



Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School
March 21 & 22, 2020
~ Fourth Sunday in Lent ~

600 N. Greenwich Road
Wichita, KS 67206
316-684-5201 (Church)
www.holycrosslutheran.net
office@holycrosslutheran.net
316-684-4431 (School)
www.lovemyschool.net

WELCOME IN THE NAME OF CHRIST!

We pray that your faith will be strengthened through the Good News of the gift of salvation.
Our mission at Holy Cross is to *SHARE GOD'S LOVE THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST.*

ONLINE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING MUSIC:

"Amazing Grace"
LSB # 744
Verses 1 and 3

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 42:14-21

(Amid the unbelief of His people, God will turn darkness to light.)

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

(Once in darkness, we are now children of light in the Lord.)

HOLY GOSPEL

John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-41

(Jesus heals a man born blind.)

SERMON

"O Say, Can You See?"
John 9:35-41

NICENE CREED

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC:

"O Holy Spirit, Enter In"
LSB # 913
Verses 1 and 2

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT

HOSPITALIZED THIS PAST WEEK

Bruce Baugh Wesley
Clarence Keil Wesley-Woodlawn

PARISH PRAYERS

—Please pray that **Irene Wagner** would have a favorable outcome with her current kidney and lung issues.
—Please pray for Nancy Horvath, mother of **Alicia Martin**, who had triple bypass heart surgery on March 20. We pray that she would have a complete and speedy recovery.
—Please pray for Barbara Davis, daughter of **Russ and Ellen Ketteinan**, who will be having Squamous Cell Carcinoma surgery on March 23 in Kansas City.
—Please pray for Amy Brox, daughter of **Ron and Susan Rathgeber**, who was scheduled for surgery in June at the Mayo Clinic. The surgery has now been postponed due to the Coronavirus situation. Pray for the health of the doctors who will eventually perform Amy's procedures.
—Please pray for all medical personnel who are on the front lines of the Coronavirus pandemic. Pray that the virus will be contained soon and that the world may be restored to normal as soon as possible.

—We rejoice with **David and Audrey Kloke** as they celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary on March 25. The flowers in the Chancel area are given to the glory of God in honor of this special occasion.

Life Thought and Quote:

"[T]hat the works of God might be displayed in Him" (John 9:3). Wondrous honor He has given to our every affliction, even the fiercest ones. The Jesus Who has borne our sicknesses and carried our sorrows incarnates our pains unto salvation. Why consider assisted suicide when our discomforts afford us front-row seats to witness the movements of the Almighty – and the privilege of participating firsthand?

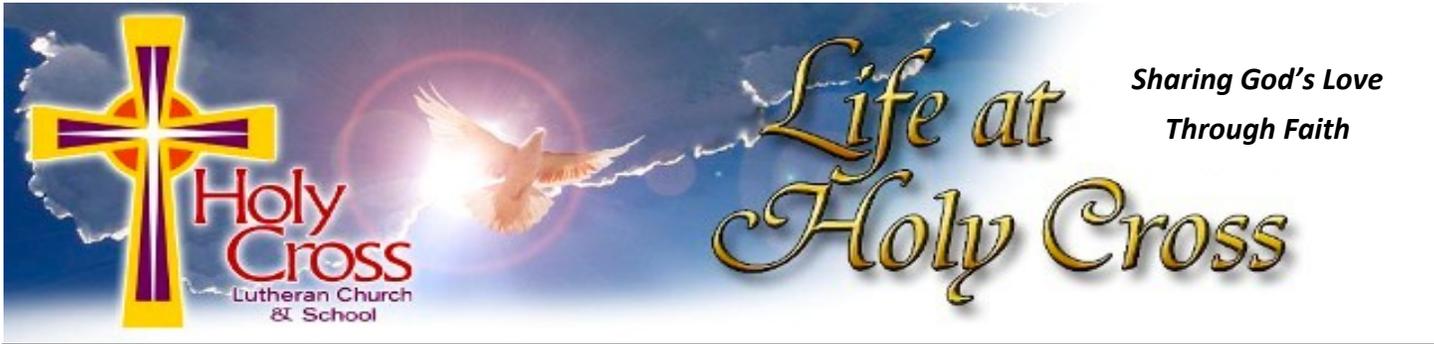
"At home: can we be more loving and forgiving to those who mean so much to us? Can we take the time to show our unconditional love? At work: are we really a Christian example to our coworkers? Can we be more mindful of the struggles others are going through? At church: where sometimes, ironically, it's the hardest, can we put on the mind of Christ, giving ourselves to our brothers and sisters in the faith? ... [L]et the message of God's love in Jesus resonate boldly in your own life ... to God's glory." *Dr. J. A. O. Preus – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

