



THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

July 13, 2025

Christ's Mercy Is Ours to Show to Others

"Be merciful, even as your Father also is merciful" (Luke 6:36–42). The old Adam in us wants to condemn and seek vengeance. But the Lord says, *"Vengeance is Mine, I will repay"* (Rom. 12:14–21). To condemn, to avenge yourself, is to put yourself in the place of God. It is to fail to trust that He is just. Ultimately, it is to disbelieve that Jesus suffered the full vengeance for all wrongs. Only Christ is merciful as the Father is merciful. He is the one who overcame all evil with the good of His cross, forgiving even His executioners. Jesus is our Joseph, who comforts us with words of pardon and reconciliation (Gen. 50:15–21). He is the One who does not condemn but gives life that runs over. Only through faith in Christ are we sons of the Father—being merciful, forgiving, doing good to our enemies. For in Christ we know that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us (Rom. 8:8–13).

Dear Holy Cross Members!

Have you seen the chart? This is simply amazing – far beyond anything I expected or prayed for! It has been less than two-months and we are already at 80% of our goal of knocking out our \$120k mortgage principle!

Many thanks to all who have donated however large or small. Many weighty, sacrificial, prayerful decisions must have been made, but we can say we're seeing a miracle in our midst! It comes very timely, as we had been running a deficit, and some major necessary building repairs are upon us. I'm reminded of the example of the saints in Macedonia mentioned in 2 Corinthians (see below). Lord willing, if we keep it up, we'll be debt-free by our diamond anniversary year (75 years in 2026). Glory be to God in Christ Jesus! -Pastor

"[F]or in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints – and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.... For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich." (2 Cor. 8:2-5, 9, ESV)

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, July 6: 80; Bible Study: 26

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

Altar Flowers this week are given by Dolly Brauer in honor of her son, Gary's birthday on July 15th. Happy birthday!

Stewardship Thoughts—Romans 8:18 – "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us." It is very easy to get caught up in the present and lose track of our ultimate destiny in the Kingdom of God. St. Paul encourages us to keep eternity in mind. This certainly has an application to our support for the Gospel. If we keep our focus on "the glory to be revealed," we will see our tithes and offerings in a new light.

Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life– Trinity IV – Whether it be the evils of abortion or the assaults on biblical marriage, it becomes easier to attack people rather than confront the evil. We end up fighting evil with evil. But the way of Christ is different. "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them" (Romans 12:14). "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good" (12:21). *Jesus, help us boldly confront evil and compassionately deal with those caught up in it. Amen.*

Swaddling Clothes - Our next quarterly Swaddling Clothes Meeting will be held on Monday, July 28 at 5:30pm in the Conference Room. Everyone welcome! Our next Center opening day will be Saturday, August 9 (10:00 am - 1:00 pm). If you would like to volunteer please sign up on the SC bulletin board by Sunday, August 3. This helps us to know how many volunteers are available ahead of opening day. We are once again invited to participate in Rhea Lana on Saturday, August 9 (7:00-9:00 pm) and Sunday, August 10 (6:00 pm). We get to select free items for our center. We need 10 volunteers (men and women) to help with this Rhea Lana project. For more information or questions please see, text or email Shara @ [816]654-2294 or arabs2016@gmail.com. Thank you!



From the Budget and Finance Committee - Holy Cross is campaigning to pay off our mortgage. Interest rates will go up on the balance on 12/31/2026, so our goal is to pay it off prior to that date. Donations received to date for the campaign total \$92,465.00. All money has been applied as principal reductions to our mortgage and the outstanding loan balance as of July 2nd is \$23,802.32! Thanks be to God!!

The Regular Voter's Meeting will be held next Sunday, July 20th at 11:30 am.

On the Calendar

Sunday, July 13:	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.
Monday, July 14:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel.....	9:15 A.M.
	Board of Church Properties Meeting.....	5:30 P.M.
Tuesday, July 15:	Men’s Bible Breakfast.....	7:00 A.M.
	NO Matins.	
	Church Council Meeting.....	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday, July 16:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	Bible Class.....	9:00 A.M.
Thursday, July 17:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
Saturday, July 19:	Matins.....	8:30 A.M.
Sunday, July 20:	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class.....	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.
	Regular Voter’s Meeting.....	11:30 A.M.

Note from the Board of Properties: If you open windows in the Sanctuary, please make sure that they get closed before you leave the building. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School - We are planning to hold a two-day VBS on July 21-22, from 8:30-11:30 am, with a evening ice cream social (hosted by the Fellowship Board) & program on July 23 at 5:30 pm. Thank you to all of our volunteers who have already stepped up to teach and be leaders. **We could use a few more volunteers to help with crafts, snacks & skits.** If you would be interested in volunteering for Vacation Bible School for our Sunday school & ECC children, please see Myla Miller (816-399-9291) or Pastor Meissner

Baby Bottle Drive for Resource Health - The drive has ended. We have raised \$500 for Resource Health. Thank you to all who participate!

Mid-Week Bible Class - We meet on Wednesdays at 9:00 am. We started the second part of the Book of Isaiah - full of some of the most vivid prophecies of Christ and important parts of the Bible. If you've been considering, it's a great time to join in.

Portals of Prayer—The July-September 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 & a large print copy costs the church \$3.

You are cordially invited to join the Association of Confessing Evangelical Lutheran Congregations at our annual conference July 15th and 16th, 2025, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Carlisle, Iowa. This year’s theme is **“A Noble Task: Pastoral Formation in the LCMS”**. We believe this is a timely discussion, and trust that our excellent lineup of speakers will provide important food for thought. For more information, and to register, go to the conference tab on our website, acelc.net. The ACELC is an association of LCMS congregations dedicated to promoting unity in doctrine and practice and giving a united voice against errors in the church.

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 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 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.”**

WHERE CHRISTIANITY MEETS CULTURE... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: Seeking Truth & Speaking Truth, The Worsening Pandemic of Gambling, A New Study on Christian Faith & Marriage, Eastern Mysticism in Public Schools, A Supreme Court Ruling on Children & Pornography and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

Dr. Seltz discusses current religious liberty issues with recognized leaders. These podcasts are free to stream or download at <https://www.lcrlfreedom.org/podcast>