



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

WARDA, TEXAS - LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

(979) 242-3333 | holycrosswarda.com | holycross@cvctx.com

600 FM 1482, Giddings TX 78942

PO Box 69, Warda TX 78960

**WHICH
OF YOU,
DESIRING
TO BUILD
A TOWER,
DOES NOT
FIRST
SIT DOWN
AND COUNT**

THE COST?



1873-2022

149 Years of God's Grace

Sharing with Everyone the Good News of Salvation Through Jesus Christ!

Divine Service
9:00 a.m.
Holy Communion
1st & 3rd Sundays

Bible Class &
Sunday School
10:15 a.m.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 69 WARD, TX 78960

Sunday, September 4, 2022

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

GUESTS AND 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.

Christ Jesus Has Paid the Cost of Discipleship for You

A disciple of Jesus Christ will *"bear his own cross"* (Luke 14:27) and follow the Lord through death into life. Discipleship is costly because it crucifies the old man with *"all that he has"* (Luke 14:33), in order to raise up the new man in Christ. The disciple disavows *"his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life"* (Luke 14:26), in deference to Christ. That way of the cross is impossible, except that Christ Jesus has already paid the cost. His cross is set before you as *"life and good, death and evil"* (Deut. 30:15). Taking up His cross is to *"choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him"* (Deut. 30:19–20). To live that life in Christ is also to bear His cross in love, *"that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord"* (Philemon 14).

Prelude - Selected

The Ringing of the Church Bell

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn: *"Praise the Almighty, My Soul, Adore Him"* *Hymn 26*

The Invocation pg. 5ff

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

C: ♪ Amen.

The Confession of Sins & 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.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: ♪ Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: ♪ And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end, that by Thy grace, we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name, He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: ♪ Amen.

The Introit: Psalm 119:28–32; antiphon: v. 27

Make me understand the way of your precepts,

and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

My soul melts away for sorrow;

strengthen me according to your word!

Put false ways far from me

and graciously teach me your law!

I have chosen the way of faithfulness;

I set your just decrees before me.

I cling to your testimonies, O LORD;

let me not be put to shame!

I will run in the way of your commandments

when you enlarge my heart!

Make me understand the way of your precepts,

and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

The Gloria Patri

pg. 6ff

♪ 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.

The Kyrie

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

The Gloria in Excelsis

♪ Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King. God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Salutation & The Collect for the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with thy spirit.

P: O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15–20

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

P: Fear the LORD, you his saints,

C: for those who fear him lack nothing!

P: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

C: but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle Reading: Philemon 1-21 (ESV)

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ²and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

[please rise and face the Pastor in the center of the nave, a sign of Christ's presence among His people]

Verse:

C: ♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

P: Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.

C: ♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:25-35 (ESV)

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

C: ♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ♪ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Apostle's Creed

pg. 12

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Sermon

“Counting the Cost”

[we stand]

The Offertory

pg. 12ff

♪ 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.

Receipt of Offerings

Pause to Ponder

Luke 14:33 – “So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.” None of what we have is ours. It all belongs to God. That is the foundation of Christian stewardship. What we have been given is to be used for God’s purposes according to our callings in home, Church, and society. As we learn to leave generously in these callings, we renounce our ownership of our wealth. It’s not “ours,” it’s His. God owns everything, and we manage for the furtherance of His goals.

Hymn:

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

Hymn 400

The Prayers of the Day

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

O God, our King, You counted the terrible cost of our salvation and sent Your Son to give His life on the cross. Inspire our hearts to trust fully in His sacrificial victory, that we would follow in His way through death and into eternal life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Divine Shepherd, You give life to Your Church through Your Holy Word. Grant Your people always to walk in Your way and receive Your blessings as they serve You in this world and in the life to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You are our life and length of days, and You set before us Your gift of life in Your Holy Word. Preserve Your institutions of marriage and family. Guard husbands and wives, parents and children, both from despising and from idolizing

one another. Instead, let every relationship in the home exemplify Your unconditional love for us in Christ, and grant that all might follow Him in their service to one another. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Good Lord, preserve us from the ways of the wicked, and prosper us in Your paths. We commend to You all who bear office in our land and ask You to make them a blessing to those they serve. Grant to us every joy in the calling You have given to us, that we might render service to You in our works of love toward our neighbor. Remember those in need of honest labor and daily bread, and give them gainful employment according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, give the strength of the Spirit to all who are suffering or in any kind of need, and especially to those we have been asked to remember, including Karen, Gale, Linda, Jerrell, Leslie, Calvin, Whitney, Robert, Loretta, Evelyn, Helen, JoAnn, Sweetpea, and all those we name in our hearts, that they may all have the courage and will to take up their crosses and follow the Savior through suffering into the joys of life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Preserve us, O Lord, from all temptation and grant us faith, that we may rest all our prayers and the desires of our hearts in Your merciful arms, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

pg. 14

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.

The Collect for the Word/Church

pg. 14

P: Blessed Lord, who has caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace, and ever hold fast, the blessed hope of everlasting life, which You have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end.

C: ♪ Amen.

The Benediction

pg. 14

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.

C: ♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.

