



# THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

January 19, 2025

## *Jesus' First Miracle Reveals God's Glory*

The coming of the Messianic kingdom means the restoration of creation. The sign of this restoration is that *"the mountains shall drip sweet wine"* (Amos 9:11–15). When the elements of a fallen creation fail and run short at a wedding feast, our Lord Jesus steps in to restore creation and miraculously changes water into an abundance of the very best wine (John 2:1–11). With this sign, Christ manifests His glory. The *"back"* of God (Ex. 33:12–23) is revealed to those who believe. The hour will come when Jesus will again manifest His glory by taking creation's curse into His own body to release us from its power. The Bridegroom will give His life for the Bride (Eph. 5:22–32), and from His side will flow water and blood, the holy sacraments by which she is cleansed and made one with Him. Through this sacrificial love of Christ we are enabled to *"love one another with brotherly affection . . ."* and to *"outdo one another in showing honor"* (Rom. 12:6–16).

**Welcome to our guests and members!** Let us rejoice together in the presence of our gracious Lord! If you are new to Holy Cross, or just visiting, please be sure to sign our guest book and fill out an attendance card found in your pew. We hope you will join with us in worship again.

**Cell Phones & Devices** - Please remember to silence these during today's service. Thank you!

**Cry Room Available** - If you exit the rear of the sanctuary into the narthex, the room is on the right. Please feel free to rejoin the service at any time.

**Fruits of God's Love:** Sunday, January 12: 61; Bible Study: 24; Sunday School: 9

**Please fill out an attendance card** and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

**Stewardship Thoughts - John 2:5** – **"His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever He tells you.'"** What must Mary have thought when Jesus replied, "What does this have to do with Me?" But she knew this: whatever her Son said to do would be a blessing, so she knows what advice to give to the servants: Do whatever He tells you! That's still good advice for us in every aspect of our lives — including in our generosity toward the Lord's work in the church.

**Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life**— Perhaps we could raise the level of respect and honor for marriage if we focused less on what it isn't and more upon what it is, and teach, as Paul, that "it refers to Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:32b). *Lord, help us see marriage as a picture of Your sacrificial and loving relationship to Your Church. Amen.*

**SWADDLING CLOTHES:** We will have a meeting on Monday, January 27th at 5:30 pm. All are welcome to attend. We will have workdays on Wednesday, January 29th and February 5th at 10:30 am. We appreciate any and all help! Our next center opening will be Saturday, February 8th (10:00 am - 1:00 pm). If you would like to volunteer please sign up on the SC bulletin board. For more information please contact Nancy Neill (816)556-6555 or email @ nancyneill78@gmail.com. Thank you!



**Thank you Holy Cross members** - for all your cards, greetings, and gifts over the Christmas season! We've been abundantly blessed! -Pastor, Rebekah, and Greta

**Our regular Voter's meeting** will be NEXT Sunday, January 26th at 11:30 am.

**If you'd like to be included** in email announcements from Holy Cross, please make sure we have your email address. You can send an email to [holycrosscnews@gmail.com](mailto:holycrosscnews@gmail.com) to make sure you are on our list.

**The theme of the 2025 Faith of Our Father Conference** is **"The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace"**. The proper understanding of the Law of God is essential for a Christian. Unfortunately, there has been much disagreement in American Lutheranism concerning the role of the Law in the Church. Last year, we focused on the dangers of antinomianism, the importance of the third use of the law, and how these topics have impacted the Missouri Synod's preaching and teaching in recent years. This year, we will be focusing on the beautiful harmony of God's Law and Gospel and how His promises shape the Christian life. Over two days, **February 28<sup>th</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Collinsville, IL**, we will learn about and discuss the Law of God. This conference is for both laity and pastors. Come join us for good theology, fellowship, and maybe even a little fun with some fellow Lutherans! **Speakers and preachers include:** Speakers: Rev. Ben Ball; Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss; Rev. Dr. Thomas Egger; Rev. Dr. Gifford Grobien; Rev. Andrew Packer; Rev. Andrew Preus; Rev. David Ramirez; Rev. Joshua Scheer; Rev. William Weedon; and, Rev. Andy Wright. Learn more and register for the conference at: <https://yourgrandfatherschurch.org/>.

