

The Confession of Sins & Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: ♪ Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: ♪ And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end, that by Thy grace, we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name, He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: ♪ Amen.

The Introit

Psalm 95:1–3, 6–7a; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the Lord, 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 Spirit;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

The Gloria Patri

Pg. 6ff.

♪ 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.

The Kyrie: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Hymn of Praise: *“Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs”* *TLH Hymn 344*

1. Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues, But all their joys are one.
2. “Worthy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be exalted thus”;
“Worthy the Lamb,” our lips reply, For He was slain for us.
3. Jesus is worthy to receive Honor and power divine;
and blessings, more than we can give, Be, Lord, for-ever thine.
4. Let all creation join in one To bless the sacred name
of Him that sits upon the throne, And to adore the Lamb.

The Salutation & The Collect for the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

P: Let us pray: Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

First Reading: Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

⁴²And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³And awe^a came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His
 3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let



God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
 char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and
 we our faults con - fess; And let us love each
 all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry



by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.
 mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.
 oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
 that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

5. Let us recall that in our midst Dwells Christ, His only Son;
 As members of His body joined We are in Him made one.

6. For love excludes no race or clan That names the Savior's name;
 His family embraces all Whose Father is the same.

Epistle Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25 (ESV)

¹⁹ For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²² He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³ When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

C: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Verse

Romans 6:9, John 10:1

P: Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;

C: death no longer has dominion over him. Alleluia.

P: I am the good shepherd.

C: I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10 (ESV)

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

C: ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. ²But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. ⁵A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷So Jesus again said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord..

C: ♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Apostle’s Creed

Page 12

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn:

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

TLH Hymn 709

1. The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his And he is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul he leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me
And on his shoulder gently laid And home rejoicing brought me.
4. In death’s dark vale I fear no ill With thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.
5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!
6. And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house forever!

The Sermon

“Life to the Full!”

Hymn:

“I Am Jesus Little Lamb”

TLH Hymn 648

1. I am Jesus’ little lamb Ever glad at heart I am
For my Shepherd gently guides me Knows my need, and well provides me
Loves me every day the same Even calls me by my name.
2. Day by day, at home, away Jesus is my staff and stay
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me Into pleasant pastures leads me
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.
3. Who so happy as I am Even now the Shepherd’s lamb?
And when my short life is ended By His angel host attended
He shall fold me to His breast There within his arms to rest.

The Prayers of the Day

Bidden by our Shepherd, let us come before His throne of grace in prayer on behalf of all people according to their needs.

Blessed Shepherd, You established Your Church with Your sacrificial death and mighty resurrection. Grant us devotion, that we may abide in the teaching of the apostles and honor the fellowship of the Church. Guard us against all enemies of Your Word, and keep us within the care of Your flock and staff forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mighty Shepherd, You hold in Your hands all the might of man, and You hold accountable those who would govern Your people. Grant to us good government and good leaders who will honor Your purpose, protect Your people, serve the cause of justice and defend our liberty against all threats. Give them wisdom and moderation in their pandemic response. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Shepherd, You loved the world enough to shed Your blood, and You desire that all would be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. Inspire and equip Your Church and her ministers to speak faithfully and boldly Your Word, and bless all those who serve us on Your behalf. Bless us especially when we are persecuted for the faith or suffer for the sake of the good that honors You and is obedient to Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy Shepherd, You have clothed us with Christ's righteousness and taught us to love all that is good, right and true. Bless all artists and artisans, composers and musicians, and craftsmen and writers, that they may employ all their skills for Your glory and in service to the Gospel and that the arts may testify to Your saving death and resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Shepherd, Your wounds are our healing and Your voice calls us to You in time of need. Hear us on behalf of all those who suffer in body or mind, who grieve those whom they love, and to whom death draws near. We pray especially for Brenda, Amy, Jorge, Robert, Jana, Wesley, John, Frank, Reedy, those on our continued prayer list and those we name in our hearts. Grant them healing according to Your will, grace to sustain them in the day of trouble, and hope of the new and everlasting life to come. Be with the unemployed and the distraught, and return them to health and livelihood. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Shepherd, You seek out those who have fallen and restore the sinner to repentance. Send forth Your Spirit to rekindle faith in the hearts of those who have fallen away from the truth or who have been overcome by temptation and sin. Bring good from ill and increase in all the hunger for Your Word and a recognition of our need, that many may be gathered into Your flock when church doors are opened wide again. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Giving Shepherd, You have not withheld anything from us but emptied Yourself fully upon the cross that we might be saved. Move our hearts to such devotion and teach us such generosity, that we may bring to You the tithes and offerings of a grateful heart and serve our neighbor in need with the resources You have supplied to us so abundantly. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O great Good Shepherd, we pray You to hear Your sheep and answer our prayers with mercy, granting us those things profitable for us and our salvation and keeping from us all things harmful; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

The Collect for the Word/Church

P: Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

C: ♪ Amen.

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless Thee and keep Thee. The Lord make His face shine upon Thee and be gracious unto Thee. The Lord lift up His countenance upon Thee and † give Thee peace.

C: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Closing Hymn: *“The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want” TLH Hymn 436*

1. The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie
 In pastures green; He leadeth me The quite waters by.
2. My soul He doth restore again And me to walk doth make
 Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own name's sake.

