



# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Warda, Texas | Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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# ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

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.

*Welcome to*  
**Holy Cross Lutheran Church**  
WARDA, TEXAS - LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
PO Box 69    Warda TX 78960  
979.242.3333 [holycrosswarda.com](http://holycrosswarda.com)

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Easter Festival Service

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✠ 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:**

***Christ's Resurrection Is the Firstfruits of the New Creation***

The Lord has promised to "create new heavens and a new earth" (Is. 65:17), in which His people shall abide in peace and joy. That new creation has begun in the bodily resurrection of Christ Jesus. All the baptized belong to that new creation. Reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, they are "the offspring of the blessed of the LORD" (Is. 65:23). The Lord rejoices and is glad in them; He hears and answers their prayers. For "if in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied" (1 Cor. 15:19). But Christ Jesus has been raised, "the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Cor. 15:20). We may be "perplexed about this" (Luke 24:4), perhaps even frightened and brought to our knees, because it seems like an "idle tale" (Luke 24:11). But faith clings to the Word of Christ and finds His resurrected body — not in the tomb, but in His Holy Supper.

**PRELUDE - *Selected***

**THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL**

## WORDS OF WELCOME

*[Please stand and face the Processional Cross at the rear of the nave.]*

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** *Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!*

*Hymn 199*

## 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 an 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** - *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.**

## GLORIA PATRI

*Pg. 16ff.*

**☩** **♪** **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

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

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*This is the Feast*

*LSB Page 155*

Refrain:

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

1. Worthy is Christ the Lamb, who was slain  
Whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*
2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength  
and honor, blessing and glory are His. *Refrain*
3. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain*
4. For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. *Refrain*

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY

**☩** The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

**☩** **♪** **And with thy spirit.**

**☩** Almighty God the Father, through Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, You have overcome death and opened the gate of everlasting life to us. Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of our Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by Your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**☩** **♪** **Amen.**

[Please sit]

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

<sup>17</sup>Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. <sup>18</sup>But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness.

<sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. <sup>20</sup>No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed.

<sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. <sup>22</sup>They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. <sup>23</sup>They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them.

<sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. <sup>25</sup>The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HYMN

*Christians, to the Paschal Victim*

*LSB Hymn 460*

*(The Choir will sing the introduction to each verse in italics. The congregation sings each section where music is provided.)*

*Christians, to the Paschal Victim*

*Offer your thankful praises!*

*The Lamb the sheep has ransomed:*

*Christ, who only is sinless,*

*Reconciling sinners to the Father.*

*Death and life have contended*

*In that combat stupendous:*

*The Prince of life, who died,*

*Reigns immortal.*

1 Christ is a - ris - en From the grave's dark  
 pris - on. So let our joy rise full and free;  
 Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

*“Speak, Mary, declaring  
 What you saw when wayfaring.”  
 “The tomb of Christ, who is living,  
 The glory of Jesus’ resurrection;  
 Bright angels attesting,  
 The shroud and napkin resting.  
 My Lord, my hope, is arisen;  
 To Galilee He goes before you.”*

2 Were Christ not a - ris - en, Then death were still  
 our pris - on. Now, with Him to life re - stored,  
 We praise the Fa - ther of our Lord. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Christ indeed from death is risen,  
 Our new life obtaining.  
 Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!*

3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia! Now let our joy rise full and free;  
 Christ our com - fort true will be. Al - le - lu - ia!

## EPISTLE READING

*1 Corinthians 15:19-26*

<sup>19</sup>If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

**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

*2 Timothy 1:10b*

**C** Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**P** [Christ Jesus] abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

**C** Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 24:1-12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup>And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup>While

they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. <sup>5</sup>And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup>He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup>that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” <sup>8</sup>And they remembered his words, <sup>9</sup>and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. <sup>10</sup>Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, <sup>11</sup>but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. <sup>12</sup>But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

**℟** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**☩** **♪ 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

*Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!*

*Hymn 188*

## SERMON


“Jesus, the Firstfruits of Resurrection”

*[Please stand]*



## OFFERTORY

pg. 22

**C**  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.

*Psalm 51:10-12*

*[Please sit]*

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

**PAUSE TO PONDER:** Luke 24:6–7 – “He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” Jesus is risen. But is that Good News? What if He is mad at us for betraying Him, for running away at Gethsemane, for not believing He would rise? The Good News is not just that Jesus is risen; the Good News is that He is risen to bless us. There is no need to be alarmed. He still calls us His friends and brothers and sisters, and He means to bring us through death to resurrection as well. The Lord is risen — He is risen indeed!

*[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.

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 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. But chiefly are we bound to praise Thee for the glorious resurrection of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for He is the very Paschal Lamb which was offered for us and hath taken away the sins of the world; who by His death hath destroyed death and by His rising to life again hath restored to us everlasting life. 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>I Know that My Redeemer Lives</i>             | <i>Hymn 200</i> |
| <i>Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!</i> | <i>Hymn 191</i> |
| <i>I Am Content! My Jesus Liveth Still</i>       | <i>Hymn 196</i> |

*Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won*  
*Welcome, Happy Morning!*  
*I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table*

Hymn 201  
Hymn 202  
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]*

### **HYMN**

*He is Arisen! Glorious Word!*

Hymn 189

### **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**

*He's Risen, He's Risen, Christ Jesus, the Lord*

Hymn 198

### **POSTLUDE**

**OUTREACH THOUGHT:** Luke 24:1-12: When Mary Magdalene saw her risen Lord, she went with great excitement to tell the disciples that she had seen the Lord and related to them what Jesus had told her. We have seen our risen Lord by faith and tasted that He is good in Word and Sacrament. That sure faith inspires us to share with others the hope we have for eternity. Because Jesus lives, we live. And because Jesus lives, the person we tell can share that same life with us for eternity. What you've seen and tasted today compels you to share the Good News for life!

**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.

**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 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](mailto: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!

**The Couples Club** will have their annual BBQ Chickens on Mothers Day, May 11<sup>th</sup>. Chickens are \$14.00 and cups of sauce are \$3.00. Pick-up at the Holy Cross pic-

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 area.

**St. Paul Serbin** will have an opening in its faculty for the 2025-2026 academic year for 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## Attendance Last Sunday

Divine Service: 269

## Our Response to God's Blessings

|                                    | <u>April 6</u> | <u>April 13</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Estimated General Fund Weekly Need | \$ 5,505       | \$ 5,505        |
| Offering Received                  | \$ 7,780       | \$ 3,870        |
| Short/Over                         | \$ 2,275       | \$ (1,635)      |

*Those who serve today: April 20, 2025 Easter Festival Service*

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Rev. Dustin Beck       | Pastor             |
| Mrs. Carol Schramm     | Organist           |
| Mrs. Elaine Kieschnick | Greeter            |
| Mrs. Robin Wedgeworth  | Instrumentalist    |
| Mr. Cory Knox          | Instrumentalist    |
| Mrs. Linda Hobratschk  | Audio/Video System |
| Brayden Schramm        | Acolyte            |

Elders on Duty

Mr. Brian Varner & Mr. Ron Zoch

**CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES**

|                  |                               |                                 |
|------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| TODAY            | 6:30 a.m.                     | Easter Sunrise Worship          |
|                  | 7:00 a.m.                     | Easter Breakfast                |
|                  | 9:00 a.m.                     | Divine Service w/Holy Communion |
|                  | 10:15 a.m.                    | Kids Easter Egg Hunt            |
| WEDNESDAY        | NO FLHS Chapel here this week |                                 |
|                  | 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 Group Here                 |

*Soli Deo Gloria*

(To God alone be Glory)