To sign-up for altar flowers, please complete the "**Flower Chart for 2021**" form. The form with additional details and envelopes are available in the Narthex and the Church Office. Cost is \$25.00 for flowers in advance, with check made payable to Holy Cross LWML.



“HERE I STAND”

The 500th Anniversary
of Luther’s Confession at
the Diet of Worms
Sunday, April 18



Luther’s Answer at the Diet of Worms:

It could have all ended the evening of April 18, 1521. The sun was beginning to set on the city of Worms. The heat was stifling in the packed room of the bishop’s palace where emperor, electors and German princes all waited with anticipation to hear the answer Martin Luther would bring. Would Luther recant? Would he retract what he had written and said against abuses in the church and against papal tyranny? Most of all, would he give up on the Gospel he had preached and taught, giving comfort and certainty to consciences in Christ?

“Martin, answer clearly and without any double-talk: Do you or do you not recant your books and the errors in them?” If Luther were to recant and admit that he was wrong, all would be well before the emperor and the Roman Catholic Church. On the other hand, if he did not recant, his own life would be at risk. He could be burned as a heretic.

This was it: recant or stand firm. With beads of sweat on his face, Luther responded:

“Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not retract anything, since it is neither safe

nor right to go against conscience. I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me, Amen” (LW 32:112–13).

At this bold confession, the room erupted in noise. Some rejoiced; some demanded fire! Yet, in the midst of such commotion, the truth of Jesus Christ rang forth. The gates of Hades had not prevailed over the confession of the Gospel. The proclamation of justification by grace through faith on account of Christ’s work alone did not bend to spiritual tyranny.

500 Years Later:

Today, we stand in the footsteps of Martin Luther 500 years later. We stand boldly, proclaiming the One who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. We stand boldly, renouncing the devil and all his works and all his ways. We stand, by the grace of God, steadfast and ready to suffer all rather than fall away. We do not stand on Luther, but we will gladly stand with him, firm on the testimony of the Holy Scriptures to confess the saving Gospel of Christ, our Good Shepherd, who died and rose, in whose name is forgiveness of sins for all people. Here we stand; we can do no other. God help us. Amen.

Find more at lcms.org/here-i-stand-sunday, including giving opportunities for providing a thank offering.