



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Warda, Texas | Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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The
Lord
will
provide

1873-2025

152 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.

✠ THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD ✠

Easter Sunrise

SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025

✠ IN NOMINE JESU ✠

(In the Name of Jesus)

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed, Alleluia! Welcome to Holy Cross and to this morning's worship service. We are glad that you are here. Today marks the Church's most joy-filled celebration—Christ is Risen! We invite you to come and worship with us again, especially if you do not currently have a home church. If you are interested in joining Holy Cross, please speak with our Pastor or one of our Elders.

SUGGESTED PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

A NOTE ON THIS MORNING'S SERVICE

Very early on the first day of the week, before the sun had risen, a few women drew near to the tomb of their Lord, Jesus. The events of the past three days were etched into their memory, their cheeks were likely stained from grief. But now the Sabbath had ended. Now it was time to return to the place in which they had seen His lifeless body laid. They would properly anoint His corpse for burial, all part of the grieving process in the first century.

PRELUDE - *Go to Dark Gethsemane, st. 4*

THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION *Awake, My Heart, With Gladness*

Hymn 192, sts. 1-4

Please stand.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 51:15, 70:1

P O Lord, open Thou my lips.

C **♪ And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.**

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

C **♪ Make haste to help me, O Lord.**

**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. Hallelujah!**

THE INVITATORY AND VENITE

Psalm 95:1-7

P Oh, come, let us worship the Lord:

C **♪ For He is our Maker.**

♪ Oh come, let us sing unto the Lord:

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:

and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God:

and a great King above all gods.

In His hand are the deep places of the earth:

the strength of the hills is His also.

The sea is His, and He made it:

and His hands formed the dry land.

Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

For He is our God:

and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

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.

INTROIT - *Exodus 15:2a, 6, 13, 17-18; antiphon: v. 1b*

I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.

Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power,
your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.

You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed;
you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.

You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,
the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode,

the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

The Lord will reign forever and ever.

I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

Please sit.

OFFICE HYMN

Awake, My Heart, with Gladness

Hymn 192, sts. 5-8

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Job 19:23-27

²³“Oh that my words were written!

Oh that they were inscribed in a book!

²⁴Oh that with an iron pen and lead
they were engraved in the rock forever!

²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives,
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed,
yet in my flesh I shall see God,

²⁷whom I shall see for myself,
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

My heart faints within me!”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

⁵¹Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, ⁵²in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. ⁵³For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal

body must put on immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

G **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.


HOLY GOSPEL READING

John 20:1-18

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

P But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C  Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

EASTER RESPONSORY

Psalm 96:2; Psalm 29:1–2; 1 Corinthians 15:20



- P** 1 Sing to the Lord and bless His name, proclaim His salvation from day to day.
2 Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that sleep.
3 Glory be to the
Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



C Give to the Lord all glo - ry and strength, give Him the



hon - or due His name. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Morning Breaks upon the Tomb

Hymn 203

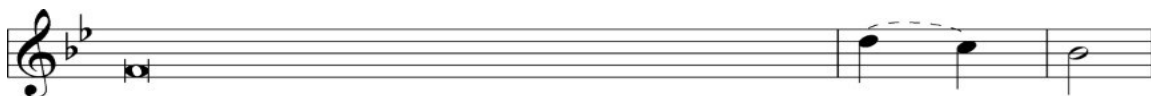
SERMON

“The Lord Provides Victory”

Please stand.

CANTICLE - TE DEUM LAUDAMUS

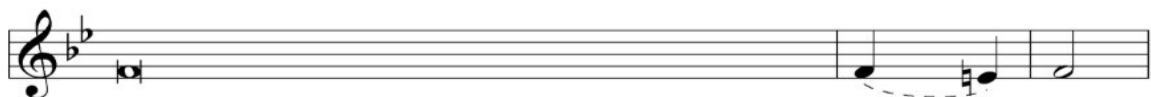
Rev. 7:9-17, Phil. 2:5-11; Ps. 89:26



1 We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord.
 2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth!
 3 The noble army of martyrs - - - - - praise Thee;



1 All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father ev - er - last - ing.
 2 Heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glo - ry.
 3 the holy Church throughout all the world doth ac - knowl - edge Thee.



