



*Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore
His sacred name.*

*O Lord, once lifted
on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised,
draw us all to Thee.*

*Let ev'ry race and
ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives
from death and hell.*

*So shall our song of triumph
ever be:
Praise to the Crucified
for victory!*

LSB 837

HOLY CROSS DAY
Celebrating 65 Years as God's People
September 13-14, 2025

As We Gather

Holy Cross Lutheran Church was founded on Holy Cross Day, September 14, 1960, as a mission church from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Wentzville. Since then, Holy Cross has been an active congregation serving north O'Fallon and surrounding communities.

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOLY CROSS is celebrated in accordance with the Lutheran confession that Christ's body and blood are truly given to us with the bread and wine to give forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ. Missouri-Synod Lutherans united with us in that confession are invited to receive the Sacrament with us. Others who desire to commune should first speak with a Pastor or an Elder.

- ◆ For those whose health or circumstance may require it, Holy Cross offers an alcohol-removed red wine (containing less than 0.5% alcohol) located in the center of each Communion tray.
- ◆ Gluten-free wafers are available upon request to a Pastor or Elder before the service.
- ◆ If you want communion in the pew, please let an usher or Elder know before the service.
- ◆ Please do **not** stack the plastic communion cups in the baskets. Stacked cups hinder the rinsing process. Thank you.

ATTENDANCE PADS: We invite members and guests to take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. Please provide contact information if you are interested in membership or if you would like to be contacted by the church. After signing, please pass it to your neighbor and then return it to its spot by the aisle.

LIVE-STREAMING of 8 AM SERVICE WEEKLY: Holy Cross live streams the 8 AM service each Sunday on a link at our website (hcross.com). We provide this service for our members who cannot attend worship. The video perspective from the choir loft looks toward the altar and shows all aspects of the service from the sixth row of pews forward. This includes baptisms, children's talks, and communion.

HEARING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Those with hearing aids with a Bluetooth connection can download and use a smartphone or tablet app that broadcasts the service to their hearing aids.

Step 1. Log in to the Guest Wi-Fi

Network Name: **HC-Guest** Password: **Romans1:16**

You will be prompted to join the "HC-Guest" Wi-Fi network

Step 2. Download the ListenWIFI App

Search your device's app store for the **ListenWIFI** app by Listen Technologies

Holy Cross Day

September 13-14, 2025

Divine Service, Setting II

Preludes: Theme and Adagio from Partita on "St. Anne"
St. Anne

Paul Manz
Healey Willan

Please stand and face the processional cross as it enters.


Versicles

- P** Thus says the Lord: "Behold, I will lift up my hand to the nations,
C **and raise my signal to the peoples,"**
P So must the Son of Man be lifted up,
C **that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.**
P Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
C **by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.**


Processional Hymn: "Lift High the Cross"

LSB 837


Refrain




Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris-tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,



Refrain

Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com-bine.
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

—Hymn continues on next page

- 5 All Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*
- 6 All So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Confession and Absolution

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Word

Hymn of Praise: "This is the Feast"

LSB 171

- [A]** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

- C** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -

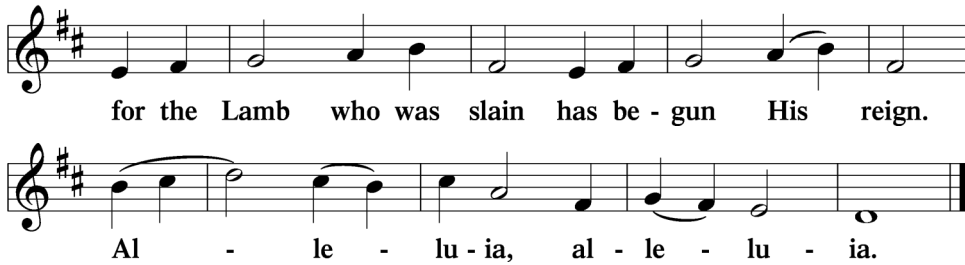
lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic - to-ry for our God,



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have promised to be with Your Church forever. We praise You for Your presence in this place of worship and ask Your ongoing blessing upon those who gather here. Dwell continually among us with Your holy Word and Sacraments, strengthen our fellowship in the bonds of love and peace, and increase our faithful witness to Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament: Numbers 21:4-9

Please be seated

A The Old Testament Reading for Holy Cross Day is from the Book of Numbers, chapter twenty-one.

