



# Holy Cross Lutheran Church

WARDA, TEXAS - LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

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## SO YOU, SON OF MAN,



## I HAVE MADE A WATCHMAN FOR THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL.

1873-2023

150 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.

*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, September 10, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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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:** *Living as Humble Little Children of the Father*

True greatness is not self-sufficient strength, but humility like that of a little child. The greatness of childlike faith receives all good things as gracious gifts from our Father in heaven. Apart from such faith, "*you will never enter the kingdom of heaven,*" but whoever is humbled like a little child will be "*the greatest in the kingdom of heaven*" (Matt. 18:3–4). Though in our sin we deserve to be "*drowned in the depth of the sea*" (Matt. 18:6), we have instead been drowned ("buried") with Christ in Baptism and then raised to the new, humble life of a child of God. The Lord sends His watchman to warn us with a word from His mouth, in order that we may not die in our iniquity but be turned from our pride and selfishness to live (Ezek. 33:7–9). Thus, we live in humility and faith before God as well as in love for our neighbor, which "*is the fulfilling of the law*" (Rom. 13:10). In the reverent fear of God, we do no harm to our neighbor, but we "*pay to all what is owed to them*" (Rom. 13:7) and we "*owe no one anything, except to love each other*" (Rom. 13:8).

**PRELUDE - *Selected***

# THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN

“O Faithful God, Thanks Be to Thee”

Hymn 321

*[Please stand]*

### 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

*Psalm 92:1-4, antiphon v. 5*

How great are your works, O Lord!

**Your thoughts are very deep!**


It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

**to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**

to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
    **and your faithfulness by night,**  
to the music of the lute and the harp,  
    **to the melody of the lyre.**  
For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;  
    **at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**  
How great are your works, O Lord!  
    **Your thoughts are very deep!**

## GLORIA PATRI

*Pg. 16ff.*


**C**  **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

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

*Mark 10:47*

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**C**  **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.**

*Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT FOR THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C**  **And with thy spirit.**

**P** O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C**  **Amen.**

*[Please sit]*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Ezekiel 33:7-9*

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

**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

*Romans 13:1-10*

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other command-

ment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”<sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

**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

*Matthew 5:3*

**C** **♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**P** Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

**C** **♪ Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 18:1-20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

**C** **♪ Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”<sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them<sup>3</sup>and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.<sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.


<sup>5</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me,<sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

<sup>7</sup>“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes!<sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire.<sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

<sup>10</sup>“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.<sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost.<sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?<sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.<sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup>“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

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

**C**  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  $\text{✠}$  of the world to come. Amen.

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker”*

*Hymn 34*


## SERMON

“Keeping Watch”

*[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

**PAUSE TO PONDER:** Matthew 18:4 – “Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” What does it mean to have childlike faith? Certainly Jesus does not want us to have a faith that is childish — we are not called to ignorance or silliness. Rather, we are called to trust the way a child trusts: with complete confidence in the Father. We show that confidence in our lives when we follow His directives for our life. Father knows best, so we’ll take His advice!

*[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.

Blessed Lord, You have promised that where two or three are gathered in Your name, You are in the midst of them. Hear the prayers of Your people, and grant our supplications. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, You have sent us pastors as watchmen. Let them be ever faithful in calling sinners to repentance and joyfully announcing Your forgiveness to those who heed their warning. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious Father, because You have made us our brother’s keeper, fill us with care for the members of our earthly families and for our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive our sins and strengthen us to live so that we owe no one anything except to love each other. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Righteous God, You give leaders to every nation and people. Grant us good and wise public servants to bear the sword righteously, defending the innocent and punishing wrongdoers. Guard those who protect us, especially our armed forces, police and firefighters. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



Merciful Lord, look with compassion upon those who are struggling with illness, grief, loneliness or any malady especially Carolyn, Becky, Louis, and all those we name in our hearts today. Reassure them of Your love, which is like that of the shepherd who seeks and saves the one lost sheep. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, grant that we would receive Christ's body and blood with childlike faith. Let us humbly trust that Your forgiveness is poured out for us in this Sacrament. May it strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, because You desire that none of Your little ones should perish and because sin is constantly crouching at our door, we beg You to call us back to Yourself when we are tempted to stray. Deliver us from temptation, and keep us in the faith. Make us humble like little children, seeing how Your Son humbled Himself for us and for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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. 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.**