3. Yea, tho' I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.
4. My table Thou hast furnishéd in presence of my foes
My head Thou dost with oil anoint And my cup overflows.
5. Goodness and mercy, all my life Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore My dwelling place shall be

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Class TODAY:

Through the use of an application called Zoom, we are able to "meet" virtually for our Sunday morning Bible class! We will continue our study of Baptism at 10:15am. To join the meeting, please visit the following link (it may require a small download to access the meeting): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5335235189> Meeting ID: 533 523 5189

Reopening: The Elders will meet on Tuesday night and discuss what reopening for church might look like and when it may happen. In the meantime, Pastor Beck will continue to post services, devotions, hymns, etc. online. Look for them as follows:

Facebook:

Page: Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Group: Holy Cross Warda—Private Group

YouTube: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Warda, TX

Website: www.holycrosswarda.com

Pastor Beck is also available to visit with you by phone. You can give him a call at the church office at (979) 242-3333 or call or text him at (979) 966-8654. His email address is pastor.dustin.beck@gmail.com. At this time, unless it is an end-of-life emergency, he will not be making any home or hospital visits.

Private Communion - Small gatherings of families are able, by appointment, to receive the Lord's Supper. Pastor is using every caution available to limit contact between individuals. Please call or text Pastor Beck at 966-8654 to make arrangements.

A Guide for Daily Meditation and Prayer: Hopefully, you were able to make use of Dinnertime Devotions during Holy Week--and hopefully, you enjoyed your time invested in God's Word! In an effort to further equip the saints at Holy Cross, Pastor has put together a sheet that may be of use in your devotional life at home. It includes suggested readings, prayers, a hymn, a short segment from the Small Catechism, and a few other useful tools. It can be used alone, or with your hymnal, following Matins or Vespers. It will be available on our website, on Facebook, and there will be copies available in the back of the sanctuary. Additionally, you can find short orders of worship for families or individuals here: <https://tinyurl.com/y7qs5vo4> May God's Word richly bless us as we read and pray together!

Online Giving is available!!

Thank you to those who have utilized this option for your giving at Holy Cross! It has been going smoothly. If you have not tried it, there are two options you can use:

One, go to www.holycrosswarda.com and click on the tab at the top for Online Giving. It will take you directly to the page to submit your offering either by credit card or bank draft. You will receive an email from Vanco acknowledging your transaction.

The second way is to download the Giving+ app on your mobile device. Find Holy Cross Lutheran Church using our 78942 zip code (for our physical address) and submit your contribution there via credit card or bank draft.

Processing time for both methods is 2-3 business days.

For now, the General Fund is the only fund that is set up to receive donations. Additional funds may be added in the future. All contributions made via the online or mobile app will be credited to your yearly statement.

As we are getting more familiar with the process, we wanted to make you aware of the fees associated with each transaction that are deducted from the contribution. They are as follows:

Credit Cards: 2.75% + .45 per transaction (except American Express, which charges 3.5%)

ACH Transactions (bank drafts): 1.00% + .45 per transaction

These fees are taken out of your contribution every time. For instance, a \$100.00 Visa credit card transaction incurs \$3.20 in fees with \$96.80 going to church as your offering. The \$96.80 is what will be reflected on your giving statement at the end of the year. If it works in your budget, you might consider doing a larger donation once a month, rather than weekly, as the fees are deducted each time.

If you are comfortable doing a bank draft, we would encourage you to do that to maximize your offering and minimize the fees.

Please contact the church office if you have any questions or concerns.

FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Staff Positions Available

Faith Lutheran High School will have part time openings on its faculty for the 2020-2021 academic year! Interested individuals who teach in any subject areas may submit resumes to Faith Lutheran High School, PO Box 138, Warda, TX 78960, call (979) 242-2889, or email them to kueckn@faithlutheranhighschool.com. If you have the time and talents, please consider applying and sharing your gifts with our students. Thank you!

FLHS Distant Learning

Who would have thought that the beginning of March, when our students left for spring break, would be the last time our students would be on campus this semester? We recognize this situation has impacted not only us, but our community and nation also.

We ask for your prayers, as we have made the transition into online delivery of classes. Our faculty has worked diligently to make this unexpected transition as smooth as possible. Our students understand the need for this, but are anxious to get back onto campus, to their Faith family.

This pandemic has made our fundraising efforts more challenging, but yet, still necessary. Thankfully, we have the assurance that God's word is true and "His love endures forever" (Ps. 136). Will you consider partnering with us as we carry out our mission in this new environment? Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support.

New Student Registration

Registration for the 2020-2021 school year is underway. Two new students have already enrolled and we are looking to add more students to our family. Are you looking for a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, small class sizes? Schedule a shadow day and check out FLHS!! Call (979) 242-2889 today!

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 Nikki Kueck to learn more.



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR TODAY

Brenda Woelfel, home recovering from back surgery,

Amy Wagner, Jorge Thomas (*Donna Thomas*), Robert Yurk (*Al & William Jurk*), Jana Tindle (*Gerald & Mary Sledge*), Wesley Cervenka (*Debbie Knox*), John Gallup (*Wendy Wagner*), Frank and Reedy Schwartz (*Ann Bamsch*)

All those on our continued prayer list

Health, safety, and patience for everyone quarantined at home

Nursing home and Assisted Living Center residents who cannot have visitors

Family of nursing home and assisted living center residents who cannot visit their loved one

Guidance for all church's as they make plans to resume services in the coming weeks

Thank you to our organists and the singers who have been helping prepare our worship service each week!

Our Response to God's Blessings

April 19 & 26

Estimated General Fund Weekly Need	\$ 4,077 (\$8,154 every two weeks)
Offering Received	\$ 5,830
Short/Over	\$ (-\$2,324)

The Lutheran Hour — May 10

"Stand a Little Taller"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

When someone special pays you a visit, you stand a little taller in their presence. Dr.

Michael Zeigler talks about dignity, humility, and life in the presence of God.

(Exodus 18)