The Closing Hymn: *“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”*

Hymn 409

Postlude

Outreach Thought

Luke 14:25-35: In His teaching, Jesus said that salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? Jesus taught that we, as His followers, are like salt on Earth to season and preserve good things. Witnessing to Jesus is the best way that we can be like salt to this world.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No Bible Class or Sunday School today due to picnic activities (flier with details is on the bulletin board). Hope to see you there! Both will resume next Sunday as usual.

A ladies ring was found at the picnic grounds during the clean up night on August 26th. If you are missing a ring, please call the church office to describe it.

The Giddings VFD will have their annual Patriot Day celebration next Saturday, September 10, at Fireman’s Park in Giddings. Cornhole tournament starts at 4PM, live auction at 6PM, and dance by Kenny Orts and No Chance at 9PM. Food will be available from Giddings Breakfast Lions Club, Outlaws BBQ, and Suzy’s Sauce. Everyone is invited to come out and support the Giddings VFD!

Fried Chicken Dinner: The St. Paul Lutheran Church Adult Fellowship in Serbin are having their 25th annual fried chicken dinner on Sunday, September 11th from 10:00-12:00 at the Serbin Picnic Grounds. Preorders are preferred; all plates are to-go and will be sold for \$12.00. If you would like to order plates please contact Susan Michael at 540-0854 or Sharon Claxton at 540-7154 by TOMORROW. All proceeds will be going toward future church/school projects. Thank You!

FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Camp Lone Star Retreat

FLHS students had a wonderful time at Camp Lone Star this past week. It was a great two days of challenge courses, Bible Study and learning about habits at/of Faith. We are thankful for this opportunity to grow together as a Falcon family!

Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered on behalf of FLHS. As we have just begun another year, we are thankful for each of you who faithfully pray and support the ministry God has created at FLHS. Thank you, on behalf of the students who will be instilled with wisdom as they become faithful leaders tomorrow, for your generous support!

Free Wednesday mornings?

Join us for our weekly Chapel Worship Service every Wednesday, beginning at 10:30 am. This week, Mr. Dan Schaefer, teacher at FLHS, will be leading chapel.

Oktoberfest

FLHS will be hosting a family friendly event on Saturday, October 22nd at the Holy Cross Picnic grounds. **New this year will be - The Battle of the Brew** - a home brew competition. Returning will be our traditional German meal, domino tournament, cornhole tournament, music, kids games, and lots of fun!

Thrivent Action Team Grants

If you are a Thrivent member willing to submit an application for a \$250 grant to be used on projects at Faith, please contact Nikki Kueck by calling (979) 242-2889. Help us to be able to take advantage of these funds for the good of our school. *We are beginning to gather grants for our Oktoberfest event on October 22nd.

Follow Us On Facebook!

With a new school year underway, you may want to see the exciting things happening inside here on a daily basis! By “liking” our Facebook page and “sharing” our posts, you will be in the loop on all the great things happening and



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR TODAY

Karen Schubert, recovering from surgery on Aug. 29th
Gale Mersiovsky, diagnosed with an ovarian tumor, referred for additional testing
Linda Lehmann, recovering from a dental procedure
Leslie Hobratschk, recovering from surgery on Aug. 10
Jerrell Dunk, thankful for successful surgery and recovery
Calvin Schimank, brother of Oranell Dunk, recovering from open heart surgery and undergoing therapy
Whitney Swearingen, daughter-in-law of Tommy & Lana Swearingen, approved for a kidney transplant, waiting on a suitable donor match
Robert Grimm, dad of Matthew Grimm, recovering from major surgery
Loretta Brugger, mom of Wayne Brugger, undergoing treatments for cancer
Evelyn Cervenka, mother of Debbie Knox, recovering from severe injuries due to an auto accident
Helen Schlotterbeck, mother of Karen Schubert, undergoing treatments for cancer
Jo Ann Fehrle, friend of Lawrine Heinrich, diagnosed with bladder cancer, scheduled to start treatments Friday
Sweetpea Brown, cousin of Howard Konetzke, under hospice care

Our sympathy to Jerrell and Oranell Dunk on the death of Jerrell's sister, Joyce Bise, on Monday, August 29th. Visitation will be all day Tuesday, Sept. 6th, at Phillips and Luckey Funeral Home in Giddings. The family will be present from 5:00-7:00p.m. Her funeral will be Wednesday, Sept. 7th, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Serbin. A private family burial will be held at the Old Cemetery here at Holy Cross.

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

September 4, 2022

Rev. Dustin Beck	Pastor
Mrs. Gina Sanders	Organist
Mrs. Carolyn Buscha	Greeter
Mr. Curtis Wedgeworth	Audio/Video System
Doug Lehmann, Allen Wolf, Ron Zoch	Elders on Duty
Vernon Smith, Jr.	Acolyte

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service Church Picnic
MONDAY		Church Office Closed
TUESDAY	7:00 p.m.	Elders
WEDNESDAY	10:30 a.m.	FLHS Chapel
	5:30 p.m.	Jr. Confirmation
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sewing Circle
THURSDAY—SATURDAY		Pastor Beck to LWML Executive Comm. Mtg. @ Camp Lone Star
SATURAY	7:00 p.m.	Couple's Club
Next Sunday		<i>14th Sunday after Pentecost</i> 9:00 a.m. Divine Service w/Holy Communion 10:15 a.m. Bible Class & Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Youth Group/Jr. Confirmation

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Worship Service: 143 Bible Class: 47

Sunday School: 18