



THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

August 31, 2025

The Lord Lifts Up the Lowly

"And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard" (Gen. 4:1–15). For unlike Abel, Cain's offering did not proceed from a heart that revered and trusted in the Lord. Thus, the lowly tax collector who prayed, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" was the one who went down to his house justified before God, not the respectable, outwardly righteous Pharisee who trusted in himself and his own good living (Luke 18:9–14). "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Eph. 2:1–10). The one who penitently despairs of his own righteousness and relies completely on the atoning mercy of God in Christ is the one who is declared righteous. For Christ died for our sins and rose again the third day (1 Cor. 15:1–10). Therefore, "everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

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, August 24: 72; Bible Study: 25

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

Altar Flowers are given this week by Luther and Carol Salonen in honor of Luther's birthday on August 27th. Happy birthday, Luther!

Stewardship Thoughts—Luke 18:14 – "I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." Our works never impress God; they are always lacking in some way and fall short of perfection. So there is no point in taking pride in them. But a broken and contrite heart the Lord will not despise — and the works that flow from a broken and contrite heart are indeed pleasing to the Lord in and through Christ. These works will be used by the Lord for His purposes and to His glory!

Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life— Heaven and earth grieve every life ended by another (Genesis 4:10). Worse yet is believing ourselves any better than murderers (Luke 18:11-14). Lord God regards all as precious as little babies, and His Son's forgiving Word and works of faith rescue from death's mouth when tempted (Genesis 4:7) and from hell's mouth when guilty (Genesis 4:15). *Merciful Father, intervene that we may be saved and safe from death and hell. Amen.*

Swaddling Clothes - A sorting workday will be held this Wednesday, September 3rd from 10:30 am - 12:15pm. All help is appreciated! Our next Center opening will be Saturday, September 13th from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm. Volunteers can sign-up to help on SC bulletin board by Sunday, September 7th. By signing up this helps us to know how many volunteers are available on opening day. Any questions or if you would like to volunteer please see, text Shara at (816) 654-2294 or email araohs2016@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 \$106,603.58. All money has been applied as principal reductions to our mortgage and the outstanding loan balance as of August 26th is \$9,663.74! We have reached 92% of our goal. Thanks be to God!!

Our Children's Sunday School Fall Rally Day for the 2025-2026 school year is set for NEXT Sunday, September 7, 2025. Please let us know if your children/grandchildren will be attending and we'll get you registered. If you are interested in teaching please contact me (816-654-2293) or a member of the Board of Parish Education (Brandi Schaunaman or Staci Williams). Peace in Christ / Carl Pigors, Sunday School Superintendent

The Fellowship Board will be serving an "Oktoberfest-themed" lunch immediately after service on Sunday, September 28, concurrent with the Voters' Meeting. All members are invited. Bratwurst, potato salad, red cabbage, coleslaw and a variety of chocolate cakes are on the menu. Please come and enjoy the fellowship, even if you are not a voter, and take this great opportunity to join in the activities of the parish. Donations will be accepted toward our Debt Retirement funding.

Ladies' Night Out will be held on Monday, September 8th at 5:30pm at Chili's (8350 NW Roanridge Rd, Kansas City, MO 64151). Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex if you plan to attend. Contact Elenita Wendt if you have any questions.

On the Calendar

Sunday, August 31:	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.
Monday, September 1: <i>Labor Day - Offices Closed</i>	No Matins or ECC Chapel	
Tuesday, September 2:	Men’s Bible Breakfast.....	7:00 A.M.
	Matins.....	8:00 A.M.
	Boad of Elder’s Meeting.....	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday, September 3:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	Bible Class.....	9:00 A.M.
	Swaddling Clothes Sorting.....	10:30-12:15 P.M.
Thursday, September 4:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
Saturday, September 6:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
Sunday, September 7: <i>Rally Sunday</i>	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School.....	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.

HELP NEEDED: Four members of our youth group have been (alternating) in charge of raising and lowering the US Flag each Sunday before service. Since two of the youth are leaving for college, we would love to have more hands helping with the flag. Reece would be happy to demonstrate the proper way to raise/lower and fold the flag. Please see Missie!

Theology on Tap - The Kansas City North Circuit invites you to Theology on Tap, a monthly theological discussion publicly led by Circuit pastors at Cinder Block Brewery (110 E 18th St. North Kansas City, MO 64116). The next get-together is on Thursday, September 25th at 6:30 pm.

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.

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!

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.

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.”**

THE GOLD STANDARD FOR LUTHERAN RADIO & PODCASTING... 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: Making Your Congregation Easier to Find on the Internet, The 2025 Movie “Superman,” A Freedom of Speech & Religion Case Involving Lutheran Leaders in Finland, The Hymn “Jesus, Priceless Treasure” 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.

Schoolchildren across the United States are beginning or continuing their educational journeys. The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty encourages parents to be actively involved in their child’s education and supports their right to choose schools that reflect their family’s values. Discover more at <https://www.lcrlfreedom.org>.