



LUKE 2:40

**First Sunday after Christmas  
Service of Prayer & Preaching  
December 28-29, 2024**

# AS WE GATHER

**ATTENDANCE PADS:** We invite members and guests alike to take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. Please provide contact information if you are interested in membership or if you would like to be contacted by the church. After signing, please pass it to your neighbor and then return it to its spot by the aisle.

**LIVE-STREAMING of 8 AM SERVICE WEEKLY:** Holy Cross live streams the 8 AM service each Sunday on a link at our website ([hcross.com](http://hcross.com)). We provide this service for our members who cannot attend worship. The video perspective from the choir loft looks toward the altar and shows all aspects of the service from the sixth row of pews forward. This includes baptisms, children's talks, and communion.

## Prayers for Worship

### ***On entering a church***

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

### ***Before worship***

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.



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Hymn: Let All Together Praise Our God

LSB 389, sts., 1-3, 6-7/Please Stand



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His  
 2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an  
 3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -  
 6 He is the key and He the door To bless - ed  
 △ 7 Your grace in low - li - ness re - vealed, Lord Je - sus,



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To  
 in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies  
 at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The  
 par - a - dise; The an - gel bars the way no more. To  
 we a - dore And praise to God the Fa - ther yield And



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.  
 in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.  
 splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.  
 God our prais - es rise, To God our prais - es rise.  
 Spir - it ev - er - more; We praise You ev - er - more.

Opening Versicles

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** **Teach me Your paths.**
- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** **Your Word is truth.**

- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
- C** **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.**

Old Testament Reading: 1 Kings 3:4-15

*Please sit*

- L** A reading from First Kings, the third chapter.

**T**he king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward You. And You have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give Your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern Your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this Your great people?"

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days."

<sup>15</sup>And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Epistle: Ephesians 1:3–14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love <sup>5</sup>He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of His will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of His glorious grace, with which He has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, <sup>8</sup>which He lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of His will, according to His purpose, which He set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In Him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of His glory. <sup>13</sup>In Him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in Him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of His glory.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Holy Gospel: Luke 2:40–52

*Please stand*

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

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when He was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing Him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for Him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for Him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. <sup>48</sup>And when His parents saw Him, they were astonished. And His mother said to Him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, Your father and I have been searching for You in great distress."

<sup>49</sup>And He said to them, "Why were you looking for Me? Did you not know that I must be in My Father's house?" <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that He spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And He went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

Children's Message

*Sunday*

Responsory

**L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Hymn of the Day: Within the Father's House

LSB 410



1 With-in the Fa-ther's house The Son has found His home,  
2 The doc-tors of the Law Gaze on the won-drous child  
3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might-y truth to know,  
4 The se-cret of the Lord Es-capes each hu-man eye,



And to His tem-ple sud-den-ly The Lord of life has come.  
And mar-vel at His gra-cious words Of wis-dom un-de-filed.  
To lift the earth-ly veil that hides In-car-nate God be-low.  
And faith-ful pon-d'ring hearts a-wait The full e-piph-a-ny.

**5 Lord, visit Thou our souls  
And teach us by Thy grace  
Each dim revealing of Thyself  
With loving awe to trace**

**△ 6 Till we behold Thy face  
And know as we are known  
Thee, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Coequal Three in One.**

Sermon

Hymn: A Great and Mighty Wonder

LSB 383



1 A great and might - y won - der, A full and ho - ly cure:  
 2 The Word be - comes in - car - nate And yet re - mains on high,  
 3 While thus they sing your Mon - arch, Those bright an - gel - ic bands,  
 4 Since all He comes to ran - som, By all be He a - dored,  
 5 All i - dols then shall per - ish And Sa - tan's ly - ing cease,



The vir - gin bears the in - fant With vir - gin hon - or pure!  
 And cher - u - bim sing an - thems To shep - herds from the sky.  
 Re - joice, O vales and moun - tains, And o - ceans, clap your hands.  
 The in - fant born in Beth - l'em, The Sav - ior and the Lord.  
 And Christ shall raise His scep - ter, De - cree - ing end - less peace.

*Refrain*



Pro - claim the Sav - ior's birth: "To God on high be



glo - ry And peace to all the earth!"

Ten Commandments

*Please Stand*

- ☐ **You shall have no other gods.**
- You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.**
- Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**
- Honor your father and your mother.**
- You shall not murder.**
- You shall not commit adultery.**
- You shall not steal.**
- You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's house.**
- You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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 Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.

## Offering

*Please Sit*

*As offerings are gathered, please take a moment to sign the red fellowship pad located at the end of the pew by the center aisle. If you are interested in membership, please provide a phone number or email address so that we may contact you.*

## Lord's Prayer

*Please Stand*

**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.



## Prayer of the Church

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## Collect of the Day

- L** Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; 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.**

## Collect for the Word

- L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## Luther's Evening Prayer

Saturday

- C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## Luther's Morning Prayer

Sunday

- C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

Serving in God's House Today		
Preacher		Pastor Jason P. Kohm
Organist		Andy Goodman
Elder	Saturday, 3PM	Sol Conrad
	Sunday, 8 AM	Mike Claxton
	Sunday, 10:45AM	Bruce Richardson
Ushers	Saturday, 3PM	Refer to Elder
	Sunday, 8AM	Refer to Elder
	Sunday, 10:45AM	David Weseman, Kathy Weseman
Cover: Luke 2:40 Hand-lettered Art Print Instant Digital <a href="https://img1.etsystatic.com/113/0/8567029/il_fullxfull.922381305_1wiz.jpg">https://img1.etsystatic.com/113/0/8567029/il_fullxfull.922381305_1wiz.jpg</a> Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.		

## Blessing

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** **Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: From East to West

LSB 385



1 From east to west, from shore to shore Let ev - 'ry  
2 Be - hold, the world's cre - a - tor wears The form and  
3 For this how won - drous - ly He wrought! A maid - en,  
4 And while the an - gels in the sky Sang praise a -  
△ 5 All glo - ry for this bless - ed morn To God the



heart a - wake and sing The ho - ly child whom  
fash - ion of a slave; Our ver - y flesh our  
in her low - ly place, Be - came, in ways be -  
bove the si - lent field, To shep - herds poor the  
Fa - ther ev - er be; All praise to You, O



Mar - y bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing king.  
mak - er shares, His fall - en crea - tures all to save.  
yond all thought, The cho - sen ves - sel of His grace.  
Lord Most High, The one great Shep - herd, was re - vealed.  
Vir - gin - born, And Ho - ly Ghost e - ter - nal - ly.

## Silent Prayer & Chimes



# Holy Cross Lutheran Church & Preschool

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David Gilson  
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Morgan Calcaterra  
*Preschool Director*



With the help of God,  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
grows disciples  
and transforms hearts  
for Christ.