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." ⁶Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." ⁹So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Choral Psalm 84: O How Amiable

Ralph Vaughan Williams; Sunday

*O how amiable are Thy dwellings, Thou Lord of Hosts!
My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord:
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:
even Thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they that dwell in Thy house: they will be always praising Thee.
The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us:
Prosper Thou the work of our hands up on us.
O prosper Thou our handiwork.*

*O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come.
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.*

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

A The Epistle is from First Corinthians, the first chapter.

The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Allgluia & Vrsq:

Please stand

The choir or liturgist sings parts marked "A"; the congregation sings parts marked "C"

A Refrain

C Refrain



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia,



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia!

A I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.

C Refrain

Holy Gospł: John 12:20-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. ²¹So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there will My servant be also. If anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

²⁷"Now is My soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to Him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not Mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to Myself." ³³He said this to show by what kind of death He was going to die.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: "The Church's One Foundation"

LSB 644

Women, st. 2; Men, st. 4



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je-sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E-lect from ev-'ry na-tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib-u-la-tion And tu-mult of her war
 5 Yet she on earth has u-nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre-a-tion By wa-ter and the Word.
 Her char-ter of sal-va-tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a-sun-der, By her-e-sies dis-tressed,
 She waits the con-sum-ma-tion Of peace for-ev-er more
 And mys-tic sweet com-mu-nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho-ly bride;
 One ho-ly name she bless-es, Par-takes one ho-ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep-ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi-sion glo-rious Her long-ing eyes are blest,
 O bless-ed heav'n-ly cho-rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press-es With ev-'ry grace en-dued.
 And soon the night of weep-ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic-to-rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 That we, like saints be-fore us, May see You face to face.

Sermon

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge
both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Each petition concludes:

P Lord, in Your mercy:

C Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

Please be seated

Offering

We ask that all worshipers take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. If you are interested in membership, please provide a phone number or email address so that we may contact you.

Voluntary: Meditation

Cécile Chaminade, arr. Charles Callahan

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

Please stand

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

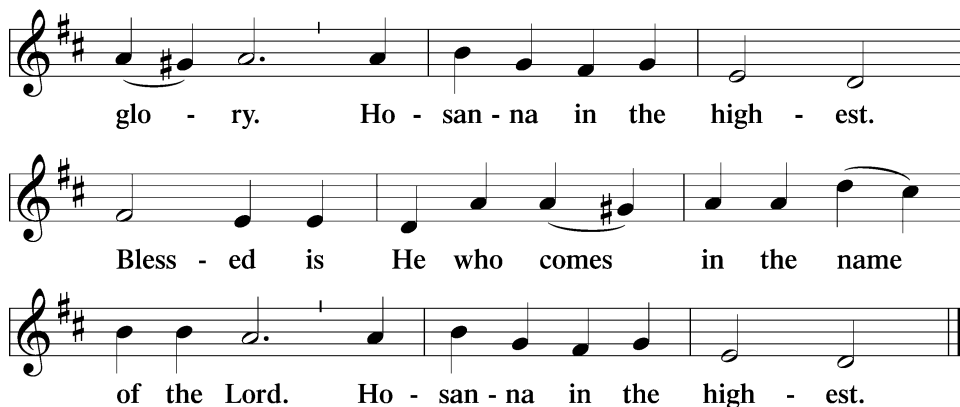
Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

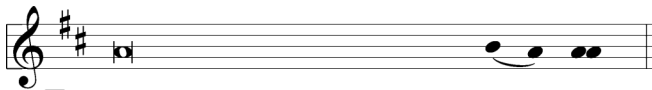
The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Peace of the Lord



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



A - men.

