



THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

July 19, 2026

Jesus Restores Paradise and Feeds Us Freely

In the Garden of Eden, our first parents received food freely from the gracious hand of God, apart from any burdensome work (Gen 2:7–17). But after the fall, food would be received only through toil and labor. The curse declared, “*By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground . . .*” (Gen. 3:19). In other words, “*The wages of sin is death*” (Rom. 6:23). But into this wilderness world came Jesus the Messiah to restore creation. Having compassion on the weary multitudes, He renewed the bounty of Eden on the third day, freely granting an abundance of bread to the 4,000 (Mark 8:1–9). So also our Lord Jesus, having endured the burden of our sin, was raised on the third day to bring us back to Paradise. He now miraculously turns the bread of death into the Bread of Life in the Sacrament, giving you His very body and blood for your forgiveness. For “*the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord*” (Rom. 6:23).

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 12: 62; Adult Bible Class: 24

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

Altar Flowers this week are given by the Swaddling Clothes Committee in thanks to God for all of our wonderful volunteers and all of our members and friends who have provided support through both donations and prayers. Thank you for continuing to support this mission of Holy Cross!

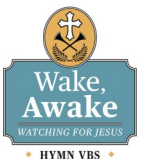
Stewardship Thoughts—Romans 6:19 – “For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness leading to sanctification.” To be sanctified means to be set aside for God’s purposes in all that we do, whether in the home, church or society at large. St. Paul encourages us to see ourselves, our bodies, our souls and all that we are as set aside for God’s work.

Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life— Jesus declares and demonstrates compassion even for those who cannot feed themselves or walk on their own (Mark 8:1-3). He who breathes life into each human body (Genesis 2:7) also provides everything necessary to survive (Mark 8:8) and promises all the abundance of Eden’s paradise in the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23). And He mercifully involves us in this miraculous ministry (Mark 8:5-8)! *Almighty Maker, show through us the life-giving compassion You have shown to us. Amen.*

Swaddling Clothes - Our next opening is Saturday, August 8 (10:00 am - 1:00 pm). If you would like to volunteer to help at our opening PLEASE sign-up on the SC bulletin board by Sunday, August 2nd. By signing up ahead of time it helps us to know how many volunteers are available for our opening. Any questions please see or text Shara [816]654-2294. Thank you!



Vacation Bible School - VBS is scheduled for THIS Monday & Tuesday (July 20-21) from 8:30 am-11:30 am. We could still use some helpers if you are available on either day. Please contact Myla Miller (816) 399-9291 if you are interested in volunteering. **We will have an ice cream social and short VBS program on Wednesday, July 22nd at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is encouraged to attend!**



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.



Please join us for a short ceremony on Sunday, August 2, 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall as we dedicate our new all-weather United States Flag. Our Veterans will be recognized at this time so please plan to attend as we pay tribute to them.

MORE TOPICS, MORE GUESTS, MORE JESUS... 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: The Movie “The Odyssey;” Prosecuting Pornography; The Hymn “Entrust Your Days and Burdens;” Lutheranism in Canada and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.

On the Calendar

Sunday, July 19:	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class.....	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.
Monday, July 20:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	Vacation Bible School.....	8:30-11:30 A.M.
Tuesday, July 21:	Men’s Bible Breakfast.....	7:00 A.M.
	Matins.....	8:00 A.M.
	Vacation Bible School.....	8:30-11:30 A.M.
Wednesday, July 22:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	VBS Program & Ice Cream Social.....	5:30 P.M.
Thursday, July 23:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel.....	9:15 A.M.
Saturday, July 25:	Matins.....	8:00 A.M.
Sunday, July 26:	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class.....	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.

Who were the “champions” of 1776? They stood with courage for God-given liberty in their time. Today, the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty reminds us that the same calling rests on us. For more information see www.LCRLFreedom.org/champions.

St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church in Topeka, KS, will host its tenth annual Worship Conference on Saturday, August 29, at 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. This conference provides continuing education and conversation for pastors, church musicians, and congregation members interested in the song and worship of the Church. The keynote speaker for this year’s conference is **Rev. Timothy Frank**, who is the associate pastor and kantor at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa. A summary of the keynote presentations & the registration form can be found on our website at <https://stjohnlcmstopeka.org/worship/worship-conference/>

In HIS Image - On Saturday, September 19, 2026, St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Liberty, MO is hosting a seminar presented by Doxology called "In HIS Image: Navigating Christian Sexuality in a Post-Christian Culture." This one day seminar is designed to equip pastors, teachers, parents, and all Christians with tools to speak constructively and live confidently amid the current confusion over gender, rapidly changing sexual norms in society, and the legal redefinition of marriage. The seminar includes lunch and is completely free, thanks to a grant from the LCMS Office of National Mission. Registration link:<https://forms.gle/p64Wgr7V7gQY1ioT8>)

We will have an Organ Workshop at Holy Cross on **Saturday, October 17, 2026**. Mrs. Bethany Johnson, Kantor at Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Topeka, Kansas, will share her knowledge during an organ workshop at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Kansas City, Missouri. Our sessions will include information about the tempo and pulse of hymns, planning music from pre-service to postlude, and organ pedaling skills. If you have specifics you would like to include in any of these topics, please send them to us! This year we are offering an optional **MasterClass** This will be after Session III in the early afternoon. If you would like to participate, please prepare a piece (or hymn) to play. Bethany will work with you (similar to a private music lesson) in front of everyone else on how to improve your technique for whatever you are playing. It may seem intimidating, but it is such a positive growing experience, and there is always more to learn. The cost is \$35.00 per person or \$45.00 if you participate in the MasterClass. Cash or check at the door. If you would like to attend please send a message to holycrosskcmusic@yahoo.com.

Swing for a Cause! Join us for a Four-Person Scramble sponsored by St. Stephen Lutheran Church, benefiting the Liberty Women's Clinic on Saturday, August 22, 2026. Morning registration: 7 am | Shotgun start: 8 am; Afternoon registration: 12 pm | Shotgun start: 1 pm. (Note: Start time preferences will be accommodated to the best of our ability, but requests are not guaranteed.) Location: Excelsior Springs Golf Course, 1201 E. Golf Hill Drive, Excelsior Springs, MO 64024. Grab your team and get ready for a day of friendly competition, all in support of the Liberty Women's Clinic. The Four-Person Scramble format ensures that players of all skill levels can participate and enjoy the game. It's about camaraderie, fun, and making a positive impact. Exciting prizes, contests, and a fantastic atmosphere await you. Plus, you'll have the opportunity to connect with fellow golf enthusiasts and passionate supporters of the Liberty Women's Clinic. Let's come together, swing for success, and empower women in our community! Register Here: <https://forms.gle/4L6k41HjSt6d16BC9>

Our Saviour Lutheran Church (4153 Rainbow Blvd, KCKS, 66103; phone: 913-236-6228) is celebrating its centennial this year, Sept. 25-27, 2026. Visit www.oskc.org and look for the Upcoming Event banner that links you to info about Fri.-Sat events (open house, service of hymns and prayer, banquet) and Sunday's 10am worship service. You can enter your contact info via an RSVP button. Former members, former Preschool and K-8 school students, as well as congregation friends are encouraged to attend - giving God the glory for 100+ years of worship, ministry and service in our neighborhood.