



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Warda, Texas | Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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PO Box 69, Warda TX 78960

*I am the bread of life; whoever comes
to me shall not hunger, and whoever
believes in me shall never thirst.*



1873-2024

151 Years of God's Grace

Sharing with Everyone the Good News of Salvation Through Jesus Christ!

Divine Service with
Holy Communion
9:00am

Bible Class and
Sunday School
10:15 a.m.

Welcome to
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
WARDA, TEXAS - LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
PO Box 69 Warda TX 78960
979.242.3333 holycrosswarda.com

Sunday, August 4, 2024

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠
(In the Name of Jesus)

GUESTS & VISITORS: Welcome to Holy Cross and to today’s worship service. We are glad you are here! Please register your attendance in the Fellowship Book in the pew (be sure to include the name of any children with you today). We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you have any questions, or have an interest in joining Holy Cross, please speak with Pastor or one of our Elders.

OUR COMMUNION POLICY: Communicant members of LC-MS congregations are welcome to join us for Communion. Please mark the Fellowship Book, providing us with your address and the name of your home congregation. In keeping with our confessional heritage, we practice “close communion.” If you are not a member of an LC-MS congregation and wish to commune, we ask that you please visit with Pastor or one of our Elder’s before partaking of Holy Communion. Thank you.

IN TODAY’S READINGS: *Jesus Is the True and Living Bread from Heaven*
Having rescued Israel “*out of the land of Egypt*” (Ex. 16:6), the Lord manifested His glory and made Himself known to His people. He fed them with “*meat to eat*” in the evening and with “*bread from heaven*” in the morning (Ex. 16:4, 8, 12). But now, the “*true bread from heaven*,” which the Father gives to you, is the Son, “*who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world*” (John 6:32–33). Whoever comes to Him “*shall not hunger*,” and whoever believes in Him “*shall never thirst*.” He is “*the bread of life*,” who gives Himself to you as “*the food that endures to eternal life*” (John 6:27, 35). By the gracious working of God, you believe in Him by the calling of one Spirit through the Gospel, so that you also have “*one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all*” (Eph. 4:4–6). As you eat His one body in the Holy Supper, so you belong to the one Body of His Church, in which you “*are to grow up in every way into him who is the head*” (Eph. 4:15).

PRELUDE - *Selected*

THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Now the Shades of Night are Gone

Hymn 538

[Please stand]

INVOCATION

pg. 15ff

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

C **♪ Amen.**

Matthew 28:20

CONFESSION OF SINS AND 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. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C **♪ Who made heaven and earth.**

Psalm 124:8

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

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

Psalm 32:5

C **O almighty God, merciful Father, I a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto Thee all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended Thee and justly deserved Thy temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray Thee of Thy boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

C **♪ Amen.**

[John 20:19-23]

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT - *Psalm 78: 23-25*


With upright heart he shepherded them
and guided them with his skillful hand.

He commanded the skies above
and opened the doors of heaven,
and he rained down on them manna to eat


and gave them the grain of heaven.
Man ate of the bread of the angels;
he sent them food in abundance.
With upright heart he shepherded them
and guided them with his skillful hand.

GLORIA PATRI


Pg. 16ff.

C  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.



KYRIE

C  Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us. *Mark 10:47*

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

C  Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King. God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen. *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY

P The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
C  And with thy spirit.
P Merciful Father, You gave Your Son Jesus as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in Your Word and Sacraments that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C  Amen.

[Please sit]

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 16:2-15

²The whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, ³and the people of Israel said to them, “Would that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your grumbling against the Lord. For what are we, that you grumble against us?” ⁸And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the Lord has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the Lord.”

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, ‘Come near before the Lord, for he has heard your grumbling.’” ¹⁰And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹And the Lord said to Moses, ¹²“I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Romans 11:33, 36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be glory forever. Amen.

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 4:1-16

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. ⁷But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. ⁸Therefore it says,

“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.”

