

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Warda, Texas | Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

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For a long time he lived among the tombs...

...and Jesus said, "Return to your home...

> 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

Sunday, June 22, 2025

Second Sunday after Pentecost

+ IN NOMINE JESU +

(In the Name of Jesus)

<u>GUESTS & VISITORS</u>: 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:

Jesus Brings Release from the Bonds of Sin, Death and the Devil

The Lord finds those who did not seek Him or ask for Him. He spreads out His hands "to a rebellious people" (Is. 65:2) and calls them to be His people and to dwell in peace upon His holy mountain (Is. 65:9). For wherever Jesus Christ enters in, Satan is cast out. Those who were enslaved and driven mad by the assaults and accusations of the devil are set free by the Word of Christ. He drowns and destroys the old Adam in us with the waters of Holy Baptism and thereby brings us out of death into life. No longer naked in our shame, living "among the tombs" (Luke 8:27), we are brought into the Lord's house, fully clothed by Christ; He has come in "the fullness of time" (Gal. 4:4) to fulfill the Law on our behalf and to redeem us from its every accusation. Therefore, having been justified by His grace through faith in His Gospel, "you are no longer a slave, but a son" (Gal. 4:7).

PRELUDE - Selected

THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

WORDS OF WELCOME

[Please stand]

OPENING SENTENCES

pg. 32ff.

- P O Lord, open Thou my lips.
- ☐ ☐ And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

Psalm 51:15

- **P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

Psalm 70:1

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!

INVITATORY AND VENITE

P Oh, come, let us worship the Lord:

[Hebrews 10:22]

☐ ☐ 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.

Psalm 95:1-7

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.

PSALMODY

PSALM OF THE DAY - Psalm 74:20-24; antiphon v. 3

Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

You who have made me see many troubles and calamities will revive me again; from the depths of the earth you will bring me up again.

You will increase my greatness

and comfort me again.

I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God; I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.

My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you;

my soul also, which you have redeemed.

And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long,

for they have been put to shame and disappointed who sought to do me hurt.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come; you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

[Please sit]

OFFICE HYMN Amazing Grace LSB Hymn 744

- 1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.
- 2. The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures; He will my Shield and Portion be, As long as life endures.
- 3. Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come; His grace hath brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.
- 4. Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease, Amazing grace shall then prevail, In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5. When we've been there ten thousand years,
 Bright shining as the sun,
 We've no less days to sing God's praise
 Than when we'd first begun.

¹I was ready to be sought by those who did not ask for me; I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here am I, here am I," to a nation that was not called by my name. I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; ³a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and making offerings on bricks; who sit in tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat pig's flesh, and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels; ⁵who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all the day. ⁶Behold, it is written before me: "I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their bosom both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they made offerings on the mountains and insulted me on the hills, I will measure into their bosom payment for their former deeds." Thus says the Lord: "As the new wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,' so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. ⁹I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of my mountains; ⁹I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of my mountains; my chosen shall possess it, and my servants shall dwell there."

- P But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.
- **C □** Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

EPISTLE READING Galatians 3:23-4:7

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise:

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So

you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

- P But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.
- ☐ ☐ Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

[Please stand and face the pastor in the center of the nave, a sign of Christ's presence among His people]

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 8:26-39

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

²⁶Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. ³¹And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³²Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹"Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

- **P** But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us.
- ☐ ☐ Thanks be to Thee, O Lord!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

[Please stand]

OFFERTORY pg. 22

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

PAUSE TO PONDER: Luke 8:37 – "Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So He got into the boat and returned." The Gerasenes are upset with Jesus because His ministry led to the loss of their pig herd ³/₄ their wealth. They want Jesus to go away before He does any more damage to their bottom line. Their priorities are clear. What about our priorities? Is the work and ministry of Jesus worthy of our support and the sacrifice of some of our wealth?

[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.

Lord, You keep in perfect peace those who trust in You. Grant Your perfect peace in the world, in the Church, in the home and in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, You preserve Your Church through the ages, giving prophets and leaders who point the faithful to Your Word. Guide the Church of the Augsburg Confession throughout the world. Preserve the faithful witness of churches to the truth of God's Word, and enable the proclamation of the Gospel to all people. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, You are a shield around us, our glory and the lifter of our heads. Draw near to our homes, and keep them safe from discord and every evil intention. Give faithfulness to husbands and wives, love and respect between parents and children, and allow our homes to be havens from fear and doubt. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, You have established governments and institutions for good order and our well-being. Guide and grant wisdom to leaders and citizens. Give peace, security and good laws to our own country, our cities and our communities. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, You are the Great Physician. According to Your good and perfect will, grant healing to the sick and those who suffer. Give comfort to the grieving in their loss and peace for the dying in their last days on earth. Today we pray especially for LaVerne, Courtney, Linda, Layne and those on our hearts and minds. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, Isaiah spoke of the new wine, full of blessing, that will not be destroyed. Grant us faithfully to eat and drink Christ's body and blood given in the fellowship of this altar. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, You give abundant gifts to Your children. Give us also thankful hearts to receive Your gifts. Grant us grace in giving, that we may return to You the tithes and offerings You are due. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Dear Father, You know the condition of our souls, that we frequently wander into sins, vice and danger. Hear our prayers for the sake of Christ, who defeated legions of demons so that we might receive adoption as sons; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, 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

- ☐ ☐ 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]

- \square It is meet and right so to do.
- 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. 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

☐ ☐ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heavn'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 in the highest.

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

LORD'S PRAYER

- P Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- 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

☐ ☐ Amen.

If you are unable to climb the chancel steps without assistance, please come forward at this time.