1 To Thee all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the - powers there - in;
 2 The glorious company of the Apostles - - - - - praise Thee;
 3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Thine adorable true and only Son,
 4 Thou art the King of Glory, - - - - - O Christ.



1 To Thee cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
 2 The goodly fellowship of the - proph - ets praise Thee;
 3 also the Holy - - - - - Ghost, the Com - fort - er.
 4 Thou art the everlasting Son - of the Fa - ther.



5 When Thou tookest upon Thee to de - - - - - liv - er man,
 6 Thou sittest at the right - - - - - hand of God
 7 We therefore pray Thee, help Thy - - - - - serv - ants,



5 Thou didst humble Thyself to be born of a vir - gin.
 6 In the glory - - - - - of the Fa - ther.
 7 whom Thou hast redeem - ed - - - - - with Thy pre - cious blood.



5 When Thou hadst overcome the - - - sharp-ness of death.
6 We believe that - - - - - Thou shalt come
7 Make them to be number-ed - - - - with Thy saints



5 Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all be - live - ers.
6 to - - - - - be our Judge.
7 in glory - - - - - ever - last - ing.



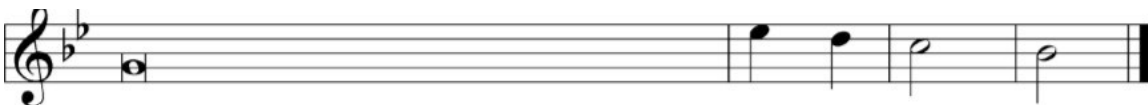
8 O Lord, save Thy people and bless thine - her - i - tage.
9 Vouchesafe, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.



8 Govern them and lift - - them up for - ev - er.
9 O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.



8 Day by day we - - - - - magni - fy Thee.
9 O Lord, let Thy mercy be upon us, as our trust is in Thee.



8 And we worship thy name ever - - - world with - out end
9 O Lord, in thee have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.

Please sit.

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

PAUSE TO PONDER

John 20:1 – “Now on the first day of the week ...” All is made new by the resurrection of Jesus! Even the day of worship has transitioned from the Old Testament’s Sabbath (Saturday) to the Lord’s Day of the New Testament (Sunday). For the Lord has made all things new: In rising from the dead as the new Adam, He has begun a new week for a new creation. We are also made new in Him — a new heart, a new life, new desires, a new outlook toward God. All this comes from our risen Lord’s grace. Especially after the sort of year we’ve had since last Easter, it sure is good news to hear that the Lord makes all things start afresh!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Holy Lord, mighty God, You have borne the sin of the world and given to us the promise of new and everlasting life. Receive our thanks for the glorious resurrection of Jesus, the Christ. Bring us with Him to our own joyful resurrection and the reunion of all Your saints. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You have established the Church as the instrument of Your saving purpose and endowed us with the gift of Your Word and Sacrament. Embolden us with the Holy Spirit, that we may be renewed in witness, sustained in trial and refreshed through the Means of Grace. Bless those who bring Your gifts and preach Your Word. Give us willing ears to hear and willing hearts to keep this Easter faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give peace, Lord, to our homes and enliven them by Christ’s resurrected life. Let the forgiveness of sins reign among husbands and wives, parents and children. Assure those who live alone that they, too, are Your children, upheld by Your right hand. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless Donald, our president, and all who make and administer our laws. Frustrate the forces of evil, and do not let our leaders cooperate with them or further their goals. Guard our armed forces as they stand watch for us at home and abroad. Let them serve with honor and integrity. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Lord, Your healing and strength are the hope of all the weary and afflicted. According to Your gracious will, give to all the sick and those who suffer healing and relief especially Frances, Dolores, Courtney, Frances, Al, Layne, Shaunna, Christine, Mike, and all those on our hearts and minds today. Grant them patience and

hope until that day when they put on new and glorious bodies raised by Christ and receive the end of all afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Most Holy Father, this is the feast of victory, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. By Your Spirit, prepare us to receive His body and blood for the strengthening of our faith in this mortal life. Build in us anticipation for the marriage supper of the Lamb, which we and all the people of God shall feast upon in His kingdom without end. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, heavenly Father, You have not let Your Holy One see corruption, but have raised Him in triumph from the dead, never to die again. Therefore, our hearts are glad and we rejoice, for our flesh also dwells secure. Since You have set Him at Your right hand, lead us to set His resurrection before us at all times, that His path of life and the fullness of joy in His presence may be known to us, until we come also to the eternal pleasures at His right hand, forevermore; for You, O Father, with the Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE KYRIE

Mark 10:47

C  Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.