⁹(In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

[Please stand and face the pastor in the center of the nave, a sign of Christ’s presence among His people]

VERSE

John 6:35b

C **♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

P I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

C **♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:22-35

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

C **♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**


²²On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that

there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. ²³Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” ²⁶Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” ²⁸Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” ²⁹Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” ³⁰So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? ³¹Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³²Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C  Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

pg. 22

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, By whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary And was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father; And He will come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; Who proceedeth from

the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Hymn 54

SERMON

Rev. John Austin

[Please stand]

OFFERTORY

pg. 22

☩ **♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Psalms 51:10-12

[Please sit]

RECEIPT OF OFFERINGS - *Offering plates are available before and after service in the narthex*

PAUSE TO PONDER: Ephesians 4:1 – “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.” The callings we have from the Lord are our “vocations.” Here Paul talks about our vocation as Christians. We are called to be His people and to reflect His love, generosity and peace within the church.

[Please stand]

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

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

Gracious heavenly Father, as You provided for the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness to the land You had promised, give us confidence to trust in You and to look to Your hand to provide all we need for this life and for the life to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, Your Son gives us the Office of the Ministry, that Your people might be equipped to serve and be built up into His one Body. Remember in Your compassion all who speak Your Word. Give them faithfulness and honesty in their teaching,

that Your children would be freed from all deceit to speak Your truth to one another in love, growing up in every way into Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, grant us true unity in the faith. Preserve us in pure doctrine; grant harmony in our congregation, district and Synod; and bestow on us charitable hearts that put the best construction on what we see and hear. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God and Father of all, enable us to walk in humility, gentleness and patience, that we would bear with one another in love and be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Mighty One, You establish civil government to be a blessing. To Your mercy, then, we commend our president, our Congress, our justices and magistrates, and all who serve the public in any way. Keep them honest, fill them with wisdom and uphold them in every good deed. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Show Your mercy to the sick and hospitalized including Shirley, Frances, Robbie, Cami, Braycen, Michael, Dana, and all those we name in our hearts today. Provide doctors, nurses and other medical professionals to care for those who need health and healing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Father, You provided manna for Your ancient people to sustain them in the wilderness. By Your grace, You provide the living bread from heaven: the very body of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, that endures to eternal life. Help us to approach Your table with thankful and contrite hearts, that we might receive Your Son's precious body and blood for the forgiveness of all our sins. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, we come as a people tossed to and fro by the manifold changes of this mortal life. Help us to know, in You, that which is eternal. Give us confidence in the suffering and death of Christ, that we may rejoice that You are with us always and await His joyous appearing with all the saints; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Page 24ff.

PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
- C** **♪ And with thy spirit.**
- P** Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*
- C** **♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. *[Psalm 136]*

C **♪ It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee and saying:

SANCTUS

C **♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory; Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, Blessed is He, Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C **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.

Matthew 6:9-13

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24

Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI AND AGNUS DEI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always!

John 20:19

C **♪ Amen.**

If you are unable to climb the chancel steps without assistance, please come forward at this time.

C **♪ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

John 1:29

Silent Prayer before Communing:

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul at the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

<i>Alas, My God, My Sins are Great</i>	Hymn 317
<i>Before Thee, God Who Knowest All</i>	Hymn 318
<i>Lord Jesus, Think on Me</i>	Hymn 320
<i>O Faithful God, Thanks Be to Thee</i>	Hymn 321
<i>I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table</i>	Hymn 315


Silent Prayer after Communing:

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.



[Please stand]

NUNC DIMITTIS

pg. 29ff

- C**  Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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. *Luke 2:29-32*

THANKSGIVING AND POST-COMMUNION COLLECT


- P** Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
- C**  **And His mercy endures forever.** *Psalm 107:1*
- P** O God the Father, Fount and Source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness did send Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament; and we ask You not to forsake Your children, but evermore to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.
- C**  **Amen.**

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

pg. 31

P The Lord be with you.


2 Timothy 4:22

C  **And with Thy spirit.**


P Bless we the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

C  **Thanks be to God.**

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.

Numbers 6:24-26

C  **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy

Hymn 659

POSTLUDE

OUTREACH THOUGHT: John 6:22-35: John's account of the aftermath of the miraculous feeding of the multitudes indicates that the people continued to search for Jesus because they wanted more food for their hungry bodies. Jesus urged them to seek the Bread of Life so they will never hunger or thirst again. As Jesus used His disciples to point people to the true Bread of Life, so He also uses us to point starving souls to Jesus, the only Bread of Life.

