

**Holy Cross Lutheran
Church (LCMS)
1873-2020
*147 Years of Grace***

Mailing

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Holy Cross Warda—
Private Group

Facebook Page

Holy Cross Lutheran
Church

Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

Holy Communion

1st & 3rd Sundays

Bible Class &

Sunday School

10:15 a.m.

Sharing with Everyone
the Good News of Sal-
vation Through Jesus
Christ

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 69 WARDA, TX 78960

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

GUESTS AND VISITORS: Welcome to Holy Cross and to today's worship service. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you have an interest in joining Holy Cross, please speak with Pastor or one of our Elders.

The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Son of the Living God

Jesus asked His disciples: "But who do you say that I am?" (Matt. 16:15). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we believe and confess that He is "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, He looses us from all our sins and preserves our life within His Church, against which even "the gates of hell shall not prevail" (Matt. 16:18–19). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness "will never be dismayed" (Is. 51:6). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that "joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song" (Is. 51:3). Therefore, "according to the measure of faith that God has assigned" (Rom. 12:3), we also offer ourselves "as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God" (Rom. 12:1) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Prelude - Selected

The Ringing of the Church Bell

Words of Welcome

Entrance Hymn:

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

Hymn 376

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood, From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure; Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2. Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

3. Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress; Helpless look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.
4. While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eye-lids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

[please stand]

Opening Sentences

pg. 32

P: O Lord, open Thou my lips.

C: ♪ And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C: ♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Hallelujah!**

The Invitatory and Venite

Hymnal Pg. 33ff.

P: Oh, come, let us worship the Lord:

C: ♪ For He is our Maker.

**♪ Oh come, let us sing unto the Lord:
let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:
and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.**

**For the Lord is a great God:
and a great King above all gods.
In His hand are the deep places of the earth:
the strength of the hills is His also.
The sea is His, and He made it:
and His hands formed the dry land.
Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:
let us kneel before the Lorde, our Maker.**

**For He is our God:
and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

[be seated]

Hymn:* “*Built on the Rock the Church doth Stand*” *Hymn 467

1. Built on the Rock the Church doth stand Even when steeples are falling;
 Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, Bells still are chiming and calling,
 Calling the young and old to rest, But above all the soul distrest,
 Longing for rest everlasting.
2. Surely in temples made with hands God, the Most High, is not dwelling;
 High above earth His temple stands, All earthly temples excelling.
 Yet He whom heav'ns cannot contain Chose to abide on earth with men,
 Built in our bodies His temple.
3. We are God's house of living stones, Builed for His habitation;
 He through baptismal grace us owns Heirs of His wondrous salvation.
 Were we but two His name to tell, Yet He would deign with us to dwell,
 With all His grace and His favor.
4. Now we may gather with our King E'en in the lowliest dwelling;
 Praises to Him we there may bring, His wondrous mercy forthtelling;
 Jesus His grace to us accords; Spirit and life are all His words,
 His truth doth hallow the temple.
5. Still we our earthly temples rear That we may herald His praises;
 They are the homes where He draws near And little children embraces;
 Beautiful things in them are said; God there with us His covenant made,
 Making us heirs of His kingdom.
6. Here stands the font before our eyes Telling how God did receive us;
 Th'altar recalls Christ's sacrifice And what His table doth give us;
 Here sounds the Word that doth proclaim Christ yesterday, today, the same,
 Yea, and for aye our Redeemer.

7. Grant then, O God, where'er men roam, That, when the church-bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come Where Christ His message is bringing:
"I know Mine own, Mine own know Me; Ye, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you." Amen. Amen.

Psalm 2:6-7, 117; antiphon Psalm 115:18

But we will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

As for me, I have set my King

on Zion, my holy hill.

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you."

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and to the Son

and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

But we will bless the LORD

from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6 (ESV)

¹"Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. ³For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴"Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed."

Epistle Reading: Romans 11:33-12:8 (ESV)

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” ³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” ³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

[please stand]

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

C: **♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

P: But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C: **♪ Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!**

[please be seated]

Hymn:

“O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe”

Hymn 263

1. O little flock, fear not the Foe Who madly seeks your overthrow;
Dread not his rage and pow'r. What tho' your courage sometimes faints,
His seeming triumph o'er God's saints Lasts but a little hour.
2. Be of good cheer; your cause belongs To Him who can avenge your wrongs;
Leave it to Him, our Lord. Tho' hidden yet from mortal eyes,
His Gideon shall for you arise, Uphold you and His Word.
3. As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor hell with all their crew
Against us shall prevail. A jest and byword are they grown;
God is with us, we are His own; Our vict'ry cannot fail.
4. Amen, Lord Jesus, grant our prayer; Great Captain, now Thine arm make bare,
Fight for us once again! So shall Thy saints and martyrs raise
A mighty chorus to Thy praise, World without end. Amen. Amen.