Words of Comfort and Encouragement

Matthew 6:25-34:

²⁵Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life?

²⁸And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. ²⁹Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ³⁰If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. ³³But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."



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AS WE WORSHIP - It's said that darkness is nothing more than the absence of light. Darkness and blindness are words often used throughout Scripture to describe our sinfulness—the absence of the true Light. In our continued Lenten journey, we prepare our hearts for the dark afternoon of Good Friday at the cross. Yet even in that darkness, Jesus Christ brings the light of life. In our times of spiritual blindness and comfort in the darkness of this world, we gather again today to see His light through our vision of Spirit-given faith, that our eyes may look to Him who is the light of the world—the light no darkness can overcome.

THIS Saturday, March 21st is World Down Syndrome Day. The 21st day of March was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication of the 21st chromosome which causes Down Syndrome. On this day, it is encouraged that you wear fun or mismatched socks to bring awareness. #NationalDownSyndromeDay

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

Coronavirus

Kansas updates - kdheks.gov/coronavirus
 National updates - cdc.gov/coronavirus
 Kansas LCMS - <https://kslcms.org/coronavirus/>

Census 2020

2020census.gov

Martin Luther's response to the Black Plague (Corona Virus) – see <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/chorusinthechaos/martin-luther-and-the-black-plague/>

LENTEN PRAYER PARTNERS! - During the season of Lent, the Fellowship Commission invites you to be a Lenten prayer partner. Visit the table in the entranceway to the Worship Center TODAY to fill out a prayer request form and place it in an Easter egg. If you have already entered a request, or you do so today, please choose an Easter egg to receive the name and prayer request of a fellow Holy Cross worshiper. Pray for that person throughout Lent and wait expectantly as God works among us!

You can preorder Ashley's **CINNAMON ROLLS** to go—12 rolls for \$24. Orders will be available for pickup at Holy Cross **April 8-12**. Please call the Church Office (684-5201) by 5:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, April 7th** with how many you would like and what day you would like to pick them up.

PLEASE NOTE: Our traditional Easter Egg Hunt has been cancelled with alternative plans being discussed. *More information to come in coming weeks.*

Record of Our Response: As of March 15, 2020	
Year-to-date offering budget	\$1,664,372
Year-to-date offering receipts	<u>\$1,649,143</u>
<i>Difference (shortfall):</i>	(\$15,229)

Next Week's Scriptures

March 28/29, 2020

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Romans 8:1-11

John 11:1-53

THE GARDENERS GROUP - In spite of the cold snaps and ice warnings, *spring is still coming!* A new sign is being designed for our west entrance off Greenwich. Eye-catching, welcoming, beautiful flowers and tasteful plantings will be coming. There is prime shrub and flower bed potential at the bell tower. And let's not forget the school and church office entrances.

Please consider being part of a group whose efforts would welcome visitors and our Holy Cross family alike. We offer fellowship, a flexible schedule, and light enjoyable work. For more information, contact Carl Burger at reiburger@yahoo.com, 773-8596 or sign up in the Entryway to the Worship Center.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS - The deadline to designate 2020 Choice Dollars is **March 31st**. Choice Dollars can be designated to enrolled organizations and congregations. Choose from among schools, camps, seminaries, world ministries and more, **including Holy Cross**. Choice Dollars can be directed online via Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or by calling 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt. The Member Connection Center is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. If you have questions, please contact your Thrivent Representative, or Thrivent Representatives at Holy Cross, Steve Deutsch at 200-5579 or Danny Witt at 993-3488.