LOOKING AHEAD: Another week, another set of lessons about bread! We pick up where we left off today, with Jesus telling the crowds who had followed Him that He Himself is the true Bread that comes down from heaven. Moses and Israel ate manna as they wandered in the wilderness, and yet, they died. Jesus promises to give living bread, so that all who eat of it will not die! Readings are 1 Kings 19:1-8; Ephesians 4:17-5:2; John 6:35-51.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Class this morning will be led by Pastor Austin in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to join us for a hot cup of coffee and good Biblical discussion.

Blessing of the Backpacks - August is here and a new school year is just around the corner! In worship next Sunday, August 11th, we will pray for and celebrate the start of school with the "Blessing of the Backpacks." Parents with school age children, please be sure to have your children bring their backpacks to church next Sunday. We look forward to blessing your children and their backpacks and the start of the 2024/25 school year!

Church Pictorial Directory - Lee Heselmeyer and Cyndy Zoch have taken on the responsibility of helping finish up our church photo directory. If you did not previously take a photo, or you need an updated photo, the backdrop will be up in the new Narthex on Sunday's, August 11, 18 & 25. Also, please be sure and verify your address and phone number are listed correctly. Group photos (Ladies Aid, Couple's Club, Youth, etc. also need to be sent over to Lee at leehesel@yahoo.com. Please help Lee and Cyndy so they can move forward with getting this book finished before the end of 2024!

NEW VIDEO SYSTEM - At the Voter's meeting on July 29th, the voters assembly approved the purchase of a new VIDEO SYSTEM for the church sanctuary. Donations are currently being taken for the Audio Visual fund to help offset the cost of this project. If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to Holy Cross Lutheran Church and note Audio Visual fund in the memo line. We look forward to getting this up and going and once again being able to record and broadcast our services!

Game Day - Our monthly game days have been a big hit for everyone who has joined us! Our next one will be Thursday, August 15th, from noon-2PM with a light lunch provided. Invite a friend to join us for a fun afternoon of games and visiting.

Door Offering - On Sunday, August 18th, the Ladies Aid will collect a door offering for school supplies for St. Paul Lutheran School in Serbin. Please consider supporting their efforts. Checks should be made payable to Holy Cross Ladies Aid.

The Wednesday night Bible study group will begin their Fall study on 1st & 2nd Kings on Wednesday, August 28th, at 6:30pm in the Family Room. This 12-week study will take us through King Solomon's reign and the fall and captivity of both Israel and Judah. If you are interested in participating, please contact Cyndy Zoch at cyndy.zoch@gmail.com by August 25th to get a copy of the study guide. New members are always welcome!

Youth Group activities will be starting back up on SEPTEMBER 8! Be sure to join us at the Church Picnic! ***BEFORE that though, there will be a National Youth Gathering info meeting on August 25th at 11am in the Youth Room! This is for all youth in 8th grade through high school AND their parents!*** NYG is July 19-23, 2025!

South Lee County VFD 44th annual BBQ & Auction will be held next Saturday, August 10th, at the Serbin picnic grounds. BBQ by the pound will be available starting at 4:30. BBQ plates with all the trimmings will be available starting at 5PM. Free-will donation for meal plates, dessert, and drinks. Music by the Lost Cause Band will play from 3:30—6:00. The live auction will begin at 6:30. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy the evening!

Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Manheim will be sponsoring a sit-down Spaghetti, salad and garlic bread lunch fundraiser at its fellowship hall, on **August 11**, 2024 starting at noon. A free will offering will be collected to help support Deaconess Jane Obersat in her mission work. She will be working with Pastor Hugo Gevers and Deaconess Kim Buelmann, who work with former Muslims in Leipzig, Germany.

GriefShare - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Giddings will be hosting a new Grief-Share session beginning Thursday, August 15, from 6-8 PM in the fellowship hall (300 N. Grimes St. Giddings). This session will be 14 weeks and will conclude on November 14. Please contact Kathy Bartels, (512) 461-5442 or by email at mon-niebartels@gmail.com if you plan to attend or for more information about the program.

GEMS Ice Cream Social: School may be starting, but summer weather is not over! Join us for an ice cream social to cool off and enjoy fellowship time with other young ladies from churches around the area. All girls 5th grade through high school are welcome to join us as we kick off a new school year. We will meet on Sunday, August 25, at 2:00 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Warda. If you've considered attending a GEMS meeting in the past, now is a great time to find out more! We will explain what GEMS is (Girls Embracing Mission Service), discuss service project options for the coming months, and have an ice cream social! Please contact Ruth Meyer at 979-540-9868 with any questions. We'd love to see you there!

Save the Date for our 1ST FAMILY FUN NIGHT! Sunday, September 15th, @ the Picnic Grounds. Join Us For An Evening Of Games, Fun & Lots Of Laughs! We'll also be hosting an Ice Cream Freeze Off – a homemade ice cream competition! Get those ice cream machines geared up or coffee cans rolling for your chance to win “The Golden Scoop” and of course, major bragging rights! More Details to follow but we look forward to seeing you there!

HOLY CROSS CHURCH PICNIC

Our annual church picnic will be held on Sunday, September 1, 2024.

The *Ladies Aid* will once again be taking **pre-orders for sides** for the picnic. Sides include noodles, beans, potato salad, and coleslaw. They are pint size containers for \$4.00 each. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board or you can call the church office at 242-3333 to place your order.

The *Ladies Aid* booth always has people looking to buy **home canned/preserved items**. Since we are in the midst of canning season, we would like to ask any congregation members that do canning to consider setting aside an extra jar or two of home canned items to donate to the Ladies Aid booth. We would also appreciate plants, quality handcrafted items, and items for our silent auction. If you have any questions, you can contact Gale Mersiovsky or any of the Ladies Aid members.

The *Picnic Auction Committee* will meet on Monday, August 5th, at 7:00 in the church library. Auction committee members are Brian Varner, Shirley Varner, Nichole Varner, Elaine Kieschnick, Carol Schramm, Cyndy Zoch, Howard Konetzke, Natalie Canada, Kristy Hentschel, Lisa Gay, Kathy Steglich-Smith, Brenda Woelfel, Jonathan Kueck, Cindy Heselmeyer, Grace Walker, Doug Lehmann, Lorie Lehmann, and Carolyn J. Lehmann. Now is a great time to **be on the lookout for items you may be able to donate** to the picnic auction. Handmade items and crafts are always popular! If you have any questions about what type of items may be donated or to have an item picked up before the picnic, please call Chris Kovar at (318) 458-8558, or Brian Varner at (979) 966-3761. Items can be brought to the church office anytime this month.

NEW THIS YEAR - ALL auction items must be on the list by Friday, August 30th at noon, to be included in the auction on Sunday. It's OK to bring your item that weekend, but it must be on the list by Friday at noon. Put it on the list by calling the church office, Brian Varner, or any of the auction committee members listed above. NO NEW ITEMS will be added to the list after 12PM on Friday. Thank you!!

At the April voters assembly meeting, the **picnic proceeds** were designated as follows: ½ of the auction proceeds toward the Parochial School Tuition Assistance Fund. All remaining picnic proceeds will go to the picnic fund to be used for future projects.

The ***wood, pit cleaning, and preparation*** group will meet at the picnic grounds on Friday evening, August 23rd, starting at 5:30pm to get things ready for the picnic. This group includes **ALL BBQ Cookers** plus David Lehmann, J.C. Schramm, Lance Schramm, Layne Schramm, Bobby Hentschel, Ryan Hentschel, Tommy Swearingen, Daniel Bamsch, Phillip Wagner, Wayne Brugger, Calvin Mersiovsky, David Weishuhn, Brandon Weishuhn, Randy Schramm, Darrell Schubert, Darrick Schubert, and Curtis Kieschnick.

In addition, the ***Young Adult Fellowship group*** and anyone else who is interested and willing is asked to come and help on the 23rd at 5:30 and get things set up for the picnic. Benches will be set up and pressure washed, the patio area cleaned up and washed, and the inside of the picnic hall cleaned.