Sermon

“The Good Confession”

The Receipt of Gifts and Offerings

Hymn:

“We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God” LSB Hymn 941



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;



All “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!

The Prayers of the Day

Having heard the Word proclaimed, let us pray for ourselves, for all the faithful and for all people as they have need.

For all people, that they may have faith in Christ and heed the voice of God calling by His Word; For the Church, that the people of God may pursue righteousness with peace and joy in their hearts; and For all pastors and their ministry of Word and Sacrament and for all vocations to the ministry, that the lives of God's people may redound to His praise and glory, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our president, Congress, governor and all civic leaders in their pursuit of peace and unity; For all judges and magistrates in their pursuit of justice with mercy; and For those who protect us from violence and preserve order here and everywhere, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all noble professions, and for the flourishing of the arts and music; For favorable weather and rain to produce the fruits of the earth; and For the unemployed, the poor, the homeless, the hungry and all people in need, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all families and children, single adults and youth; For those who teach and those who learn, that they may advance in wisdom and grace; and For the catechumens and those who teach the faith to them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For victims of disaster and for those stricken by illness or infirmity; For the aged and infirm, as well as those in nursing homes and assisted living facilities; For those who grieve the loss of those whom they love; and For those who meet with sudden death, and especially for those who have requested our prayers including Larry, Jerrell, Curtis, Amy, Wesley, Pastor Boyce, Mary, those in our hearts and those on our continued prayer list, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the work of God's kingdom in this place; For our faithful support of the Church and the renewal of our parish life through the Means of Grace; For our communion this day upon the life-giving body and blood of Christ; and For our growth in grace, that we may attain to the full stature of Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Be merciful to us, O Lord, and hear our prayers. Grant to us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that we may be led into all truth and be steadfast in the confession of Christ; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. **Amen.**

The Kyrie

pg. 39

♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

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.

The Salutation

pg. 40

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with thy Spirit.

The Collect for Grace

P: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who has safely brought us to beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: ♪ Amen

The Benedicamus and Benediction

pg. 40

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: ♪ Thanks be to God.

P: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with you all.

C: ♪ Amen.

Closing Hymn:

“Onward, Christian Soldiers”

Hymn 658

1. Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.
Christ, the royal Master, Leads against the Foe;
Forward into battle See His banners go!
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

2. Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided, All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, One in charity.
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

3. Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus Constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail.
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

4. Onward, then, ye faithful, Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor Unto Christ, the King;
This thro' countless ages Men and angels sing.
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before. Amen.

Postlude

Outreach Thought

Matthew 16:13-20: Who do you say Jesus is? The answer makes all the difference in how you face your day to day living. If you say He is your Christ, your one Lord and Master, without whom you can do absolutely nothing, then missing worship and Bible Study is not an option, serving Him wherever possible is your heart's desire, stewardship of His blessings is your way of life, being more like Him is your daily prayer, and getting the Word out about Him, well, that's as important as breathing. Your confession above not only proclaims salvation, but defeats hell and makes everything in between possible. So, who again do you say Jesus is? Your answer in the Spirit will change your life and how you live it.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Class this morning will be held in the sanctuary immediately following our worship service. This morning, we will continue our study on the book of James. Faith without works is DEAD. The Bible says so. LIVING faith works, loves, and serves. It endures trials and obeys God's Word; it harbors no prejudice and controls the tongue; it resists the devil and patiently waits for the coming of our Lord. Join us in Adult Bible Class as we learn more about a LIVING faith and the fruits that flow from knowing Jesus.

BBQ To-Go - We will have BBQ pork by the pound and BBQ sauce to-go Sunday, Sept. 6th. BBQ will be \$11.00/lb; cups of sauce are \$2.00 each. Drive-thru only starting at 10:00 a.m. Preorders are appreciated, but not required. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex or you can call the church office at 242-3333.

Hymn Sing—Thanks to all who came and participated in our hymn sing before worship this morning! We have placed a sign-up sheet in the back of the Sanctuary, asking the simple question, “What’s your favorite hymn?” Each time we get together to sing, the organist will have selected a few hymns from your suggestions. We will gather and sing, as others are arriving to church. If you’re not much of a singer, that’s just fine. Making a joyful “noise” is completely acceptable. Or, you’re welcome to come and listen. If your preference is to come and talk with fellow worshipers, that’s fine, too. Our hope is that we might learn a new hymn here or there; enjoy singing a few more hymns and loosen up our vocal chords before worship; and finally, that we might be uplifted by the beauty of God’s Word joined to music. Our next hymn sing will be Sept. 13th. Let’s keep Holy Cross a *Singing* Church!

Sunday School Promotion Sunday is next Sunday, August 30th. All Sunday School children are asked to be here and be recognized for their participation this past year. A good number of them will be promoted to the next class. We look forward to seeing them on the 30th! Also, a reminder to parents receiving tuition assistance for our parochial schools, Sunday School attendance is a requirement to continue to receive assistance.