Agnus Dei: "Lamb of God"

LSB 180



G Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution

Please sit

HOLY COMMUNION at Holy Cross is celebrated in accordance with the Lutheran confession that Christ's body and blood are truly given to us with the bread and wine to give forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to repentant, reconciled believers in Christ.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: LSB 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phantly go
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 **Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!**

- 6 **Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!**

- 7 **Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!**

- △ 8 **Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: LSB 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall
dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -
prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.
peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: LSB 645 Built on the Rock



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the



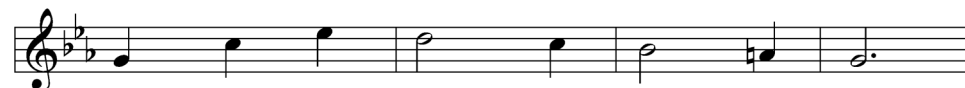
steeples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
 faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, My face shall see.



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
With all His grace and His fa - vor.
And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
My peace I leave with you. A - men."

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: LSB 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing 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,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

Dismissal

Please stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Post-Communion Collcet

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Choral Collcet: Thou That Hast Given So Much to Me

Carl Schalk; Sunday

*Thou that hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more, a grateful heart,
Not thankful when it pleaseth me
As if thy blessings had spare days;
But such a heart, whose pulse may be thy praise.
- George Herbert (1593-1633)*

Benzdicamus

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benzdiction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

next page

This setting is commissioned by Kathy Weseman, to the congregation of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, O'Fallon, Missouri, in joyful celebration of 65 years of preaching and teaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this place.

Silent Prayer & Chimes

Postlude: Toccata in D Minor

Gaston Bélair

Closing Hymn: We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God

LSB 941

On Sunday, the choir sings stanza 3.

Setting by David Gilson



1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
2 The band of the a-pos-tles in glo-ry sing Your praise;
3 You, Christ, are King of glo-ry, the ev-er-last-ing Son,
4 You sit in splen-did glo-ry, en-throned at God's right hand,



The Fa-ther ev-er-last-ing, by all the earth a-dored.
The fel-low-ship of proph-ets their death-less voic-es raise.
Yet You, with bound-less love, sought to res-cue ev-'ry-one:
Up-hold-ing earth and heav-en by forc-es You com-mand.



To You all an-gel pow-ers cry a-loud, the heav-ens sing,
The mar-tyrs of Your king-dom, a great and no-ble throng,
You laid a-side Your glo-ry, were born of vir-gin's womb,
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi-nal day,



The cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim their prais-es to You bring:
Sing with the ho-ly Church through-out all the world this song:
Were cru-ci-fied for us and were placed in-to a tomb;
So help Your ser-vants You have re-deemed by blood, we pray;



"O ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
"O all-ma-jes-tic Fa-ther, Your true and on-ly Son,
Then by Your res-ur-rec-tion You won for us re-prieve—
May we with saints be num-bered where prais-es nev-er end,



Your maj-es-ty and glo-ry fill the heav-ens and the earth!"
And Ho-ly Spir-it, Com-fort-er— for-ev-er Three in One!"
You o-pened heav-en's king-dom to all who would be-lieve.
In glo-ry ev-er-last-ing. A-men, O Lord, a-men!

Holy Cross Day



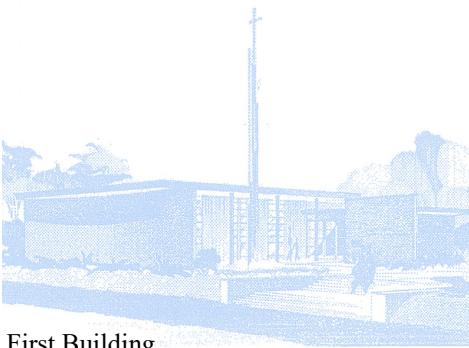
Today, our members at Holy Cross Lutheran Church have additional reasons to celebrate. For 65 years, Holy Cross Day has been celebrated as the church anniversary for Holy Cross Lutheran Church as it has continued to grow in the O'Fallon, Missouri, community. Church members can reflect once again on God's outpouring of generosity, kindness, and love shown by the people gathered herein.