**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

*"All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall"*

*Hymn 369*

*"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"*

*Hymn 370*

*"Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"*

*Hymn 371*

*"Though Jesus' Blood and Merit"*

*Hymn 372*

*"By Grace I'm Saved, Grace Free and Boundless"*

*Hymn 373*

## 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,

**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  $\text{✠}$  and give Thee peace.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**C** *♪* **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

*“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*

*LSB Hymn 709*

The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his And he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow, My ransomed soul he leadeth  
And, where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid And home rejoicing brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill With thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And, oh, what transport of delight From thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days Thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise Within thy house forever!

## **POSTLUDE**

**OUTREACH THOUGHT:** Matthew 18:1-20: How would you describe your “church” community? The very name, “church,” tells people that we are a “fellowship of the forgiven” and the Body of Christ (Matthew 16:18). The Church serves to build a community that helps each other with our imperfections, our unhealthy patterns, and the way we sin against each other and ourselves. We are indeed very unfortunate if we have no one to help us with our sinfulness and imperfections, with our deficits in character, with the pieces of our personalities which are not so healthy. We ALL have these imperfections, these flaws, these deficits, and that includes everyone we come into contact with in the world today. There is no exception. So, we have something to reach out to with them - HOPE. We are fortunate because we have church, we have a community, and a fellowship where brothers and sisters in the faith will speak honestly with you about your weaknesses in order to help you mature and grow into wholeness. The church is your family who loves you with honesty about both your strengths and your weaknesses. Christ's blood on the Cross gives us the privilege and the responsibility to take the first step to confront sin in one another so sin doesn't rule the day, grace does. What a joy to be a part of the fellowship of the forgiven and to know the grace that wins the day so peace can comfort the soul.

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sunday Morning Bible Class** will begin a new study of the book of Revelation starting TODAY. Dragons, beasts, and plagues...armies of angels, martyrs, and a slaughtered lamb...If you've never studied Revelation, or if it's a book that intimidates you, this will be a class you won't want to miss. We'll talk about the importance of Revelation; its place in the Bible; why it's not really a scary book for Christians; what some of the strange visions and images are really all about; and more. This study will provide an overview of the book and a chapter by chapter survey of the material. Please plan to join us as we take up the last book of the Bible and learn of the great comfort and hope that it imparts!

**There's a NEW Sunday morning Bible Class** for our post-Confirmation youth. If you've been confirmed, this one might just be a good fit for you! Chelsea Beck will be leading this discussion-based class for our high school and college age students. Join in each Sunday to dive deeper into the faith and to continue your growth beyond Confirmation and into navigating life as a Christian adult!

The **Men's Club of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church**, La Grange, annual **BBQ chicken & sausage dinner** is TODAY from 11 AM to 12:30 PM. Plates will be available by drive through only at the church's parking lot at 800 N. Franklin. The meal includes half a barbecued chicken, sausage, homemade noodles, pinto beans, bread and sauce. Tickets are \$15 each and will be available in the drive through line.

**Sunday, September 17th: Lee County 4-H Annual Fried Chicken Dinner** at the Lincoln Community Hall in Lincoln. Drive-thru only from 10:00-12:30. Plates are \$15 each. Tickets can be purchased at the Lee County Extension Office at 310 St. Grimes St. in Giddings or in line on the 17th.

**WENDISH FEST:** The 35th Annual Wendish Fest will be hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church and the Texas Wendish Heritage Society on Sunday, September 24, 2023 @ Serbin, Texas. Guest speaker for the 8:30 English Church Service and the 10:30 German Church Service will be Rev. Dr. Gerald Paul (serving in Grad Cayman), Rev. John Schmidt, St. Paul Serbin (English Liturgy), and Rev. Thomas Ober-sat of Ebenezer Manheim (German Liturgy). Church tours will be offered @ 12:30 & 1:30p.m. The day will offer lots of Wendish history, heritage, culture and family activities @ the St. Paul Picnic Grounds. Tickets for the traditional Wendish noon meal will go on sale at 10:30 a.m. Adults are \$15 and children \$6. To-Go and drive-thru will also be available at 9:30 – all take-out meals are \$15. The joy of polka music will be shared throughout the day by The Shiner Hobo Band, and students of St. Paul Lutheran School will present Ptači Kwas (Wendish Bird Wedding). The Texas

