

# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

School and Early Learning Center

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January 28, 2024

*"May the Wicked Foe Have No Power Over Us!"*

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## WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS!

**OUR SAVIOR WELCOMES YOU AND SO DO WE!** Whether you are a first time visitor or returning guest, we are delighted to share our worship with you! Please come back and worship with us again!

**PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES** We love to have children in worship! However, parents who find a need to take their children out of the service are welcome to use the narthex/lobby area while you quiet your little one. The infant care room is also available for nursing mothers. You'll be able to hear the service from the speaker system in the narthex and in the infant care room. A changing table is in the men's and women's bathrooms. If needed, please ask an usher for assistance.

**REGISTRATION CARDS** are in the hymnal racks. Guests may use the registration cards to let us know how we may further assist you. We encourage all members and guests to fill out a registration card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

**A HEARING LOOP** is installed in our sanctuary for your convenience. If your hearing aid has a t-switch, you'll need to activate it when you're in the sanctuary, in order to benefit from the hearing loop.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES** Holy Cross offers a full Christian elementary school (grades PreK3 – 8), Kids Crossing Early Learning Center (6 weeks – 5 years), Sunday School and children's youth activities.

**PRAYER CONCERNS?** Contact Sherri Bartels, [sbbartels.sb@gmail.com](mailto:sbbartels.sb@gmail.com). Our prayer chain is a large group of Holy Cross members who join you in calling upon God with your prayer concerns. Galatians 6:2 says "Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

**USHERS** are on duty during church services. Please speak with them if you need assistance.

**LIVE STREAM WORSHIP** If you or a loved one are unable to attend worship, our 8:30 am service is live streamed on the church website.

**PHONE-IN WORSHIP** Sundays at 8:30 a.m. (Call any time after 8:20 a.m.; dial 1 (978) 990-5164 followed by access code 6279900#)

**ON DEMAND WORSHIP** View or listen to any of our past worship services by visiting our website and click the tab labeled Live Stream/Sermons and click sermons.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE** Sunday, 8:30 am 10:30am and Monday, 6:30 pm.

**TRANSPORTATION FUND** If you have no other way to church, taxi rides to and from church are available. Please speak with the Pastor or call the church office at 249-3101.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER** is offered on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month and the following Mondays. We believe the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity of faith in our Savior as well as our unity in all scriptural teachings. Since the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod profess full unity in biblical teaching, members of these church bodies are welcome to commune with us. If you are a member of a different Christian church, we ask that you wait to commune until you have closely examined what we teach and are convinced that we are a church that preaches the true Word of God, and that you are in agreement with our teachings. Please speak with a pastor if you are a guest and would like to commune.

**MISSION STATEMENT** The mission of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School is to bring the Gospel of Christ to our community through the Means of Grace, reaching out to the lost, and nurturing our fellow believers. This we do through worship, education, service and fellowship that God's kingdom may grow.

# **"May the Wicked Foe Have No Power Over Us!"**

**January 28, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**

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*Service of the Word – Page 38*

**Opening Hymn** #399 (vs 1, 2)....."To God Be the Glory"

1 To God be the glory; great things he has done!  
He so loved the world that he gave us his Son,  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give him the glory -- great things he has done!

2 Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
Oh, come to the Father through Jesus the Son  
And give him the glory -- great things he has done!

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

## **Confession of Sins**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

## **Prayer and Praise**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**Taste and See**

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases spanning across bar lines. The lyrics are aligned with the notes below the staff.

**Prayer of the Day**

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, you know that we are surrounded by many dangers and that we often stumble and fall. Strengthen us in body and mind, and bring us safely through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - men.

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of a few notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are aligned with the notes below the staff.

**7th Grade Handbells**....."Be Thou My Vision"

**First Lesson**.....Deuteronomy 18:15–20

*The Lord promises to send the prophet, namely, Jesus.*

15 The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brother Israelites. Listen to him.

16 That is exactly what you asked from the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly. You said, “Do not let me hear the voice of the Lord my God anymore, and do not let me see this great fire again, or I will die.”

