



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Warda, Texas | Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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NOTHING

will be able to separate us
from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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.

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

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

Tuesday, December 31, 2024

New Years' Eve

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.

NOTES ON TONIGHT'S SERVICE:

The Lord Comes by Way of the Cross to Serve Us at His Table in Peace

When we despise the Lord's Word "*and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them*" (Is. 30:12), we face catastrophe. Our idolatry "*is smashed so ruthlessly*" (Is. 30:14), so that we are called to repentance. The Lord calls us by the cross, "*like a signal on a hill*" (Is. 30:17), to return to Him and rest in His salvation. For "*he who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all*" graciously provides us with all good things in Him (Rom. 8:32). Since "*Christ Jesus is the one who died,*" who is risen from the dead and seated at God's right hand, "*interceding for us*" (Rom. 8:34), "*we are more than conquerors through him who loved us*" (Rom. 8:37). It is in that hope that we live "*like men who are waiting for their master*" (Luke 12:36). He daily awakens us by His preaching of repentance, raises us by His Word of forgiveness and keeps our lamps burning by the grace of His Gospel. He comes to us by way of the cross, in order to bless us and serve us at His table in peace.

PRELUDE - *Selected*

THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WORDS OF WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“Across the Sky the Shades of Night”

Hymn 110

OPENING SENTENCES

LSB pg. 253ff.

P The Lord Almighty grant us a quiet night and peace at the last.

C Amen.

P It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

C to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;

P to herald Your love in the morning,

C Your truth at the close of the day.

Psalm 92:1

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

C The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

C I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins.

C Amen.


Kyrie Eleison
LORD, HAVE MERCY

PSALMODY

Psalm 98:1-3; Refrain Ps. 124:8

Cantor: Our help is in the name of the LORD, Who made heaven and earth.

Congregation: Refrain

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the refrain: "Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "heav - en and earth." The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes.

*Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!*

*His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.*

*The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.*

*He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.*

*All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.*

*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.*

Refrain

[Please sit]

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 30:8-17

⁸And now, go, write it before them on a tablet and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come as a witness forever. ⁹For they are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of the LORD; ¹⁰who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions, ¹¹leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel." ¹²Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, "Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them, ¹³therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a breach in a high wall, bulging out, and about to collapse, whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant; ¹⁴and its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly

that among its fragments not a shard is found with which to take fire from the hearth, or to dip up water out of the cistern.”¹⁵For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.” But you were unwilling,¹⁶and you said, “No! We will flee upon horses”; therefore you shall flee away; and, “We will ride upon swift steeds”; therefore your pursuers shall be swift.¹⁷A thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you shall flee, till you are left like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, like a signal on a hill.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 8:31b-39

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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]

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:35-40

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter:

[Jesus said:] “Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! But know this, that if the master of the house had known

at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

Psalm 31:5

P Into Your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

P You have redeemed me, O Lord, God of truth.

C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C Into Your hands I commend my spirit.

SERMON HYMN

“Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love”

Hymn 114

SERMON

“Jesus, Our Past, Present, and Future”

OFFERING

[Please stand]

PRAYERS

Psalm 102:1; Psalm 17:8; Psalm 17:15

P Hear my prayer, O Lord;

C listen to my cry.

P Keep me as the apple of Your eye;

C hide me in the shadow of Your wings.

P In righteousness I shall see You;

C when I awake, Your presence will give me joy.

P Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Be present, merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of life may find our rest in You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P O Lord, support us all the day long of this troubled life, until the shadows lengthen and the evening comes and the busy world is hushed, the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then, Lord, in Your mercy grant us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Eternal God, the hours both of day and night are Yours, and to You the darkness is no threat. Be present, we pray, with those who labor in these hours of night, especially those who watch and work on behalf of others. Grant them diligence in their watching, faithfulness in their service, courage in danger, and competence in emergencies. Help them to meet the needs of others with confidence and compassion; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacrament, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Page 27ff.

PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **♪ And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **♪ We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh Thou hast given us now revelation of Thy glory that, seeing Thee in the person of Thy Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. 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; Heavn'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.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold 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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI AND AGNUS DEI

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always!
- 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.**

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

*Help Us, O Lord! Behold, We Enter
This Night a Wondrous Revelation
O Blessed Day When First Was Poured*

*Hymn 120
Hymn 88
Hymn 115*


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 We give thanks to Thee, Almighty God, that Thou hast refreshed us through this salutary gift; and we beseech Thee that of Thy mercy Thou wouldst strengthen us through the same in faith toward Thee and in fervent love toward one another; 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

“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

Hymn 123

POSTLUDE

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER:

*I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ,
Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day;
and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins
where I have done wrong and graciously keep me this night.*

*For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things.
Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.
Amen.*

Those who serve today:

Rev. Dustin Beck
Mrs. Carol Schramm
Mr. Shea Kasper

Pastor
Organist
Sound


Deo Gratias

THANKS BE TO GOD

Soli Deo Gloria
(To God alone be Glory)