Wendish Heritage Museum Complex will feature Wendish folkways, demonstrations and exhibits, a German Christmas Market and the traditional decorated Wendish Easter Egg demonstrations and sales. Research and genealogy assistance will be available. Wendish Fest is made possible through the work of many volunteers. We appreciate each and every one! For information contact 979-366-2441 or [museum@texaswendish.org](mailto:museum@texaswendish.org) or [www.texaswendish.org](http://www.texaswendish.org)



**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!

**7th and 8th Grade Visit Day** 8th grade students from our area private schools will be joining us in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 20th, and 7th grade students will be joining us in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 27th. This annual visit event is a great opportunity for future students to see what FLHS is all about and what high school might look like. If you have a 7th or 8th grader, and would like to bring them for visit day, please contact Mrs. Nikki Kueck at (979) 242-2889.

**7th and 8th Grade Game Night** FLHS will be hosting a game night for 7th and 8th grade students on Friday, September 29 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm at Faith Lutheran High School. We will have lots of food, fun, and fellowship!

**Save the Date!** FLHS's annual Oktoberfest will be Saturday, October 28th. New this year will be **The Battle of the Vines**, in addition to **The Battle of the Brew** - both are home brew competitions, so start planning your brews now. Returning will be our traditional German meal, domino tournament, cornhole tournament, music, kids games, fellowship, and lots of fun!

**Retreat Success** FLHS students were privileged to spend last Thursday and Friday at Camp Lone Star. This was part of our annual student retreat. Students were able to participate in challenge courses, learn about conflict-resolution from a Biblical perspective, grow together as a family, and have loads of fun!

# Altar Flowers



**Altar flowers** are given to the glory of God in honor of Diann Pietsch's 30 years of teaching Sunday School here at Holy Cross by the Holy Cross Sunday School.

**Pulpit Stand flowers** are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Pastor Thomas Hoyt by James & Nancy Teinert.

## PRAYER REQUESTS



Carolyn Jurk, in Towers Rehab for physical therapy  
Becky Urban, niece of Linda and David Lehmann, now at home and walking with a walker. She has greatly improved and continues to receive rehab. Special thank you to all of you who prayed for her and asked about her condition. Prayers work and she is a great example of that.  
Louis Jakiel (son of Wendy Wagner's co-worker) in ICU following surgeries for a serious motorcycle accident last week

Dear Friends,

My family and I look forward to eating the delicious food from the Warda Picnic every Labor Day weekend and have attended for many years. This year's brisket, pork, and chicken were the best ever. Same for the tasty bakery, jams, and sides.

What a wonderful tradition for Holy Cross. My father and mother both worked at the picnic for many years, and now my brother, Leonard Lehmann, proudly works the chicken pit.

A big thanks to ALL the committed, hardworking men and ladies who make Holy Cross Annual Picnic so successful. *Alice Lehmann Farrack*

*Those who serve today: September 10, 2023*

Rev. Dustin Beck	Pastor
Mrs. Ann Bamsch	Organist
Mrs. Melissa Alford	Greeter
Mr. Shea Kasper	Audio/Video System
Lillian Carey & Rayli Woelfel	Acolytes
Elders on Duty	
Mr. Doug Lehmann	
Mr. Brian Varner	
Mr. Ron Zoch	

**CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES**

TODAY	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service w/Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	11:15 .am.	Youth & Jr. Confirmation (2nd year)
WEDNESDAY	Pastor Beck to LWML EC Mtg. through Friday	
	10:30 a.m.	FLHS Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	Sewing Circle
Next Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service
	10:15 a.m.	Bible Class & Sunday School
	11:15 a.m.	Jr. Confirmation (2nd year)

**Attendance Last Sunday**

Divine Service: 78

*Soli Deo Gloria*

(To God alone be Glory)