



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

WARDA, TEXAS - LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

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PO Box 69, Warda TX 78960

**DO YOU THINK THAT I HAVE COME
TO GIVE PEACE ON EARTH?**

**NO,
I TELL YOU,
BUT RATHER
DIVISION.**

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, August 14, 2022

Tenth 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's Suffering and Death Bring Division

The Lord Jesus causes fear and trembling and division because His Word is *"like fire ... and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces"* (Jer. 23:29). His Law puts us all to death, whereas only His Gospel can bring us to life. He has fulfilled that Word for us by His cross and in His resurrection from the dead. He undergoes such a distressing baptism, accomplished by His death, in order to open the way for us through our Holy Baptism into His cross and resurrection. So, then, if we are able *"to interpret the appearance of earth and sky"* (Luke 12:56), let us mark this sign of His cross — recognizing that this world is subject to death, but knowing that Christ Jesus also has conquered death and obtained life everlasting for us. Let us fix our eyes on *"Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,"* and *"run with endurance the race that is set before us"* (Heb. 12:1–2).

Prelude - Selected

The Ringing of the Church Bell

Words of Welcome

Opening Hymn:

"The World Is Very Evil"

Hymn 605

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 55:1, 12–14, 16; antiphon: v. 22

*Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;
he will never permit the righteous to be moved.*

*Give ear to my prayer, O God,
and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy!*

*For it is not an enemy who taunts me—then I could bear it;
it is not an adversary who deals insolently with me—then I could hide
from him.*

*But it is you, a man, my equal,
my companion, my familiar friend.*

*We used to take sweet counsel together;
within God's house we walked in the throng.*

*But I call to God,
and the LORD will save me.*

*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.*

*Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sustain you;
he will never permit the righteous to be moved.*

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: Merciful Lord, cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 23:16–29 (ESV)

¹⁶Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. ¹⁷They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’”

¹⁸For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

¹⁹Behold, the storm of the LORD!

Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.

²⁰The anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart.

In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

²¹“I did not send the prophets, yet they ran;
I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied.

²²But if they had stood in my council,
then they would have proclaimed my words to my people,
and they would have turned them from their evil way,
and from the evil of their deeds.

²³“Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God afar off? ²⁴Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ ²⁶How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

*Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.*

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 11:17-12:3 (ESV)

¹⁷By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. ²⁰By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²²By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

²³By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. ²⁴By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, ²⁵choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷By faith he left

Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

²⁹By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

³²And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

³⁹And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

³Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

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:

Congregation:



Choir: Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD? What has straw in common with wheat?

Congregation:



Holy Gospel: Luke 12:49-56 (ESV)

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

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

⁴⁹[Jesus said:] “I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. ⁵²For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. ⁵³They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

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

Lord of hosts, You inspired Your servant Jeremiah to proclaim Your Word amid the lies of false prophets. Arm Your servants in our day with the power of Your Holy Spirit to contradict the lies of the enemy, and build up Your Church upon the eternal foundation of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You settle the solitary in families in order to nurture their faith and train them in righteousness. Bless and strengthen parents to bring up their children to resist temptation and to endure all things for the sake of Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God Almighty, behold our nation and all those in authority in Your mercy and replenish them by Your grace, that all who receive the sword would bear it according to Your Word, always inclining to Your will and walking in Your way. Grant that we might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, grant healing to the sick, especially to Steve, Zelda, Robert and all those we name in our hearts, strength to the weak, endurance to bear up under trial, patience to await His deliverance and peace at the last. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, Your Son promises division even as He promises salvation. Inspire our hearts to prize our Baptism and the communion of the saints above all other relations in this world, even as we fervently pray and strive for the salvation of those we know and love. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear us, most merciful Father, in these our humble requests, which we offer unto You in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **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: *“The Son of God Goes Forth to War”* *Hymn 452*

Postlude

Outreach Thought

Luke 12:49-53 (54-56): It's not easy to be an effective witness concerning the faith we have in Jesus in this world that is so ready and willing to compromise the truth. In addition, we have a natural, sinful tendency to be timid in sharing our faith. We may also fear being rejected by a friend or a neighbor who is not currently a Christian, or who may disagree on the stand that Scripture clearly takes. In our Gospel reading for today, Jesus clearly states that He did not come to bring peace but division - on purpose! This does not mean that Jesus is not the great Prince of Peace, but it does mean that when a person is confronted by Jesus, they have to take a stand for either the truth of God or the falsehood of the world. There is no gray area. By the grace of God and with the gentleness of the Spirit, let's do what we can to help others take the stand on the truth that is the difference between life and death!

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bible Class - WHAT IS WORSHIP? Adult Bible Class' current topic for study is Worship. It's the quintessential activity of Christians throughout history. It's a lens through which the entire Bible can be explored and understood. It's been the backdrop for some of the most beautiful music ever composed, and for some of the fiercest arguments ever fought...Join us as we delve into the **Scriptural basis** for worship; as we walk through the **history and tradition** that led to the views of worship espoused in the Lutheran Confessions; and as we study the ins and outs of our own liturgy **so that Sunday mornings will make more sense!** If anything about worship has ever made you scratch your head, join us! Answers (as well as coffee and snacks) are always free!

