



THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

August 2, 2026

The Steward's Shrewdness Sanctified

"The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness" (Luke 16:1-9). The steward's shrewdness is praiseworthy for two reasons. First, he knew the master would be merciful. He trusted that the master would honor the debts he forgave in the master's name. In the same way, though we have squandered our heavenly Father's possessions in selfishness and sin, Jesus is the Steward who has canceled our debt, knowing that His forgiveness will be honored by the Father because of the holy cross. Secondly, the steward was shrewd in using oil and wheat to provide for his earthly welfare. So also do these earthly elements aid us when pressed into heavenly use in the anointing of baptism and the wheat of the Lord's Supper. Those who have the Sacraments will have an eternal home when their earthly home fails. These provide us aid in times of temptation (1 Cor. 10:6-13). For the Lord is our strength and a shield to all who trust in Him (2 Sam. 22:26-34).

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 26: 66; Adult Bible Class: 25

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

Stewardship Thoughts—Luke 16:8 – "For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light." Money is a tool that can be used for good or wicked purposes. Unbelievers often show more shrewdness in this than us Christians. If we really believe all that stuff we say in the Creed every Sunday...won't that affect how we use our money?

Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life—Temptations to idolatry exist today as they did in biblical times. The great idol "Death" draws many to its altar. They look to death for rescue from a crisis pregnancy or chronic disease or pain. Death's allure is so great it even tempts Christians to bow before it. But we have a way out of such temptations to faithlessness: "God is faithful" (1 Corinthians 10:1-13). Christ our "Rock" never leaves us (10:4). We can trust in Him. *Rock of our salvation, may Your faithful service to us through Your cross and resurrection move us to be faithful to You. Amen.*

Swaddling Clothes - Our next opening is NEXT Saturday, August 8th (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 TODAY. By signing up ahead of time it helps us know how many volunteers are available for our opening. Any questions please see or text Shara at (816) 654-2294. 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.



Please join us for a short ceremony following today's service at 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.

It's a Girl! All of the ladies in the congregation are invited to a baby shower for Tara Badger tomorrow, Monday, August 3rd from 6:30-8:00 pm (Dinner provided) at the home of Jennifer Miller (5459 NW Venetian Dr, Houston Lake, MO 64151). Please RSVP to Jennifer by text at 918-691-2419 by the end of today. Tara is registered on Amazon.

While the ladies join together at the baby shower, the men are meeting up for dinner tomorrow, Monday, August 3rd at Dominic's Italian at Big Shots Bar & Grill (6541 N Cosby Ave, KCMO 64151). Contact Don Miller if you have any questions.

On Vacation - Brandi will be out of the office on vacation July 30-August 9. Staci will be out of the office on vacation August 1-5. If you need to get in touch with the church office during this time, please reach out via email at church@holycrosskc.org.

Open house and blessing and gathering at the Meissner's. All members are welcome once again to our place on August 23rd from 4:00-6:00pm. With the house blessing we'll be having a baked potato bar with plenty of extras and Lutheran beverages. Please RSVP to Rebekah.

Our Children's Sunday School Fall Rally Day for the 2026-2027 school year is set for Sunday, September 13, 2026. 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 at 816-654-2293.** Peace in Christ / Carl Pigors, Sunday School Superintendent

You are invited to celebrate with Our Saviour Lutheran Church (4153 Rainbow Blvd.) in Kansas City, Kansas, as they launch their David's Harp music conservatory. This exciting event (hymn festival and light meal) will take place on Wednesday, August 19, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. David's Harp exists to raise the next generation of church musicians. We hope to see you there!

On the Calendar

Sunday, August 2:	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class.....	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.
	Flag Dedication & Veteran Recognition.....	11:30 A.M.
Monday, August 3:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	Baby Shower for Tara Badger.....	6:30 P.M.
	Men’s Get-Together at Dominic’s (6541 N Cosby Ave).....	6:45 P.M.
Tuesday, August 4:	Men’s Bible Breakfast.....	7:00 A.M.
	Matins.....	8:00 A.M.
	Board of Elder’s Meeting.....	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday, August 5:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
Thursday, August 6:	Matins.....	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel.....	9:15 A.M.
Saturday, August 8:	Matins.....	8:00 A.M.
	Swaddling Clothes Shopping Day.....	10:00-1:00 P.M.
Sunday, August 9:	Corporate Confession & Absolution.....	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class.....	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	10:00 A.M.

Performing Arts Association of St. Joseph Inc presents The Looney Lutherans in “Young(ish) at Heart!” on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2026 at 7:30 pm on the Missouri Western University Campus. Tickets are \$50 for the show only or \$65with dinner (Dinner starts at 6:30 pm) We can receive a discount of 10% off with a group of 10 or more people. If you are interested in attending, please let Terrie Reece (816-216-4904 or tkrophs1969@gmail.com) know by September 1st.

ESSENTIAL EXERCISE FOR THE CHRISTIAN MIND... 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 show subjects include: Karl Marx’s Fascination with the Devil, The Fall of the Great Republics, Reducing Theology to Pithy Slogans, First-Century Jewish Historian Josephus on Jesus and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app or a podcast provider.

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>