

**Holy
Cross**
Lutheran Church

WE ARE TRANSFORMED IN CHRIST
TO SHARE THE HOPE OF ETERNAL LIFE.

4th Sunday of Lent
March 30, 2025



Luke 15, 1-3. 11-32

Learning from Jesus this Lent.



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

200 Market Street, Ste. Genevieve, MO

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The Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 30, 2025

*Good morning,
Welcome to Holy Cross*

--THIS WEEKS ALTAR FLOWERS-- Paul and Donna Ringwald donated the front altar fresh flowers for the celebration of Bridget Grass's birthday and Wayne Schremp's birthday.

Upcoming dates are available to purchase fresh flower arrangements for the altar: the flower chart to sign up is on the wall above the water fountain/kitchen doorway. Just sign who is giving the flowers, then the occasion. Please put **\$25** in an envelope; mark it: "Flower Fund"; and place it on the offering plate. **Thank you for making the altar beautiful.**

**UPCOMING MARCH EVENTS FOR
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH OF STE.GENEVIEVE
AND SURROUNDING AREAS**



Blood Drive Hanover Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 2949 Perryville Rd. Cape Girardeau, Missouri 63701 March 31st, 2025, 1:30 PM to 5:30 P.M.



APRIL EVENTS



April 13, 2025-Palm Sunday Service at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Starting at 9 a.m.



April 17, 2025-Maundy Thursday Service at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Starting at 6 p.m.



April 18, 2025-Good Friday Service at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Starting at 6 p.m.



April 20, 2025-Easter Sunday at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Starting at 9 a.m.



Remember other Lenten Services are available in outside areas (look at our bulletin board in the narthex). Just noticed some areas service a potluck dinner!!



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH FRIEDHEIM MEN'S CLUB HAVING A PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST APRIL 6, 2025. 7AM-NOON IN THEIR PARISH HALL. ON BULLETIN BOARD



NEW MELLE PASSION PLAY APRIL 5TH, 6TH, 12TH, AND 13TH SEATING FIRST COME FIRST-SEATING BASIS. 4700 HWY Z NEW MELLE, MO 63365
MORE INFORMATION ON BULLETIN BOARD.



Center for Life has an event coming up April 10th, 2025, (*Night to Shine*) they are looking for volunteers to help on April 10th, Bloomsdale KC Hall. *Time commitment would be 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM if interested register by March 27th.*

The Order of Service

The Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We are transformed in Christ.
To share the hope of eternal Life.

Welcome- **The Sharing of the Peace**

Opening Hymn • 420
Verses' 1-4

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

The Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Matthew 28:19b;(18:20)

Confession and Absolution-

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
Who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 1 24:8

If You, O Lord, keep a record of our sins, O Lord, who could stand?
But with You, there is forgiveness; therefore, You are feared.

Psalm 1 30: 3-4

Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God,

our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:
God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Luke 18:13

**Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us
to everlasting Life. Amen.**

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.

Amen.

John 20:19-23

The Responsive Psalm 119 verses 169-176

Taw

- ¹⁶⁹ Let my cry come before you, O LORD;
give me understanding according to your word!
- ¹⁷⁰ Let my plea come before you;
deliver me according to your word.
- ¹⁷¹ My lips will pour forth praise,
for you teach me your statutes.
- ¹⁷² My tongue will sing of your word,
for all your commandments are right.
- ¹⁷³ Let your hand be ready to help me,
for I have chosen your precepts.
- ¹⁷⁴ I long for your salvation, O LORD,
and your law is my delight.
- ¹⁷⁵ Let my soul live and praise you,
and let your rules help me.

176 I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant,
for I do not forget your commandments.

The Kyrie ∞ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47



Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

The Salutation and Collect of the day

2 Timothy 4:22

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have called Your Church to witness that in Christ, You have reconciled us to Yourself. Grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may proclaim the good news of Your salvation so that all who hear it may receive the gift of forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.

The First Reading

Isaiah 12: 1-6

The Old Testament Reading

12 You will stay in that day;” I will give thanks to You, O Lord, for through You were angry with me, Your anger turned away, that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ And you will say in that day: “Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. ⁶ Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.” This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

2 Corinthians’ 5: 16-21

The New Testament Reading

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the Fifteenth Chapter

Glory to You, O Lord.

15 Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable:

¹¹ And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his

servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷ And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹ but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

The Object Lesson

Sermon Hymn • 420
Verses 5 -7

“Christ, The Life of All the Living”

Sermon

Pastor Jim Kirk

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

The Prayers of the Church

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all the people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son to be our Savior as well as the Savior of the world. It is Your will that we make ourselves available to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others. Through Your Spirit, compel us to reach out as Your ambassadors wherever You have placed us in this life right now. Lord in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, time and time again we have learned that You who were without sin, were made to be sin for us so that we might be the righteousness of God. We have confessed our sins before You and our heavenly Father this morning. We will come forward to receive Your precious Body and Blood along with the bread and the wine to once more be forgiven. We come once more to be strengthened in our faith period we pray, once more, remind us of

Your love that enables us to show You to others by the way we live in this world. Lord in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, You taught Your disciples to pray what we call, “The Lord's Prayer.” Lead us to not only say but sincerely pray that our Heavenly Father's will might be done in our lives. Not only do we seek to do Your will, but in all sincerity, we seek to be thankful for our “daily bread,” and we seek to forgive others because we experience forgiveness from our Heavenly Father through You. Lead us to fight the good fight of faith, knowing You would never lead us into temptation and that You will deliver us from evil. Lord in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

God of all creation and God of all kindness, look upon those among us who are ill and are in need of Your care through the hands of doctors, nurses and health care professionals of all kind's, especially we pray for (_____) Be their and our strength and stay. Lord in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Additional petitions-Lord in Your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

The Preface

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:2

Lift up your heart.
We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Psalms 136

It is truly good, right and salutary that we should always and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Sanctus *∞ Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

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 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

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 remembrance of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, and remembrance of Me.”