17 Then the Lord said to me, “They have done well by saying what they said. 18 I will raise up a prophet for them from among their brothers, like you, and I will put my words in his mouth, and he will speak to them everything that I command him. 19 Anyone who will not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. 20 Any prophet who presumes to speak something in my name that I have not commanded him to speak or who speaks something in the name of other gods—that prophet shall die.”

**Psalm of the Day**.....Psalm 1

M: How blessed is the man who does not walk in the advice of the wicked, who does not stand on the path with sinners, and who does not sit in a meeting with mockers.

**C: But his delight is in the teaching of the Lord, and on his teaching he meditates day and night.**

M: He is like a tree planted beside streams of water, which yields its fruit in season, and its leaves do not wither. Everything he does prospers.

**C: Not so the wicked! No, they are like the chaff which the wind blows away.**

M: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

**C: Yes, the Lord approves of the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**Second Lesson**.....1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*When making decisions, Christians should always take into account how their decisions will affect others.*

1 Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. 2 If anyone supposes that he knows something, he does not yet know the way he ought to know. 3 But if anyone loves God, this person has been known by him.

4 So, concerning the eating of food from idol sacrifices, we know that an idol is not anything real in the world and that there is no God but one. 5 Indeed, even if there are so-called “gods,” whether in the heavens or on earth (as in fact there are many “gods” and many “lords”), 6 nevertheless for us there is one God—the Father, from whom all things exist, and we exist for him—and one Lord—Jesus Christ, through whom all things exist, and we exist through him.

7 However, that knowledge is not in everyone. Instead some, who are still affected by their former habit with the idol, eat the food as something sacrificed to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled.

8 Food will not bring us closer to God. We do not lack anything if we do not eat, nor are we better off if we do. 9 And be careful that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. 10 For if someone sees you, a person who has knowledge, dining in an idol’s temple, will not the conscience of this man, weak as he is, be emboldened to eat food from an idol sacrifice? 11 You see, the weak person is being destroyed by your knowledge—the brother for whose sake Christ died! 12 And when you sin in this way against your brothers and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. 13 Therefore, if food causes my brother to sin, I will never eat meat again, so that I do not cause my brother to sin.

**Verse of the Day**

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**3-8 Grade Song**....."Psalm 91"

**Children's Sermon**

*Young children are invited forward to the chancel steps.*

**Hymn of the Day** #201 (vs 1, 3)....."A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need  
That has us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil foe  
Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.

3 Though devils all the world should fill,  
All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill;  
They shall not overpow'r us.  
This world's prince may still  
Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none.  
He's judged; the deed is done!  
One little word can fell him.

**Sermon**.....Pastor Mark Bartels..... "May the Wicked Foe Have No Power Over Us!"

*Mark 1:21-28*

21Then they went into Capernaum.

On the next Sabbath day, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. 22They were amazed at his teaching, because he was teaching them as one who has authority and not as the experts in the law. 23Just then there was a man with an unclean spirit in their synagogue. It cried out, 24"What do we have to do with you, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

25Jesus rebuked the spirit, saying, "Be quiet! Come out of him!"

26The unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions, and after crying out with a loud voice, it came out of him.

27Everyone was so amazed that they began to discuss this with each other. They said, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He even commands the unclean spirits, and they obey him!" 28News about him spread quickly through all the region of Galilee.

### **Apostles' Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

**Offering & 8th Grade Handbells**....."Amazing Grace"

**New Member Reception** (8:30 am)

### **Prayer of the Church**

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

**C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.**

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

**C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.**

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

**C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.**

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

**C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

**C: 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.

Closing Verse #587 (vs 3)....."Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow"

3 Lord Jesus, since you love me,  
Oh, spread your wings above me  
And shield me from alarm.  
Though Satan would assail me,  
Your mercy will not fail me;  
I rest in your protecting arm.

