



January 5, 2025 - 9:30 am

2nd Sunday of Christmas



GATHERING: The Spirit Calls Us Together

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Call to Worship

Gathering Song

“Angels from the Realm of Glory ”

ELW 275

Greeting

Kyrie

ELW Page 98

Hymn of Praise

“We Three Kings of Orient Are ”

Prayer

WORD: We Hear God in Scripture & Preaching

Children’s Message

Jeremiah 31:7-14... Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, “Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel.”⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here.⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

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

Ephesians 1:3-14... Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ,¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.¹³ In him you also,

when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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

Gospel Acclamation

ELW Page 102

John 1:1-18... ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

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

Message Pastor Heather Grell

Hymn of the Day

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

Prayers

Sharing God's Peace

MEAL: God Feeds us with the Presence of Jesus

Offering

Special Music

Offertory

"Infant Holy Infant Lowly "

ELW 276

Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"

"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime "

ELW 284

Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING: Being Loved, God Sends Us to Love

Blessing

Sending Song

"Christ be Our Light "

ELW 715

Dismissal

Postlude

Announcements

- ⇒ **Food Pantry** Our next food pantry is Thursday, January 16 from 5 to 6:30pm. [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 little's need to get some wiggles out!
- ⇒ **Budget Forum** Join us following worship Sunday January 12th for our Budget Forum where the 2025 budget will be discussed.
- ⇒ **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!
- ⇒ **Congregation Annual Meeting Save the Date** Sunday, January 26th at 10:45am in person only.
- ⇒ **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, January 5

9:30 am Worship

Monday, January 6

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

Tuesday, January 7

7:30 pm AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 8

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, January 9

3:15 pm Finance Committee
6:30 pm Carolan Bell Choir
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, January 10

1:00 pm Knitting
7:00pm Belles N Beaus

Saturday, January 11

9:30 am Sarah Circle

Sunday, January 12

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

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.