☐ ☐ 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

Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray	Hymn 314
Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing	Hymn 360
Father of Glory, to Thy Name	Hymn 248
Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Hast Prepared	Hymn 306

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]

NUNC DIMITTIS pg. 29ff

C ☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation: which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. 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. Luke 2:29-32

THANKSGIVING AND POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
- And His mercy endures forever.
- P O God the Father, Fount and Source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness did send Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament; and we ask You not to forsake Your children, but evermore to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.
- **C A** Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

pg. 31 2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with Thy spirit.

P Bless we the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

- **□ □** Thanks be to God.
- 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
- ☐ Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

God Loved the World So that He Gave

Hymn 245

POSTLUDE

<u>OUTREACH THOUGHT</u>: Luke 8:26-39: When Jesus freed a demon-possessed man, that man in response wanted to follow Jesus to the ends of the earth. Instead, Jesus says to him: "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." Telling others about how much God has done for us is our most effective witness. May we gladly share this great news about how much God has done for us!

LOOKING AHEAD: Next Sunday, we have two important accounts in one Gospel lesson...first, Jesus sets His face to go toward Jerusalem in Luke 9:51. From this point on in St. Luke's account, Jesus' attention is fixed on His impending Passion, suffering, death, and resurrection. This is a major turning point in Luke! Immediately after this, Jesus is rejected by a Samaritan village and, although there are a few men who *seem* inclined to follow Him, Jesus warns them (and *us!*) that following Him is costly. Have YOU counted the cost? Join us next Sunday to hear more! Readings are: 1 Kings 19:9-21; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE CLASS - If you've ever looked closely at the engraved stone on the outside wall of our church, you may have noticed the letters "U.A.C." carved just below the congregation's name. U.A.C. refers to the "Unaltered Augsburg Confession." What does this mean? I'm glad you asked! We are studying the Augsburg Confession, one of the Lutheran Church's foundational documents. First presented on June 24, 1530, this confession demonstrated the Reformers' adherence to the faith once delivered to the saints and also called into question those teachings of Medieval Roman Catholicism that were contrary to the Word of God. Join us as continue our study of history, doctrine, and of course, Scripture!

The Picnic Planning meeting will be held Tuesday, July 8th, at 6PM at the picnic grounds. All committee chairmen and representatives for Ladies Aid, Youth and FLHS are asked to attend.

FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Share the Gift of Love

Faith Lutheran High School has a unique role in combining knowledge and God's love in a student's high school experience. We are partnering with families at the intersection of education and faith development. If you would like to support our ministry through a one-time or enduring gift, Thrivent Action Grant or volunteer your time and talents, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck.

** FLHS now has ACH payment options available. You can set up monthly, quarterly, or even yearly payments to FLHS without the hassle of remembering to write a check. Please contact us to learn more.

Be a Falcon!

As we prepare for the 2025-2026 academic year, we look forward to greeting many new students on campus! We offer an awesome high school experience with our caring faculty, safe Christian atmosphere, strong academics and numerous activities and athletics. If you know of a family with a high school student that would thrive in this environment, please reach out to them and us! We would love to share more about Faith! Contact us by calling (979) 242-2889 or visiting our website at www.flhstx.org.

*Any newly enrolled student at FLHS will receive \$1,000 off of their first semester tuition - Please reach out to Mrs. Kueck for more information about this.

Amazon Wish List

FLHS has created a wish list on Amazon, for needed materials for the upcoming school year. The easiest way to find it is by clicking on the link on the FLHS Facebook page or website. Thank you for your generous support!!

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 currently looking to utilize Action Grants for some summer projects!

Save the Date!

FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 25th. **The Battle of the Vines and Brew**, our home brew competitions are back, so start planning your brews now, in addition to our newest competition, **Sapientia Infiniti** (see description below). Our traditional German meal, domino tournament, auction, cornhole tournament, live music, kids games, fellowship, and lots of fun are sure to be had. Make plans to attend this wonderful event! More details and information coming soon!

Sapientia Infiniti (infinite wisdom)

Spend this year preparing an infinity bottle* of whiskey for yourself at home. Please submit a pint or half-pint of this bottle for judging. Submissions will be judged, by our judges and the attendees, in separate categories.* Infinity Bottle rules: start with a clean, empty bottle. Throughout the year, add a pour of any size from the whiskeys you've enjoyed this year. KEEP NO RECORD! The infinity bottle is intended to be unique to you and unrepeatable.



Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Gary and Diane Becker in honor of their 34th wedding anniversary today.



LaVerne Tonn, recovering from surgeries Courtney Wagner, undergoing chemo Linda Hobratschk, undergoing treatments Layne Huenefeld

Thank you for your prayers, calls, texts, and just checking in on me after my two recent surgeries. Your loving care and concern meant to much to me. I have a follow-up appointment on Tuesday to remove my stitches and am expecting God's Goodness! May God bless you! *LaVerne Tonn*

Those who serve today: June 22, 2025

Rev. Dustin Beck Pastor
Mrs. Carol Schramm Organist
Mrs. Brenda Woelfel Greeter
Mr. Curtis Wedgeworth Audio/Video System
Bryn Henderson Acolyte

Elders on Duty Mr. Cory Knox Mr. David Weishuhn

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

TODAY 9:00 a.m. Divine Service w/Holy Communion

10:15 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Class & Sunday

School

MONDAY—WEDNESDAY FLHS Art Camp

MONDAY 7:00 p.m. Constitution Committee

TUESDAY 5:30 p.m. Organists/ Pastor Beck

WEDNESDAY 10:30 a.m. Bible Study (last one till August)

THURSDAY 9:00 a.m. Sewing Circle

Next Sunday 9:00 a.m. Divine Service

10:15 a.m. Youth & Adult Bible Class & Sunday

School

Attendance Last Sunday

Divine Service: 147 Bible Class: No report

Sunday School: 17

Soli Deo Gloria

(To God alone be Glory)