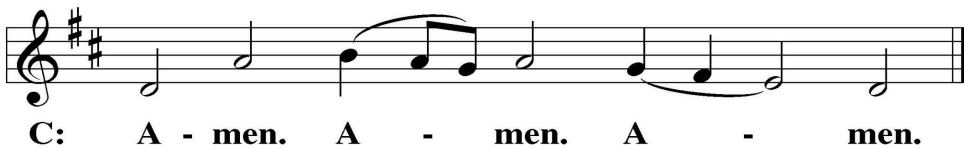
## Closing Prayer

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## Benediction

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.



## Announcements

If you attended online services at Holy Cross, please send an email to [frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:frontoffice@holycrossmadison.org), and in the subject line write "Attended" and after that the number of people who watched from your home. So if three of you watch the service on Sunday, your subject line would say, "Attended 3". Please don't write anything in the text of the email, since our secretary, Anna Poellet, will not be responding to emails that say "Attended" in the subject line. Thanks.



## **Holy Cross News & Notes**

January 28, 2024

### **Calendar for the Week – January 29 - February 4**

#### **Monday**

- Worship - 6:30 pm
- Bible Information Class - 7:30 pm

#### **Wednesday**

- School Chapel - 8:10 am
- Bible Study - 10:00 am
- Adult Handbell Choir - 6:00 pm
- Senior Choir - 7:00 pm

#### **Thursday**

- Ladies Aid - 1:00 pm

#### **Sunday**

- Worship - 8:30 and 10:30 am
- Bible Class & Sunday School - 9:45 am

**ALTAR FLOWERS** The flowers this morning are given by Corrine Johnson and family in memory of their loved one, Rollie.

**Please pray for our homebound and for those in nursing homes.**

#### **GIVING TO HOLY CROSS**

**WEEKLY OFFERINGS: 1/16/24-1/22/24**

\$14,838.95

**TOTAL OFFERINGS FOR FISCAL YEAR: 7/1/23 - 1/1/24/23**

\$460,608.26

**FISCAL YTD BUDGET OFFERINGS**

\$469,038.60

**FISCAL YEAR BUDGETED**

\$813,000.00

#### **CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY**

Long-time Holy Cross member, David Dahl, fell asleep in Jesus Saturday, January 20 at the age of 80. His funeral service was held at Holy Cross on Friday, January 26. Our Christian sympathy to wife Mildred, his son, Mark Dahl and family and his daughter, Barb Breneman and family. May the Lord comfort them with the promise of the resurrection!

#### **UNITED IN MARRIAGE**

Congratulations to Jarrid Peterson and Hannah Mathison, who were united in marriage at Holy Cross on Saturday, January 27. We pray God's richest blessings for their marriage! May Jesus and his Word be the rock that their family builds upon.

## **ANDREW SCHOENFELD HAS ACCEPTED THE CALL TO NORTHLAND LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL**

Dear Holy Cross Church and School,

I want to extend a humongous thank you for all the love, prayers, and support you have offered me and my family during this deliberation process. This truly was a difficult decision to make and God has led me to accept the Call to Northland Lutheran High School.

I have enjoyed seven wonderful years here at Holy Cross. The ministry is strong and Holy Cross is in wonderful hands as the Lord continues His work here in Madison. As sad as I am to leave, I am excited for the ministry that awaits me in Kronenwetter.

Holy Cross will always be like home to me and my family. Thank you again for your wonderful support during my time here as your humble servant. My prayers are with the school as they begin the search to fill my position with God's help and guidance.

Your brother in Christ,  
Andrew Schoenfeld

## **NICOLE KOTECKI HAS ACCEPTED THE CALL TO ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

Dear Members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School,

I want to thank you all for the support and prayers you've shared with me during this time of deliberation.

After careful reflection and many prayers, I have decided to accept the call to teach 3rd grade at St. Paul Lutheran School in Lake Mills.

While it may seem like this was an easy decision for me to make, I can assure you that it was not made lightly. The work being done here at Holy Cross and the people I've had the privilege of meeting and working with are truly exceptional. The connections made and the impact of our shared efforts have made a huge mark on my heart. It will be difficult to move on from this wonderful community. However, I trust that He is guiding my next steps.

Your continued prayers for both Holy Cross and myself during this transition mean the world to me. Thank you once again for your unwavering support. I pray that God continues to bless Holy Cross with His grace, wisdom, and an abundance of love.