THE LORD'S PRAYER

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*

THE SALUTATION

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C  And with thy Spirit.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before You in righteousness and purity forever; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C  Amen.

THE BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

[Psalm 103:1]; 2 Corinthians 13:14

P Bless we the Lord.

C  **Thanks be to God.**

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with you all.

C  **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

The Day of Resurrection

Hymn 205

LOOKING AHEAD: Christ is STILL Risen! Join us next Sunday to continue celebrating the new life He comes to bring! The Sunday after Easter is always a time to reflect on the faith of Thomas. Jesus met His disciples in the upper room and they believed...but Thomas wasn't there. A week later, Jesus came again, just to show Thomas that He really is who He says He is. And Jesus ends their encounter with words of blessing for those (us) who have not seen (like Thomas), and yet have believed! We'll see you next week! Readings are Acts 5:12-32; Revelation 1:4-18; John 20:19-31.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO Bible Class or Sunday School will be held this morning due to Easter activities. Both will resume next Sunday.

Easter Pictures - This morning, there is an Easter themed backdrop set up in the fellowship hall for you to take family pictures. Join the youth for breakfast and take a couple family photos. Just something fun for our families to do! A big thank you to the Outreach Group and to Chelsea Beck and Crystal Landry for heading this up and putting it all together.

The Voters Assembly will meet again on Monday, April 28th, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Meeting packets are in voting members mailboxes this morning.

The Wednesday night Bible Study group will resume meeting this **Wednesday at 6:30 p.m** in the family room. For more information about this group, please contact Cyndy Zoch at cyndy.zoch@gmail.com or 979-966-3166.

GEMS: All girls 5th-12th grade are invited to attend our monthly GEMS (Girls Embracing Mission Service) event next Sunday, April 27, at 2:00 here at Holy Cross. This will be our final meeting until fall! Please join us for some devotional time, a fun activity, snacks, and fellowship. Contact Ruth Meyer at 979-540-9868 with any questions. We hope to see you there!

The Ladies Aid invites everyone to join them on Tuesday, May 6th, at 6PM as they welcome Rebecca Bartelt, LCMS missionary in Taiwan, for a presentation and update on her work as a sacred music educator. Becky was last in the area in October 2022. We look forward to hearing more about the growing Lutheran Church in Taiwan and her efforts to instruct a new generation of church musicians!

Amanda Knox Scholarship Fund Raffle tickets for sale! We are raffling off two halves of an Angus/Wagyu calf including processing. Only 100 tickets will be sold and 2 tickets will be drawn from that group. Tickets are \$100 each. Proceeds benefit the Amanda Knox Memorial Scholarship Fund and will be used to pay the tuition for an incoming Faith Lutheran High School student. Another scholarship will be awarded this May. The raffle drawing will be held April 27th with processing of the calf set for the end of May. We will sell out so be sure to get your tickets today! Thank you for your support! Contact Ron and Cyndy Zoch, Cory Knox, Megan Lamont, Nikki Kueck, Rhonda and Bobby Hentschel, or Gale and Calvin Mersiovsky for more information or for tickets.

The Couples Club will have their annual BBQ Chickens on Mothers Day, May 11th. Chickens are \$14.00 and cups of sauce are \$3.00. Pick-up at the Holy Cross picnic grounds from 10:30 to 12:00. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. You may also place your order by calling J.C. & Carol Schramm at 242-3232, Danny & Judy Jurk at 242-3484, Doug & Lorie Lehmann at 242-3877, Dennis & Diann Pietsch at 542-1141, or Calvin & Gale Mersiovsky at 968-5032 **by Monday, May 5th**. Proceeds have been designated toward remodeling the inside of the picnic hall.

The Holy Cross Outreach Committee has installed a Little Free Library under the awning by the Fellowship Hall entrance. The library is a great way for everyone in the Warda community to exchange books and puzzles. The idea is for you to leave any books that you've read and want to share and take any books left by others that you would like to read. It's a great way to exchange books and not have them go unread by sitting on your shelf at home. The library is open to everyone in the community.

