THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

November 22, 2026

By Faith We Are Prepared for Christ's Return

"The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night" (1 Thess. 5:1–11). The arrival of the bridegroom will be sudden and unexpected. Therefore you are to be watchful and ready like the five wise virgins. *"For you know neither the day nor the hour"* when the Son of Man is to return. (Matt. 25:1–13). The lamps are the Word of Christ. The oil in the lamps is the Holy Spirit, who works through the Word to create and sustain the flame of faith in Christ. The foolish are those who do not give proper attention to the working of the Holy Spirit in baptism, preaching, and the supper, and so their faith does not endure. The wise, however, are those who diligently attend to these gifts of the Spirit, and who therefore have an abundance of oil. The flame of faith endures to the end. By God's grace they are received into the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, the new heavens and the new earth created by the Lord for the joy of His people (Is. 65:17–25).

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, November 15: 61; Sunday School: 3; Adult Bible Class: 18

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

Stewardship Thoughts— Matthew 25:4 – "But the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps." Why did they take flasks of oil with them? Because they listened to the Bridegroom's words and believed what He told them. Our actions always start with and flow from our beliefs. What do your actions in the realm of financial stewardship say about what you believe?

Life Thoughts from Lutherans For Life– Our Savior considers human bodies so precious that He has already begun making a new earth for them to enjoy eternally (Isaiah 65:17-25). He has not designed humankind's bodily existence as disposable but as indispensable to our identity and abundant life. How shall this affect our approach to illness, disability, conception, and age?
Prayer: King of creation, increase our respect and protection for the bodies of others with the esteem You bestow upon our own. Amen.

Swaddling Clothes - Our next SC opening will be Saturday, December 12 (10:00am - 1:00pm). If you would like to help at our opening PLEASE sign-up on the SC bulletin board by Sunday, December 6. Signing up ahead of time helps us to know how many volunteers are available for our opening! Any questions please see, call or text Nancy Neill (816-556-6555) or Carolyn Falls (816-674-5021).

Nut Sale: Nuts are available for pickup in the Narthex. If you have any questions, please reach out to Staci in the office.

Giving envelopes are available for pickup in the Narthex. If you didn't get a set of giving envelopes for this current year & wish to receive a set for 2027, please contact the church office.

Pledge cards are available on the counter in the Narthex. If you would still like to pledge for 2027, please fill out a card and place it in the offering plate.

The Holy Cross Early Childhood Center is in need of plastic grocery bags. Any donations can be placed on the table outside of the office. Thank you!

Early Childhood Center Christmas Program - You are invited to attend the Holy Cross Early Childhood Center Christmas Program on Thursday, December 10th at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great opportunity to interact with some of our ECC families and listen to the children share about the birth of Jesus! Refreshments will be served following the short program.

Ladies' Night Out will be held **TUESDAY, December 1st at 5:30 pm at Cascone's** (3733 N. Oak Trfy, Kansas City, MO 64116). **Please note the change of day from our usual monthly get-togethers.** Please sign up on the counter in the Narthex if you plan to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Elenita Wendt.

Congregation planning meeting & potluck - Please join us for our congregational planning meeting & potluck after the Divine Service today. The goal of this meeting is to develop goals for our congregation and its ministries over the next five years. Participation from as many members as possible will help us to develop the congregation's priorities and plan for the future.

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.

On the Calendar

Sunday, November 22:	Corporate Confession & Absolution	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class & Sunday School	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	**10:00 A.M.**
	Congregation Planning Meeting & Potluck	11:30 A.M.
Monday, November 23:	Matins	7:30 A.M.
	ECC Chapel	9:15 A.M.
Tuesday, November 24:	Men's Bible Breakfast	7:00 A.M.
	Matins	8:00 A.M.
Wednesday, November 25:	Matins	7:30 A.M.
	NO Bible Class	
	Divine Service	7:00 P.M.
Thursday, November 26:	Thanksgiving Day - Offices Closed	
Friday, November 27:	Offices Closed	
Saturday, November 28:	Matins	8:30 A.M.
	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 A.M.
Sunday, November 29:	Corporate Confession & Absolution	8:00 A.M.
	Adult Bible Class & Sunday School	8:45 A.M.
	Divine Service	**10:00 A.M.**

Men's Dart Ball Team - Our congregation is fielding a team for the Kansas City - North Circuit Dartball league. Like last year, games are played at Christ Lutheran Church, Platte Woods on Thursday nights at 7pm, every second Thursday of the month, The next game night will be Thursday, December 10th. 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.

Portals of Prayer—The October-December 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.

Wednesday Bible Class – is held on Wednesdays at 9:00 am. Our Bible study is a video series led by Rev. Jacob Benson on "The Saints and Virtue." Join us when we resume class on Wednesday, December 2nd.

Men's Breakfast – is every Tuesday beginning at 7:00 am. We started the book of **Revelation,** using a new study series from CPH**.** Join us in starting the day with breakfast and God's word. Please let Pastor know if you're interested.

This Thanksgiving, we have so much to thank God for, including the freedom to worship, hear His Word, and share the good news of Jesus. Learn more at www.LCRLFreedom.org/subscribe

WHERE CHRISTIANITY MEETS CULTURE… 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: Young Men & the Manosphere; The Vanishing Black Family; Technology & Spirituality; The Importance of Biblical Morality and more. You can listen at your convenience at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider.

Siberian Lutherans Still Need Your Prayers and Support - Somewhere in Siberia a baby was received a Trinitarian baptism. Somewhere else in Siberia a young woman heard the Gospel from a Lutheran pastor for the first time---and Believed! The Holy Spirit has been leading and blessing The Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church and its Novosibirsk Theological Seminary for 30 years, propelled by support by LCMS Christians via the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society. Pray for the Members and Pastors of the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Use Your Tax Dollars to Support Lutheran Education - $8.5 million in MOScholars scholarships has been released this fall to students attending LCMS schools across Missouri! This was made possible through the state's general revenue fund and participation in tax credits. Remarkable how God provides for work in His kingdom! These efforts aren't over for 2026, though. Approximately 250 students on our list are still awaiting funding. Learn how you can participate in the MOScholars tax credit program and provide these opportunities for children in Missouri at mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars.