



December 15, 2024 - 9:30 am

3rd Sunday of Advent



GATHERING: The Spirit Calls Us Together

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk

Valerie Birch

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Advent Song

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

ELW 257

Call to Worship

Gathering Song

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

ELW 631

Greeting

Kyrie

Hymn of Praise

"Blessed Be the God of Israel"

ELW 250

Prayer

Special Music

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

MS/HSBells

WORD: We Hear God in Scripture & Preaching

Children's Message

Isaiah 12:2-6... Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. ⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Philippians 4:4-7... Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 3:7-18... John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they

asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message Pastor Heather Grell

Hymn of the Day

"The King Shall Come"

Prayers

Sharing God's Peace

MEAL: God Feeds us with the Presence of Jesus

Offering

Special Music

Offertory

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

ELW 247

Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"

"Wait for the Lord"

ELW 262

Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING: Being Loved, God Sends Us to Love

Blessing

Sending Song

"Prince of Heaven"

Dismissal

Postlude

Announcements

- ⇒ **Food Pantry** Our next food pantry is Thursday, December 19 from 5 to 6:30 pm. [CLICK HERE](#) to help. Donations are needed! We are in need of paper and plastic bags, pasta sauce/tomato sauce, canned soup, and cereal. Drop donations in the blue bin in the coat closet hallway. Thanks!
- ⇒ **Centering Prayer Group** meets Monday's at 1:00 pm in the Youth Room Holy Cross. Questions, contact Paula McDonald at 402-210-6040.
- ⇒ **Tai Chi** A beginning Tai Chi Class is offered weekly on Wednesday's from 12:30–1:30 pm in the HCLC Narthex. A free -will donation will be accepted for our instructor, Cynthia Simon. Bring a friend and discover that you really do have balance!
- ⇒ **Prayer Shawls** If you have someone in your life who could use some extra comfort and prayers, please feel free to take a Prayer Shawl or Prayer Square from the display in the Narthex at any time.
- ⇒ **Altar Flowers** are available for purchase for \$47. Please [click here](#) to sign up or contact the church office.
- ⇒ **Nursery** Our nursery in the Sunday School hallway is unlocked every Sunday morning during worship and our education hour. There is no nursery attendant, but the room is available for families to use as needed if littles need to get some wiggles out!
- ⇒ **Recycle your Christmas Lights!** Joe Evans is taking old strings of lights to Scrap Central which provides recycling at no cost. There is a bin in the Narthex marked Christmas Lights Only.
- ⇒ **Cookie Walk** Our 2nd Annual Cookie Walk + Hot Cocoa Bar is coming up on Sunday December 22nd. If you'd like to donate a dozen (or two) cookies, please sign up in the Narthex.
- ⇒ **Blessing Bags** On Thanksgiving Eve, we assembled about 100 Blessing Bags for people to take with them to hand out to folks experiencing homelessness. They are located in the Narthex, please take a couple!
- ⇒ **Giving through Venmo** You can now support the ministries of Holy Cross via Venmo. Find us on Venmo @HolyCrossLutheran.



venmo

Calendar for Upcoming Week

Sunday, December 15

9:30 am Worship
10:40 am Sunday School/Adult Forum
10:50 am MS/HS Ensemble
11:00 am MS/HS Bells
2:00 pm Caroling
3:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 48012 Meeting

Monday, December 16

1:00 pm Centering Prayer
6:30 pm Boy Scouts
7:00 pm Rachel Circle
9:00 pm CMA Meeting

Tuesday, December 17

6:30 pm Council Meeting
7:30 pm A.A. Meeting

Wednesday, December 18

12:30 pm Tai Chi Balance Class
6:00 pm Confirmation/Uke Choir
6:30 pm Youth Worship
7:00 pm Radical Ringers/Youth Group

Thursday, December 19

11:30 am Lunch Bunch
5:00 pm Food Pantry
6:30 pm Carolon Bell Choir
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, December 20

1:00 pm Knitting

Saturday, December 21

10:00 am Birthday Party

Sunday, December 22

9:30 am Worship
10:40 am Cookie Walk
10:50 am MS/HS Ensemble
11:00 am MS/HS Bells

Prayer Requests from our Church Community

Member Concerns: Dick Klabunde; Charlie Ferris; Kelley Kennedy; Ruth Martin; Norm Firkins; Phyllis Beam; Donna McCoy; Jan Swanson; Connie Mertz, Mia Szymczak.

On-Going Member Concerns: Edie Nabity at Hillcrest Papillion

Friends and Relatives: Carol Deditz, sister of Julie Noteman; Larry Labens, friend of Jerry & Kelli Joseph; Opal Calendar, foster granddaughter of Trisha Ryan; Kelsey Schneider, daughter of Jim & Peg Schneider; Mary Sundermeier, aunt of Kate Ferris; Megan Smith-Sallans, friend of Pastor Heather; Theresa Ramelb, friend of Jacque Petersen; Shari Jensen, friend of Ed Krueger; Kenneth Lathrop, father of Alisa Krueger; Jan Specks, sister of Carol Rich; Walt Weaver & Carson Rich, family of Carol Rich; Ronda Bayer, friend of Debbie Risinger; Debbie Haacke, coworker of Debbie Risinger; Tatyana Povazhnaya, friend of Sue Spengler; Gaylen Grunke, Wes Grunke's Brother; Andie Hunter, Elizabeth Yearwood's sister; Linda Anderson, Barb Kay's sister; Aaron McDonald and Family and Caregivers, McDonald's grandson.