The nominating committee met on Tuesday to nominate officers for 2021. Postcards were mailed to all who were nominated. Please return them to David Lehmann or the church office by September 13th.

Sewing Circle—Ladies, Are you looking for things to do to keep busy and still have social distancing as well? Holy Cross Sewing Circle can use your help! If you can cut a fabric square or trim a stamp, you can help us! Squares are used to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief and the stamps are sold to collectors to help pay for shipping them. We gather on Thursday mornings from 9-noon in the old parish hall at Holy Cross Lutheran Church. We take a break at 10:00 and enjoy coffee and snacks while we share friendly updates on family and friends. If you would like more information, you can email Cindy Heselmeyer at cindyhesel@yahoo.com, or just come join us on a Thursday morning!

Dear Friends, Many of you ask about Coy and where he is and how he is doing. He is doing well, and up until now he has been at Ft. Stewart in Georgia. That will change on October 8th when his unit rotates to Korea for their 9-month duty there. We are thankful that they are allowing him time to come home and visit family before he goes. He will be here for the next 12 days, during which time, my office hours may vary a little. If Pastor Beck or I are not in the office, please leave a message and we will contact you and soon as we return. Thanks for your continued prayers for all of our service men and women!! *Christine*

FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Opening Service

Please join us this afternoon at 3 pm as we will officially open our fourth academic school year. 'Mission: Possible' based on 2 Corinthians 4:8-9 is the theme for 2020-2021. The service will be led by our association Pastors, with the sermon by Pr. Jason Kaspar. Offering will be collected to support the FLHS Scholarship Fund. In lieu of our potluck dessert reception, prepackaged refreshments will be distributed following the service.

Thank you! FLHS's envelope fundraiser is off to a wonderful start - because of you and your support! Remember, this opportunity to support Faith Lutheran High School in another academic year will be available through September 13.

Great Start to the School Year: We have had a great start to the school year! We love having our students back on campus and pray that their education and faith may grow abundantly this year! Registration remains on-going. Call us today - (979) 242-2889!

Free Wednesday mornings? Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday. Mr. Jonathan Kueck will be leading chapel this week, beginning at 10:30 am. We will be social distancing.

Camp Lone Star Retreat: FLHS students are excited to spend Thursday and Friday at Camp Lone Star. The annual student retreat allows our students to participate in challenge courses, learn about personality differences, approaching conflict from a Biblical perspective, grow together as a family, and have loads of fun! Pray for this event!

Share the Gift of Love: Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

2020 -2021 Faculty and Staff

Mrs. Chelsea Beck - Part-time History

Pastor Dustin Beck - Part-time Religion

Ms. Kristin Becker - Science, Math

Mr. Jonathan Kueck - Religion, English, Computers

Mrs. Nikki Kueck - Administrator, History, Math, Electives

Mrs. Jane Obersat - Part-time German, Art, Library

Mr. Dan Schaefer - Part-time History, Music



Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Tucker's dad, Larry Briscoe, on his birthday by Tucker and Leann Briscoe, Alyssa and Jolee.



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR TODAY

Larry Woelfel, recovering from knee replacement surgery on Monday

Curtis Moerbe, home following hospital stay

Jerrell Dunk, undergoing extensive skin cancer surgeries

Amy Wagner and Wesley Cervenka, undergoing cancer treatments

Pastor Robert Boyce, now on hospice care

Mary Sue Vanderhoff, grandmother of Nikki Kueck, on hospice care

Margaret Sladeczek Fitchette, friend of Linda Lehmann, recovering from back surgery

All those on our continued prayer list

Our sympathy to Allene Schramm and family on the death of her uncle, Elbert Becker, on Monday. His funeral was yesterday at St. Paul, Serbin.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

August 23, 2020

Rev. Dustin Beck	Pastor
Mr. John Gay	Lector
Mrs. Carol Schramm	Organist
Mr. Shea Kasper	Audio/Video System
Dennis Pietsch, J.C. Schramm, Brian Varner	Elders on Duty
Abbi Noack	Acolyte

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

TODAY	8:30 a.m.	PreService Hymn Singing
	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	3:00 p.m.	FLHS Opening Worship
WEDNESDAY	10:30 a.m.	FLHS Chapel led by Jonathan Kueck
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sewing Circle
Next Sunday	<i>13th Sunday after Pentecost/ Sunday School Promotion</i>	
	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School

Attendance Last Sunday

Divine Service: 104	Bible Class: 25
Sunday School: 12	S.S. Offering: \$2.50

The Lutheran Hour — August 30

"Fear and Faith"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

Are you living in fear or living by faith? We present a classic message from Pastor Ken Klaus. It's "Archives August". (Hebrews 11:1)