In Christ,  
Nicole Kotecki

## **SERMON VIDEO LINKS**

Holy Cross will begin sharing videos of our most recent sermons with you. Our hope in doing this is twofold. First of all, we hope that, as you watch these videos yourself as a part of your own regular devotional life, the Holy Spirit would strengthen your faith during the week. Secondly, we ask that you share these videos with your friends, relatives, and neighbors as you see fit. You could forward this email on to those you think would be interested, or simply copy and paste the links to your social media feed for all your online friends. For example, if there's a sermon that addresses a particular topic, such as grief, you can pass it on to someone you know is grieving. Our Savior told His disciples to "preach the gospel to all creation" (Mk 16:15), and this is just one more we can fulfill His great commission. And we have the promise from God that, as the apostle Paul says, "Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ" (Ro 10:17). The Holy Spirit will work on human hearts wherever His Word is proclaimed.

01/21/2024 - "Hold On. Tightly or Lightly?" - Pastor Mark Bartels

<https://vimeo.com/904936243?share=copy>

## **ELC JOB OPPORTUNITY**

Have a love for working with children? Consider joining our Kids Crossing family. We have 1, full time job opportunity starting at \$15 per hour. Teachers must maintain a christian attitude when working with children, families, and coworkers, pass a background check, and be willing to complete child care training and first aid classes.

Please email Katie Krug at [kkrug@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:kkrug@holycrossmadison.org) if you or someone you know is interested or has any questions.

Isaiah 6:8 "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"

## NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Holy Cross has teamed up with Harmann Studios to establish an updated picture directory as there have been many changes since our last directory in 2019. The dates available to have your pictures taken are Wednesday, February 28th through Saturday, March 2nd and Tuesday, March 5th through Thursday, March 7th. Available check in times are:

- 1-8pm Tuesday-Thursday
- 11am-6pm Friday
- 9am-3pm on Saturday

There is no cost to the church or families/individual members. Each family/individual will get a complimentary 5x7 or 8x10 directory pose. Anyone who purchases a print product will get a free church directory and the opportunity to purchase any extra prints or digital media.

*To sign up for an appointment, please scan the QR code below or on the poster in the narthex.*



It is first-come, first-served, so book early. If you are unable to sign up online or need to cancel/modify an existing appointment time, please speak with **Max John** (who will be sitting in the narthex between services the next few weeks) or email at [1johnm2@gmail.com](mailto:1johnm2@gmail.com). We would love it if every participant took their picture in-person, but, if unable due to homebound constraints or scheduling conflicts, please contact Max John about ways to submit your own photograph for the directory. We are also in need of volunteers to be greeters for this event to ensure proper check in for appointments and calling members who may not show up for their scheduled times. If you are able to assist any day(s) or time(s) please contact Max John.

## SUMMER ADVENTURES 2024

This summer we will welcome kids ages 5 - 12 years old for a fun, daily program! Days will be 6AM - 5:30PM between June 3 - August 15, 2024. Activities will include: picnics in the park, off-site field trips, water days, bike/scooter days, arts and crafts, story time, and more! The rate will be billed weekly and is as follows:

- Monday - Friday (5 days): \$275/week
- 4 days: \$225/week
- 3 days: \$175/week
- 2 days: \$125/week
- 1 day: \$75/week

There is a 10% off multi-child discount for each additional full time child.

Registration will open for Holy Cross and returning families on February 5, 2024.

Registration will open for new families on April 3, 2024.

There is a \$150 non-refundable registration fee.

Other information to note: Children may be in our care for a maximum of 10 hours per day. Tuition will be charged on a weekly basis through an automatic withdrawal using our Brightwheel App. Tuition includes breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack following USDA Food Guidelines. Rate builds in several days OFF: holidays and up to 5 vacation days for the child. Rate is charged weekly even if the child misses his/her scheduled days.

If you have any questions, contact Katie Krug at [kkrug@holycrossmadison.org](mailto:kkrug@holycrossmadison.org) or call 608-249-3101.