The message of the cross is the message of Christianity. It has become the shorthand symbol for the whole story of Jesus Christ — from birth to life to death to resurrection. The paradox of faith is that this sign of death has been transformed into the mark of life. Placed upon us in Baptism the cross is the personal mark of Jesus Christ and His claim on us for the kingdom of light and life.

The cross of Jesus displays for believers and unbelievers alike just how foolish God is in His limitless grace. He stops at nothing to redeem us lost and condemned creatures, even to becoming a man who would be killed. Yet the cross, an instrument of death, also shows us God's power to overcome every obstacle — sin, death, and the power of Satan. This He does to draw all people into life eternal. God's wisdom seems strangely foolish. And yet it triumphs over the wisdom of men. Jesus is killed on the cross and we become the eternal recipients of grace, mercy, and life.

On this day Lutherans draw special attention to this theology of the cross — that God's glory is chiefly displayed in the humility, service, suffering and death of Jesus for us and our salvation.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church ~ 1960-2025



First Building



Second Building



Post-Fire Building with Added Features

For 65 years, O God, You have blessed Your people here at Holy Cross. As You guided and protected Your people Israel, so You have guided us. We thank You this day for the past, in which You have made known Your salvation time and time again.

While we celebrate the past, we also do not forget that You are with us at this very moment, O Lord. And today we thank you for Your present blessings, O God.

And as we celebrate our past and rejoice in our present, we look forward with eager eyes to the future. We pray that You would continue to make Your saving acts known among us. Give us a zeal for mission. Help us to look beyond our walls to those who do not know You. Make this church a blessing to those around us, and embolden us to move forward with strength toward what lies ahead. Amen.



Missouri District

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH — MISSOURI SYNOD

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

September 8, 2025

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
8945 Veterans Memorial Pkwy.
O'Fallon, MO 63366

Dear Saints of Holy Cross Lutheran Church,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Church.

As you prepare to celebrate the 65th anniversary of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, we give thanks for God's work among you. The good news of Christ being our Savior, and our Risen Lord giving us the assurance of eternal life, continues to go forth even today.

Recall the words of St. Paul to the Philippians, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ" (1:3-6).

May God bless you as faithful witnesses to Christ in these days, and for years to come.

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Craig Otto
Interim President, Missouri District

660 Mason Ridge Center Drive, Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63141 — (314) 590-6200 — mo.lcms.org

Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

Serving in God's House Today

Preacher		Rev. Jonathan V. Meyer
Liturgist on Saturday		Pastor Jason P. Kohm
Liturgist on Sunday		Pastor Andrew J. Gimbel
Director of Christian Education		Charity Smith
Director of Music		David Gilson
Organ & Accompanist, Sunday		Karen Roche
Violin		Carolyn Meyer
Trumpet		Matt Claxton, Brian Storm, Rob Duss
French Horn		Matt Alton, Larry Shroth
Trombone		Ashleigh Green
Tuba		Byron Alton
Vocalists		Holy Cross Adult Choir
Elder	5:00 PM	Jerry Lancour, Sol Conrad
	8:00 AM	Ed Belter
	10:45 AM	Bruce Richardson
Altar Guild	All Services	Altar Guild Members

Cover:

P. 8: Festival Alleluia & Verse:

Tune: James Chepponis

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

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Rev. Jason P. Kohm
Pastoral Team

Charity Smith
Director of Christian Education

David Gilson
Director of Music

Dani Richardson
Preschool Director



With the help of God,
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
grows disciples
and transforms hearts
for Christ.