Everyone should bring their own refreshments and anyone interested in bringing snacks to share when the work is done is welcome to do so. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be served following the work. If you will come help, please RSVP to the church office or Scott Schramm so we will be sure and have enough food. We are looking forward to a great picnic and hope to see everyone there!

Attendance Last Sunday

Divine Service: 154 Bible Class: 41 Sunday School: 13

Our Response to God's Blessings

	<u>July 21</u>	<u>July 28</u>
Estimated General Fund Weekly Need	\$ 5,220	\$ 5,220
Offering Received	\$ 3,335	\$ 3,970
Short/Over	\$ (1,885)	\$ (1,250)
Offerings received through e-giving July 15-31:	\$1,090.77	



New Student Registration

We are overjoyed to have 23 students registered for the 2024-2025 school year. Prospective families continue to call and tour the school, and we continue to add more students to our family. FLHS offers a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, and small class sizes. You can receive registration materials by visiting our website, at www.fhlstx.org, or calling (979) 242-2889. Tuition scholarships are available.

First Day of School

Please keep our faculty and students in your prayers as classes begin Wednesday, August 14th. Final preparations are underway in preparation for the big day!

Opening Service

Please join us on Sunday, August 18th at 3 pm as we will officially open our eighth academic school year. "Self-less" based on Philippians 2:3 is the theme for 2024-2025. A worship service will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Warda. The service will be led by our association Pastors. Offering will be collected to support the FLHS Scholarship Fund. A potluck dessert and punch reception will follow.

Camp Lone Star Retreat

FLHS students and faculty are preparing for our annual retreat to Camp Lone Star on August 29-30. We would appreciate prayers as we prepare for this valuable experience for all students. Also, food and monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. Please contact FLHS to find out how you can support our retreat!

Save the Date!

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 26th. New this year will be The Battle of the Vines, in addition to The Battle of the Brew- both are home brew competitions, so start planning your brews now. Returning will be our traditional German meal, domino tournament, cornhole tournament, music, kids games, and lots of fun!

Transportation Fund Update

We have met our goal!! THANK YOU for your generous contributions to help us raise the funds necessary to begin moving forward with this project. We pray that the Lord will bless us with a wonderful vehicle in the near future, that would be a blessing for our ministry.

Altar Flowers



Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Willie and Judy Wagner's birthday's by their kids.

PRAYER REQUESTS



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR TODAY

Shirley Going, under hospice care

Frances Gray, undergoing treatment for cancer

Robbie Lange, brother of Patrick & Kevin Lange and nephew of Dee Herbert, undergoing treatments for cancer

Cami Butler, niece of Dee Herbert, undergoing tests

Braycen Mersiovsky, great-nephew of Calvin & Gale Mersiovsky, diagnosed with a brain tumor and undergoing tests to determine treatment

Michael Schumann, son of Frances Schumann & brother of Gayla Davidson, recovering from surgery

Dana Herzog Srubar, niece of Lorie Lehmann, cancer has returned

A big **THANK YOU** is extended to the Outreach Group for the great job with hosting the monthly game days! The participants are enjoying the time together and getting to know one another better.

Those who serve today: August 4, 2024

Rev. John Austin	Guest Pastor
Mrs. Ann Bamsch	Organist
Mrs. Lisa Gay	Greeter
Mr. John Gay	Lector
Mr. Shea Kasper	Audio/Video System
Hailey Bamsch & Aidan Halpain	Acolytes

Elders on Duty
Mr. Calvin Mersiovsky & Mr. Jonathan Kueck

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
MONDAY	7:00 p.m.	Picnic Auction Committee Mtg.
TUESDAY	7:00 p.m.	Elders
	7:00 p.m.	Ladies Aid
WEDNESDAY	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sewing Circle
FRIDAY	7:00 p.m.	Couple's Club
Next Sunday		<i>Blessing of the Backpacks</i>
	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School Teachers Appreciation Lunch and Planning Meeting

Soli Deo Gloria

(To God alone be Glory)