St. Paul Serbin will have an opening in its faculty for the 2025-2026 academic year for 1st grade. Interested individual who teach any subject area are encouraged to apply! Applicants may submit resumes to: St. Paul Lutheran School: ATTN Kelsey Schatte 1578 County Road 211, Giddings, TX 78942 or email them to kschatte@stpaulserbinschool.org. Please consider applying and sharing your gifts with our students.



The Spring Thing!

FLHS is proud to present The Spring Thing! This will be a showcase of our students' work in the fine art department, including vocal, instrumental, and handbell pieces. Please join us Wednesday, May 7th, at 7pm.

Staff Positions Available

Faith Lutheran High School will have part time openings on its faculty for the 2025-2026 academic year! Interested individuals may submit resumes to Faith Lutheran High School, PO Box 138, Warda, TX 78960, call (979) 242-2889, or email them to kueckn@flhstx.org. If you have the time and talents, please consider applying and sharing your gifts with our students. Thank you!

*Thank you to all who provided the beautiful Easter Flowers this morning.
Flowers may be picked up after the 9 a.m. Festival Service.*

The decorated cross on the front door of church this morning is given to the glory of God for all the blessings He has bestowed on our lives by Calvin and Gale Mersiovsky.

Lilies

In memory of loved ones by Danny and Judy Jurk

In memory of Carolyn Bamsch by Ralph Bamsch and family

In memory of Elmo and Helen Pietsch and Daniel Pietsch by Dennis and Diann Pietsch

In memory of Elmo and Adele Schulze and Kenneth Wiederhold by Dennis and Diann Pietsch

In memory of Otto and Alice Kunze, Glenn Kunze, and Charles Kunze by Mark and Karen Gerdes and Allen Kunze

In memory of George and Eunice Dunk and many loved ones celebrating in heaven by Daryl and Patty Schulze

In memory of Wallace Lehmann by Gary and Diane Becker and family

In memory of Roy and Ruth Lehmann by Roland and Betsy Guettler

In memory of Paul Schramm and G.A. Lindner by Ryan and Tiffany Noack and family

In memory of Elmo and Helen Pietsch, Daniel Pietsch, and Edward and Hattie Kieschnick by Curtis and Elaine Kieschnick

In memory of Peggy Varner by Brian Varner and family

In memory of Wallace Lehmann by Carol Lehmann

In memory of Carolyn Buscha, Evelyn Buscha, and Barbara Buscha by Bobby Buscha, Sr. and family

In memory of Ted Tonn by LaVerne Tonn and family

To the glory of God by Lee and Cindy Heselmeyer

Hydrangeas

In memory of Jimmie Lehmann and Carolyn Buscha by their children and their families

In memory of Billy and JoAnn Lange by Kevin and Sandra Lange and Patrick and Meghan Lange and families

PRAYER REQUESTS



Frances Gray, undergoing chemo and radiation

Dolores Wolf, recovering from knee replacement

Frances Schumann, in Towers Nursing Home for rehab/physical therapy

Courtney Wagner, scheduled to start chemo this week

Al Jurk

Layne Huenefeld

Shaunna Keilberg, friend of Brooke & Chris Kovar, recovering from surgery for breast cancer

Christine Hunt, scheduled for heart valve repair on Thursday

Mike Hensel, friend of Calvin and Gale Mersiovsky, hospitalized with an infection

Our sympathy to the family and friends of † Charles Kunze † who was called to his heavenly home on April 12th. His funeral was here at Holy Cross on Thursday.

Those who serve today: April 20, 2025 Easter Sunrise Service

Rev. Dustin Beck	Pastor
Mrs. Carol Schramm	Organist
Mr. Cory Knox	Instrumentalist
Mrs. Brenda Woelfel	Greeter
Mrs. Linda Hobratschk	Audio/Video System
Presley Landry	Acolyte

Elders on Duty
Mr. Brian Varner & Mr. Ron Zoch

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

TODAY	6:30 a.m.	Easter Sunrise Service
	7:30 a.m.	Easter Breakfast by the Youth
	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Easter Egg Hunt
WEDNESDAY		NO FLHS Chapel Here today
	11:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Jr. Confirmation
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY		Christine Out of Office
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sewing Circle
Next Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	2:00 p.m.	GEMS



Soli Deo Gloria