**Message from Missie and the Youth Group Kids:** The Youth Group will hold their annual "Souper-Bowl" FUN-Raiser on Saturday, February 8th from 4:30-6:00 pm. We need six pots of Soup/Chili. If interested in entering, see Missie or Terrie. Our 2024 winners were, Pastor Meissner, Randy Wilson & Rich Rusche! You don't need to enter to come join the fun and vote!!! Tickets may be purchased to vote for your favorite chili; \$0.25 per ticket or 5/\$1.00. Voting will be cut off at 5:30 pm and the winners announced shortly after. Come & join the fun!

## On the Calendar

<b>Sunday, January 19:</b>	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Study & Sunday School .....	8:45 A.M.
	<b>Divine Service</b> .....	<b>10:00 A.M.</b>
<b>Monday, January 20:</b>	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel.....	9:15 A.M.
<b>Tuesday, January 21:</b>	Men's Bible Breakfast.....	7:00 A.M.
	Matins.....	8:00 A.M.
<b>Wednesday, January 22:</b>	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	Bible Study.....	9:00 A.M.
	Youth Catechesis.....	6:00 P.M.
<b>Thursday, January 23:</b>	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel.....	9:15 A.M.
<b>Saturday, January 25:</b>	Matins.....	8:30 A.M.
<b>Sunday, January 26:</b>	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Study & Sunday School.....	8:45 A.M.
	<b>Divine Service</b> .....	<b>10:00 A.M.</b>
	Regular Voter's Meeting.....	11:30 A.M.

**Please join the Christ Lutheran Young Adult Group** for games and snacks on February 15th from 1-4 p.m. in the Ephphatha Room. Circuit church's YA groups are also invited so come enjoy fellowship with other Lutherans! Bring a board or card game and a snack to share. This event is for those aged 18-40. Please RSVP at <https://forms.gle/SDxaJsWMk7f4E4g9A>. Christ Lutheran Church 6700 NW 72<sup>nd</sup> Street Platte Woods, MO 64151.

**Men's Dart Ball Team** - Our congregation is seeking to field a team for the Kansas City - North Circuit Dart ball league. Like last year, games are played at Christ Lutheran Church, Platte Woods on Thursday nights at 7pm, every second Thursday of the month, Feb-May. Interested? Contact Mike Schaunaman at 816-507-0974.

**The 2025 Flower Chart** is posted in the breezeway. Consider ordering an arrangement to observe a significant event in your life and beautify the church. **Arrangements are \$28.00 each. Checks should be made payable to "Chancel Guild."**

**2025 Giving Envelopes** are available for pick-up in the Narthex on the table near the elevator. Even if you participate in on-line giving, please still pick up your envelopes. Each box of envelopes contains special service envelopes that you may want to use throughout the year. Please don't use your new envelopes until January. Contact the church office with any questions.

**GIVING MADE EASY**— You may now make a one-time donation or set up recurring contributions through our website's *eGiving* donation page. The eGiving option is secure, fast, and easy to use. You can donate by visiting [www.holycrosskc.org](http://www.holycrosskc.org) and selecting "eGiving" or by simply scanning this QR code, which takes you directly to our eGiving page. Please contact the church office at 816-452-9113 if you have any questions.



**The Large Catechism** - Join us every Sunday, and bring a friend, as we study the Large Catechism in Sunday morning Bible Class (8:45 am in the Fellowship Hall). Copies will be provided.

**Portals of Prayer**—The January –March edition of Portals of Prayer is available on the cabinet in the Narthex. Please consider leaving a donation for your copy. A standard issue costs the church \$2, and a large print copy costs the church \$3.

**The Board of Christian Mercy** continues to collect non perishable food and paper products for the three Northland pantries that we support: MLM, Turning Point and Northland Cathedral. **The Christian Mercy Board will take food to the food donation locations every THREE months.** Please bring your donations to the box in the coat room any Sunday (or any other day) is fine. Please see the newsletter for a list of needed items. Thanks for your support!

**LIVE DAILY LUTHERAN CHAPEL SERVICE...** You can listen to a live chapel service weekdays from Concordia Theological Seminary—Fort Wayne, IN. Lutheran Talk Radio streams Morning Chapel from Kramer Chapel at 9 a.m. Central Mondays through Fridays. You can listen at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn or the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

**The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod** has advocated through convention resolutions for Life. Today the LCRL joins the LCMS in this cause. See [www.LCRLFreedom.org](http://www.LCRLFreedom.org) for more information.

**Sunday Coffee Cadre:** The church is always seeking folks who can provide coffee service for Sunday morning Bible Class fellowship on a monthly or substitute basis. With our convenience Bunn coffee makers it's very simple, and only requires a few minutes for one or two people. Please let Linda or Nancy know if you can join our "cadre" and we will show you everything you need to know.