THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS
December 28, 2025

The Seed of David Comes to His Temple

A Rod has come forth from the stem of Jesse (Is. 11:1–5)—the Seed of David whose kingdom shall be established forever (2 Sam. 7:1–16). In the fullness of time, God sent forth His Son Jesus to redeem us from the judgment of the Law (Gal. 4:1–7). Now He is presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Law and revealed to be "*a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel*" (Luke 2:22–40). Christ has enlightened us in baptism, giving us to be adopted as sons of God and heirs of eternal life. Receiving the Holy Sacrament of His body and blood, we are prepared to depart this world in peace, for our eyes have seen the salvation of God in Him.

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, December 21: 75; Bible Study: 23; Sunday School: 9

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

Stewardship Thoughts—Galatians 4:4 – "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law." Jesus was born under the law so that He might fulfill the law in our place. His perfect righteousness is credited to us. And it is this free forgiveness of sins and this crediting of righteousness that sets us free to follow our Lord in godly living. Since we are freed from the law's condemnation, we are freed from any mercenary attitudes. Now that the Lord has shown His love to us in saving us, we freely show our thanks to Him in generosity, humility and kindness.

Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life– A peaceful departure (Luke 2:29) may not always mean the absence of pain and suffering. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, it is seeing the presence of our Savior accomplishing His will according to His timetable. *Prayer: In our last hour, dear Savior, help us see You and be at peace. Amen.*

Swaddling Clothes– We will have a workday on Wednesday, January 7th (10:30 am-12:30 pm). Our next Center opening will be Saturday, January 10 (10:00 am - 1:00 pm). Volunteers can sign-up on the SC bulletin board by Sunday, January 4th. By signing up this helps us know how many volunteers are available to help? Any questions contact Nancy Neill (816)556-6555 or Carolyn Falls (816)674-5021. Thank you!

Giving envelopes are available for pickup on the cabinet in the Narthex.. If you didn't get a set of giving envelopes for this current year & wish to receiving a set for 2026, please contact the church office.

Updated Information: If you have recently joined Holy Cross, moved or gotten a new phone number, please make sure that our records are up to date. You can email church@holycrosskc.org with your updated information. Also, if you'd like to receive any Holy Cross announcements or the newsletter via email, please make sure we have your email address.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a poinsettia plant for Christmas. You can take you plant home today.

Christmas Caroling - The choir is planning to go Christmas Caroling today after the Divine Service. We would love to have you join us! Please see Myla Miller or Rebekah Meissner if you have questions or want to go with us.

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, January 13th at 7:00 pm. **Our next regular Voter's meeting** will be on Sunday, January 25th at 11:30 am.

Offices Closed & Vacation - The Church & ECC offices are closed December 31-January 1. Brandi will be on vacation December 24-January 4. Pastor Meissner will be out of the office December 29-31.

The January/February *Reflections from the Cross* newsletter was emailed out last week. Printed copies are available to pick up on the cabinet in the Narthex.

The adult choir will take a break in January. They will resume their Saturday 10:00 am rehearsals in February.

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 & a large print copy costs the church $3.

On the Calendar

Sunday, December 28:	Corporate Confession & Absolution	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	**10:00 A.M.**
	Christmas Caroling	11:30 A.M.
Monday, December 29:	NO Matins or ECC Chapel	
Tuesday, December 30:	NO Men's Bible Breakfast or Matins	
Wednesday, December 31: *Offices Closed*	No Matins or Bible Class	
Thursday, January 1: *Offices Closed*	No Matins or ECC Chapel	
Saturday, January 3:	Matins	8:30 A.M.
Sunday, January 4:	Corporate Confession & Absolution	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	**10:00 A.M.**

The Art of Biblical Reading - "How do you read it?" our Lord asked the lawyer in Luke 10. At Sunday morning Bible Study next week we are planning to begin a new video-based study using materials from the Luther Institute of Theology (lutheraninstitute.org) on how to read the Bible, video-portion taught by Dr. Adam Koontz. All are welcome and encouraged to come! The description reads: "Where did the Bible come from, & how can we trust it? This course explores the origin, authority, & literary structure of the Scriptures from a Lutheran perspective. Dr. Koontz explains how the Bible was formed, what makes it dependable, & how to read it with Christ at the Center. He also unpacks major Biblical themes & the beauty of God's Word as both history & proclamation. Rediscover the Bible as the living voice of God, not just a book of the past."

Theology on Tap - The Kansas City North Circuit invites you to Theology on Tap, a monthly theological discussion publicly led by Circuit pastors. This monthly discussion will return on January 29th. Watch the info notes on more info on location.

Men's Dart Ball Team - Our congregation is fielding a team for the Kansas City - North Circuit Dart ball league. Like last year, games are played on Thursday nights at 7pm, every second Thursday of the month, September-April. The next game night will be Thursday, January 8th at Christ Lutheran Church. Interested? Contact Mike Schaunaman at 816-507-0974.

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.

STUDY GOD'S WORD IN 2026… The Word of the Lord Endures Forever is a daily 15-minute, verse-by-verse Bible study produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon. You can listen by phone, (618) 262-0078. You can also listen at thewordendures.org, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

What could be better than listening to four calling birds? How about a podcast from Dr. Gregory Seltz! See www.LCRLFreedom.org and happy listening!

Use Your Tax Dollars to Support Lutheran Education - Taxpayers to the state of Missouri—both individuals and businesses—have the unique opportunity to direct up to 50% of their state taxes to Lutheran Education. The tax credit program, MOScholars, allows the Missouri District to convert tax dollars into scholarships for qualifying students attending LCMS schools throughout the state. Reserving these tax credits is easy and can be completed online in a matter of minutes. Head to https://mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars/ to learn more about MOScholars and get the process started.

A Special Thank You to all those who so generously donated to help adorn our sanctuary with poinsettias to celebrate this blessed season:

- Alan Bahl
- Toni Bosse
- Dolly Brauer
- Jeff & Carolyn Falls
- JoAnn Hamilton
- David & Patrice Johnson
- Eleanor Kear
- Sid & Roberta Keltner
- Rev. Craig & Rebekah Meissner & Family
- Don & Jennifer Miller
- Evelyn McConnell
- Richard & Terrie Reece
- Pat & Missie Schroeder & Family
- Staci Williams & Family