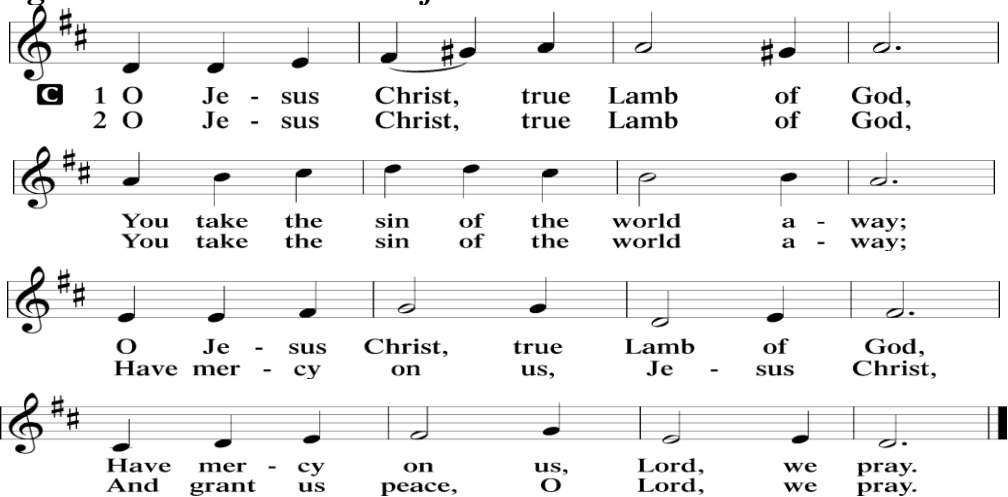
The Pax Domini ✧ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

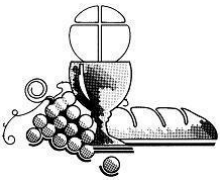
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

The Agnus Dei ∞ The Lamb of God

John 1:29



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.



Holy Communion □ *The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine. We believe the Lord's Supper is a means of grace in that it provides forgiveness of sins and strengthening of our faith. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal*

Participants are encouraged to ask these questions: Do I believe that I am a sinner and am truly sorry for my sins? Do I believe Jesus Christ is my Savior and that it is His true body and blood given to me along with the bread and wine? Do I intend with the help of God to repent of sin as I seek to follow Him?

If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold to a different confession of faith, please come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

Communion Hymn • 435

"Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain "

Communion Hymn • 433

" Glory Be to Jesus"

The Nunc Dimittis *∞* The Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

The Post-Communion Collect

Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen

The Benedicams and Benediction

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 103:1

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.

Amen

Numbers 6:24-26

Closing Hymn • **738**

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

Lay Reader: Linda Ruzicka

Organist: Todd Brueckner

Ushers/Communion: Rick Hutson, Wayne Schremp,
Randy Ruzicka

SUNDAY March 30	TUESDAY 01	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	NEXT SUNDAY April 06
9:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE Holy Communion Bible Class	Bible Study 10:30am To 11:30am	Office Hours 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM	Office Hours 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM	Office Hours 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM	9:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE Holy Communion Bible Class

Needs For Pastoral Care in OUR Area
Please Call One of The Elders Below:
Rick Hutson (573-780-9390)
Randy Ruzicka (314-210-4279)
Wayne Schremp (573-883-6060)

WEEKLY CALENDAR

EASTER SERVICE NEEDS PLEASE

There are opportunities to volunteer, sign-up sheets in the Narthex for Lent Services. And on the Round Table, sign-up sheets for Sunday Services.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

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In Our Prayers This Week



Throughout the week, please keep these people in your daily prayers. As a model for prayer, consider going through the **A.C.T.S. of prayer**. **Adoration**: praising God for who He is. **Confession**: confessing your sins to God, especially those that weigh on your heart. **Thanksgiving**: thanking God for specific blessings. **Supplication**: asking God for help.

For those who are homebound • Val Rakey, Barb Jones, Sharon Estes, Wanda Bollinger, Doug Arnold, Doris Bayuk, Nick Krege, Caryl Phillips, Pansy Meyer.

For healing and continued recovery • Bill Staffen (Bonnie Keir's brother, cancer), Dustin Hutson (recovering from a brain bleed), Pastor Jim Kirk (treatment for myeloma), Carol Steiger-Rudoff cancer (Connie Schwent's Sister In-law), Bonnie Zerwig and Maryann Roth, God touch everyone with recovery.

For those celebrating birthdays in March • Frances Krueger-March 1st, Linda Trimmer-March 2nd, Cheryl Noll-March 2nd, Eric Huck-March 5th, Molly Bell-March 14th, Carl Noll-March 22nd, Wayne Schremp-March 28th.

For those celebrating wedding anniversaries in March •

For those who mourn. • The Family of Raymond Edwin Kern

For local, state, and national elected officials • that they uphold goodness and work humbly for those they serve.

For our community • that more people believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For our circuit congregations & missionaries

For our church family • that we are transformed in Christ to share the hope of eternal life.

For all prayer requests not listed here.

Would like a prayer request printed in the bulletin, contact the church office at 573-883-5361 or holycrossstegen@gmail.com by Wednesday noon. For other requests, write them on the attendance card at service, fold it, give it to an usher or place it on the offering plate. To remove your bulletin request please contact the church office.