2nd Sunday Special Music - This morning we are blessed to have a few members who will share their musical gifts with us during worship. Our hope is that more singers and musicians will be interested in being a part of this project, and may even one day become a choir. If you would like to assist in singing or instrumental music (right now, it will be on the 2nd Sunday of each month and special church holidays), please talk with one of our organists or with Pastor Beck.

Our picnic is just a few weeks away! Picnic work lists have been put out; please let your chair person or Chris know if any changes need to be made. Auction items can be brought by the church office during regular office hours. Also, the Ladies Aid is taking pre-orders for sides. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board this morning or you can call Cyndy Zoch at 966-3166 or the church office at 242-3333 to place your orders.

The WOOD, PIT CLEANING & PREPARATION group will meet at the picnic grounds on Friday evening, August 26th, starting at 5:30pm to get things ready for the picnic. This group includes **ALL BBQ Cookers** plus David Lehmann, J.C. Schramm, Lance Schramm, Layne Schramm, Bobby Hentschel, Ryan Hentschel, Tommy Swearingen, Daniel Bamsch, Phillip Wagner, Wayne Brugger, Calvin Mer-siovsky, David Weishuhn, Brandon Weishuhn, Randy Schramm, Darrell Schubert, Darrick Schubert, and Curtis Kieschnick.

In addition, the Young Adult Fellowship group and anyone else who is willing is asked to come and help (also at 5:30) and get things set up for the picnic. Benches will be set up and pressure washed, the patio area cleaned up and washed, and the inside of the picnic hall cleaned.

Everyone should bring their own refreshments and anyone interested in bringing snacks to share when the work is done is welcome to do so. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be served following the work. If you will come help, please RSVP to the church office, Chris Kovar or Scott Schramm so we will be sure and have enough food.

Personal Care Kits - The Ladies Aid is collecting items for personal care health kits that will be assembled and sent to Lutheran World Relief. We are currently just needing light weight, dark colored bath towels (between 20” x 40” and 52” x 27”). They can be left in the hallway by the food pantry items for the next few weeks. Thank you!

The Lincoln VFD annual picnic and fundraiser is next weekend, August 20 & 21, at the Lincoln Community Center. Saturday starts at 12:30PM with 42 domino Tournament registration. Music and concessions start at 3PM, hamburgers by Trail Life Troop 143 at 5PM, and live auction at 6:30PM. Sunday they will have their famous fried chicken dinner with serving starting at 11AM until sold out. Everyone is invited to come out and enjoy the weekend!

FAITH LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

New Student Registration

We are overjoyed to have **16 students** registered for the 2022-2023 school year. Prospective families continue to call and tour the school, and we continue to add more students to our family. FLHS offers a Christ-centered education, a rigorous college prep curriculum, and small class sizes. You can receive registration materials by visiting our website, at www.fhlstx.org, or calling (979) 242-2889. Tuition scholarships are available.

First Day of School

Please keep our faculty and students in your prayers as classes begin Wednesday, August 17th. Final preparations are underway in preparation for the big day!

Opening Service

Please join us on Sunday, August 21st at 3 pm as we will officially open our sixth academic school year. “Build Up” based on 1 Thessalonians 5:11 is the theme for 2022-2023. A worship service will be held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Warda. The service will be led by our association Pastors. Offering will be collected to support the FLHS Scholarship Fund. A potluck dessert and punch reception will follow.

Thank You!

Thank you for all the prayers and support you have offered on behalf of FLHS. As we prepare to begin 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!

Help us clear our 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 as we provide the necessary materials and supplies for our students and staff!

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.

2022 -2023 Faculty and Staff

Mrs. Chelsea Beck - Part-time History, English, Spanish, Art

Pastor Dustin Beck - Part-time Religion

Ms. Kristin Becker - Science, Math, Technology

Mr. Jonathan Kueck - Religion, English, Health

Mrs. Nikki Kueck - Administrator, History, Math, Electives

Mrs. Jane Obersat - Part-time German, Art, Library

Mr. Dan Schaefer - Part-time History, Music

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Mr. Dan Schaefer - Part-time History, Music



PRAYER REQUESTS FOR TODAY

Steve Green, in St. David's Central following a stroke
Zelda Richards, cousin of Carolyn Bamsch, in St. David's South
Robert Grimm, dad of Matthew Grimm, scheduled for major surgery on Wednesday

THOSE WHO SERVE TODAY

August 14, 2022

Rev. Dustin Beck	Pastor
Mr. John Gay	Lector
Mrs. Ann Bamsch	Organist
Mrs. Lorie Lehmann	Greeter
Mr. Mike Tabbert	Audio/Video System
Jonathan Kueck, Dennis Pietsch, J.C. Schramm	Elders on Duty
Vernon Smith & Elijah Kueck	Acolyte

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	11:00 a.m.	Youth Group
WEDNESDAY	1st Day of 2022/2023 School Year!	
	6:30 p.m.	LWML Fall Rally Planning Meeting
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sewing Circle
Next Sunday	<i>11th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	
	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	3:00 p.m.	FLHS Opening Worship

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

Worship Service: 162 Bible Class: 42

Sunday School: 17