THE LOVE FOR LIFE group is asking for donations of empty puffs snacks containers to use in our upcoming change drive for pro-life organizations. There will be a collection box for the containers in the entryway to the Worship Center.

Holy Cross Lutheran School

Holy Cross School families – watch for information from our Principal, Mrs. Boettcher, including an eBlast, and soon, a letter to parents. (The Holy Cross Day School Commission, the LCMS Kansas District Lutheran Schools and the Kansas State Board of Education have provided guidance this past week. The teachers are making plans to deliver online curriculum to their students beginning on **Monday, March 30th**. Students will continue to receive quality Christian education. There will be daily devotions by staff and students.)

If you would like to donate to the scholarship fund to help families who have experienced a job loss or reduced income, please contact the School Office (684-4431). Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

LEARN MORE ABOUT your church body, The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, at www.lcms.org. There you will find information about the Synod's missionaries, issues which the church confronts in our contemporary world, messages from our president, congregation and church worker locator information, videos, Bible Studies, news, and many other resources. Stay up to date as you pray for the work of Christ's church throughout the world.

CHRISTIAN TRACTS - Including, but not limited to: Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormanism, and The Difference between LCMS & ELCS. If you, or someone you know, is going through a difficult time, we may also have some helpful resources for you. Call the Church Office (684-5201) or stop by for some information to take home.

DAILY DEVOTIONS - Go to www.lhm.org to sign up for a devotion to be emailed to you daily by Lutheran Hour Ministries.

DAILY BIBLE READING - We are reading from Joshua & Judges in March. Pick up a reading schedule at the Visitors' Center or on the website at <https://holycrosslutheran.net/reading-through-bible/>.

Holy Cross Member, **Delores Quasebarth**, will be turning 84 next **Thursday, March 26**. Unfortunately, she is not allowed any visitors at her care facility. The family is asking for cards to be sent to her at: **The Mapleton, 1419 W. Central, Room #220, Andover, KS 67002**.

Prayer & Praise

This prayer page invites you to join in a ministry of prayer in faithfulness to our Lord's injunction to "watch and pray..." (Matthew 26:41). The requests listed here represent only some of the many needs for prayer among us. Your requests may be added by filling out a prayer request card and placing it in the collection plate during the offering or by sending it to the Church Office.

Prayer Request Cards:

- For those caught up in the coronavirus media coverage, causing unwarranted panic and anxiety. Remind us to maintain healthy habits and trust in our Creator.
- For Jeff Shipman, Mark Drake, Ashley Woodman and Jerry Provence.
- That people could lean on the Lord & stay calm during this pandemic.
- To bless the kids, teens and adults with the coronavirus.

Those in Need:

- This week, we pray for our confirmands **Queenly Ou, Brenden Scaglione, Walker Schoning, Charlie Sutherland, Danielle Turner, Will Uhlenhop, Rex Wagner, James Webster and Harvey Zimmerman**. May the Lord bless them and keep them safe in His grace.
- This week, we pray for college students **Olivia Kaufman** at the University of Arkansas; **Sam Allenbach, Colton Bauserman, Jordan Beal, Isabel Brosch, Kelli Bush, Austin Linhardt, Spencer Shreve, Trevor Shreve, Trevor Terrill and Katie Wolgast** at Wichita State University. May the Lord bless their time in college, keep them safe in His grace and bless them during this time of "educational uncertainty and turmoil."
- For all who continue to deal with cancer and other chronic illnesses, including: Karlyn Brown, Aubrey Chinberg, Rosey Day, Denise Dopps, Linda Eisenbise, Manis Edwards, DeWayne Garrett, Lisa Haddock, Paula James, Dick Jostes, Ruth Kiker, Leo Klaus, Audrey Lauer, Vicki Lewis, Patricia Lindhardt, Becky McMinn, Jerry Mehl, Nancy O'Harra, Pastor Snow, Trudi Stigge, Janet Stratmann, Tripp Stratton, Josie Vanwey, Roberta Yacko.

Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.

- Devon Alford, Joshua Black, Steve Castagnola, Marshall Darden, Gavin Domingo, Adam Edwards, Joshua Gerstenberger, Joanna Hannum, Megan Harris, Lizzy Johnson, Nathan Mavia, Peace Mwamunyange, David & Tiena Nordman, Courtney Schnell, Joe Schubert, Andrew Shepherd, Jordan Solomon, Jesse Wallace, Joshua Weidner.

Other Prayers:

- That God would guide our church through the process of calling a third pastor.
- For Rebecca Blessing, and her husband Derek, as they continue to pray about the 5th grade teaching position call that was extended to her.
- For our two "Adopt-A-Student" seminarians: Jordan Schut and Nicolas Wagenknecht. Each has received financial support for this academic year.
- For the unborn children, for women who may be considering abortion. May hearts be open to accept God's truth. May the *Trust Women* and *Planned Parenthood* abortion clinics in Wichita be peacefully closed soon. If you, or someone you know is contemplating an abortion, contact *A Better Choice* at 685-5757 or *Choices Medical Clinic* at 687-2792 for help.
- For those who are contemplating suicide. We ask that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ hear their cry and that their hearts be open to His invitation. May we be more aware of this possibility among our friends and be willing to assist them with the help they need. *National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255*.

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

Isaiah 41:10

Happy Birthday To...

Some members of our church family will be celebrating birthdays this week and we would like to take this opportunity to wish them God's richest blessings on their special day. Why not join us by giving them a call or dropping a line to them to let them know you care! If you are not listed, we apologize and ask you to contact the Church Office (684-5201) so we can update our records. *Thank You.*

May God bless you and keep you on your special day and throughout the year.

March 21

Todd H
Tre H, III
Peace M
Kelly M
Lily S
Jerry T

March 22

Emily C
Traci G
Kayla J

Emily J
Gloria R
Marissa W

March 23

Cheryl D
Matt P

March 24

Alec D

March 25

Khris K
Bryce B-M
Rusty R

March 26

Emmi B
Delores Q
Tom S

March 27

Janet F
Anna K

March 28

Henrick J
Braden L

March 29

Jamie R
Noah U

A Word of Hope and Comfort

"The Lord will guide YOU always; He will satisfy YOUR needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen YOUR frame. YOU will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail!" (Isaiah 58:11)

We pray.... "Our loving Lord, Thank YOU for being MY refuge and strength! Thank YOU that no matter what the circumstances, I can count on You to shelter ME and give ME strength! Thank YOU that even if things around me seem "uncertain," YOU are always with ME, always loving ME and always helping Me! In Jesus' Loving Name I pray, Amen!"

A Special Word of Thanks to...

Our **Tech Team** (Brian Amey, David Drew and Jamie Riddle) for all their wonderful, and hard work on planning, recording and editing our online, home mid-week and weekend worship services!

The **Online Worship Ensemble** (Betty and Butch Amey, Marty Beard, Teresa Hauschild, Pat Hoskinson and Connilee Myers) for lending their beautiful voices to lead the music for our online services!

We thank God for the gifts He graciously gives to His servants, and their willingness to use those same gifts in service to the Savior and their fellow Saints!

In order to meet your ministry needs, the Holy Cross Lutheran Church Office (684-5201) will remain open during the regular business hours of:

**Monday – Friday,
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

Parish Calendar

Saturday, March 21

Watch "Online Worship" Click [HERE](#)

Sunday, March 22

Watch "Online Worship" Click [HERE](#)

Monday, March 23

Tuesday, March 24

Church Council 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 25

Men's Bible Study 6:30 am
Lenten Service 9:30 am
Watch "Online Worship"

Thursday, March 26

Friday, March 27

Saturday, March 28

Watch "Online Worship"

Sunday, March 29

Watch "Online Worship"

High School Ministry

LVR District Summer Camp - July 19-24. The cost is \$310. Current 8th Graders are encouraged to attend this Awesome Camp! Register online at holycrosslutheran.net youth ministry page.