THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS
February 1, 2026

Grace Alone

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1–7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1–16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. "For they were overthrown in the wilderness" (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24–10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.

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 25: 20; Bible Study: 14

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

Stewardship Thoughts—Matthew 20:9 – "And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius." Behold the generosity of God! He gives out of His grace, not what we deserve to receive. Living a godly life means living in imitation of God — and surely one of the foundations of God's being is His generosity.

Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life– God our Father can draw water from rock (Exodus 17:6), reward the unworthy (Matthew 20:9), and make the last first (Matthew 20:16). Surely He will overhaul our hopeless circumstances and lost causes, even when human pains and mistakes have brought them about (1 Corinthians 10:1-5). Indeed, we not only witness it but participate in it as well (Exodus 17:5). *Keeper of our souls, work faith in us and those we serve to await great transformation at Your hand. Amen.*

Swaddling Clothes– We will have a work day this Wednesday, February 4th from 10:30 am –12:30 pm. All help is welcome. Our next Center opening will be Saturday, February 14th (10:00 am - 1:00 pm). Volunteers can sign-up on the SC bulletin board by Sunday, February 8th. 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 receive a set for 2026, please contact the church office.

2025 Giving Statements are available for pick up on the counter in the Narthex. Any statements not picked up today will be mailed out this week.

Our next regular Voter's meeting will be TODAY following the Divine Service.

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

The adult choir will resume practice this Saturday, February 7th at 10:00 am. We would love to have you join us!

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.

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.

The 2026 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."**

Ladies' Brunch Out - for the month of February, for those of us who don't like to drive at night, we have decided to do brunch tomorrow, Monday, February 2nd at 11:30 am at Corner Café (4541 NW Gateway Ave, Riverside, MO 64150). Sign up on the signup sheet in the Narthex. Please contact Elenita Wendt if you have any questions.

On the Calendar

Sunday, February 1:	Corporate Confession & Absolution	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class/Sunday School	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	**10:00 A.M.**
	Regular Voter's Meeting	11:30 A.M.
Monday, February 2:	Matins	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel	9:15 A.M.
	Ladies' Bruch Out at Corner Café, Riverside, MO	11:30 A.M.
Tuesday, February 3:	Men's Bible Breakfast	7:00 A.M.
	Matins	8:00 A.M.
	Board of Elder's Meeting	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday, February 4:	Matins	7:30 A.M.
	Bible Class	9:00 A.M.
	Swaddling Clothes Workday	10:30-12:30 P.M.
Thursday, February 5:	Matins	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel	9:15 A.M.
Saturday, February 7:	Matins	8:30 A.M.
	Handbell Choir Rehearsal	9:00 A.M.
	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 A.M.
Sunday, February 8:	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… is back for 2026! Monthly theological conversation led by Circuit pastors. Meet at the Cinderblock Brewery 118 E. 18th St. North KC, MO 64116, starting at about 6:30 on February 26th. And yes, we are guaranteed the Reclamation Room… specially for us, but we'll welcome all!

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, February 12th 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.

SANCTIFYING YOUR EXERCISE ROUTINE WITH THE WORD OF GOD… Issues, Etc. is a podcast and radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. Recent topics include: A Christian View of Leisure, Remember the Sabbath Day, Bioethics for Nurses, The Movie "Knives Out: Wake up Dead Man" 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.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for Religious Liberty, Sanctity of Life, Traditional Marriage, and Educational Freedom. Lean more at www.LCRLFreedom.org.

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.