

Alleluia!
Christ is risen!



The Sundays of Easter
April 27 through June 1, 2025



Welcome to Holy Cross Lutheran Church!

We welcome all who worship here today, especially those who have joined us as guests. We invite you to discover God's presence with us through this ancient rhythm of worship as we gather together, hearing the word, sharing the feast and then are sent in blessing.



Holy Cross is ROOTED...

We have been rooted in this place since our beginning on Reformation Sunday, October 27, 1963. Our roots are deep in this south Austin community, having a long history of advocacy and aid for people experiencing hunger and homelessness. This is the first distribution site for Meals on Wheels in Austin. We are rooted, too, in the rich liturgical traditions of the church catholic expressed through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

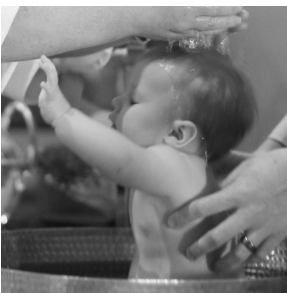


Holy Cross is RECONCILING...

We, the members of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, as a community affirm that "...through faith in Christ Jesus...there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28). As a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation, we embrace and welcome all, as we celebrate differences in gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, appearance, economic status, ethnic origin, nationality, race, marital status, political leaning, religious background, and ability, including those who are differently abled.



We wish to make known our caring and concern for all people, as we joyfully follow God's call to love one another. In faithfulness to the Gospel, we openly invite all people to experience the word of God without fear of judgment or discrimination. At Holy Cross Lutheran Church we seek to unite through Christ in faith, love, and spiritual growth.



Holy Cross is RENEWING...

Throughout our history, this congregation has trusted in God's promises to make all things new...our own lives, the world around us, and our community together. We are presently in a transition of pastoral leadership, looking ahead with hope and wonder as to whom God will call to serve this community with us in the future. Change comes with excitement, growth, anxiety, and joy, always trusting that God's hand is guiding us.



Second Sunday of Easter

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.



Third Sunday of Easter

The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.



Fourth Sunday of Easter

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ. It is the promise of Jesus. It was true for Dorcas in Joppa. It was true for those "who have come out of the great ordeal" in the Revelation vision. It is true for us and for all the baptized: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



Fifth Sunday of Easter

Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Visions abound in the readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter. Paul has a vision about what to do. John has a vision of what will be. Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond human imagination.



Seventh Sunday of Easter

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.



Children experience God's presence through worship too, so of course, they join the community in our "liturgy"—the "work of the people." If needed, however, there are also "busy bags" (please return after worship) in the narthex for anyone who would like to work with their hands during worship.

Amplified hearing devices are available from the ushers.

GATHERING

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

In the waters of baptism,
we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ,
and we are a new creation.

For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God,
who was, who is, and who is to come.

We thank you, God, for your river of life,
flowing freely from your throne:

through the earth,
through the city,
through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood;

You opened wide the sea for the Israelites.

Now in these waters you flood us with mercy,
and our sin is drowned forever.

You open the gate of righteousness
and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.

You nourish us and enclose us in safety.

You call us forth and send us out.

In lush and barren places, you are with us.

You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water
and awaken your church once more.

Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.

Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End,
our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving,
now and forever.

Amen.



GATHERING SONG

2nd Sunday in Easter: April 29

ELW 386: *O Sons and Daughters Let Us Sing*

3rd Sunday in Easter: May 4

ELW 391: *This Joyful Eastertide*

4th Sunday in Easter: May 11

ELW 385: *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*

5th Sunday in Easter: May 18

ELW 367: *Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

6th Sunday in Easter: May 25

ELW 804: *Come Down, O Love Divine*

7th Sunday in Easter: June 1

ELW 657: *Rise, O Sun of Righteousness*

The service continues with gathering song. As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water during the singing.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor- thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

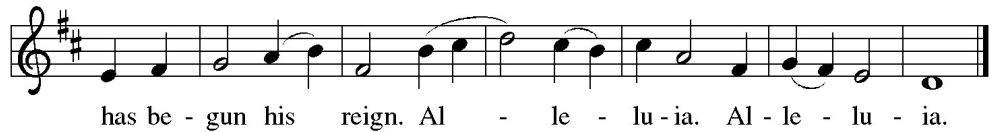
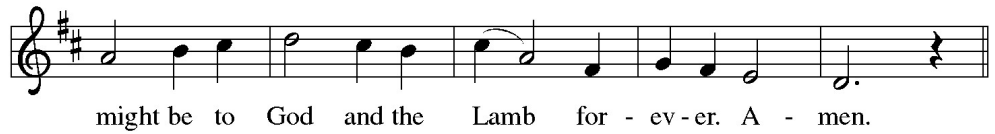


2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and





PRAYER OF THE DAY

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.
Let us pray. A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

*After the prayer the assembly responds: **Amen.***

The assembly is seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

<i>2nd Sunday in Easter: April 27</i>	Acts 5:27-32
<i>3rd Sunday in Easter: May 4</i>	Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
<i>4th Sunday in Easter: May 11</i>	Acts 9:36-43
<i>5th Sunday in Easter: May 18</i>	Acts 11:1-18
<i>6th Sunday in Easter: May 25</i>	Acts 16:9-15
<i>7th Sunday in Easter: June 1</i>	Acts 16:16-34

*As the reading concludes, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.***

PSALM

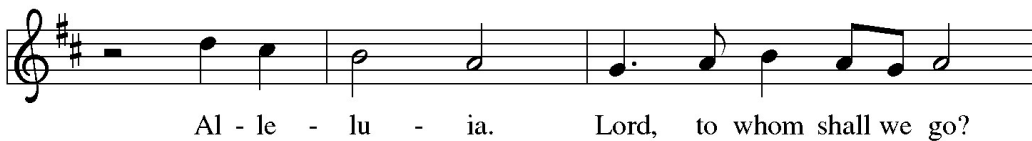
<i>2nd Sunday in Easter: April 27</i>	Psalm 118
<i>3rd Sunday in Easter: May 4</i>	Psalm 30
<i>4th Sunday in Easter: May 11</i>	Psalm 23
<i>5th Sunday in Easter: May 18</i>	Psalm 148
<i>6th Sunday in Easter: May 25</i>	Psalm 67
<i>7th Sunday in Easter: June 1</i>	Psalm 97

SECOND READING

<i>2nd Sunday in Easter: April 27</i>	Revelation 1:4-8
<i>3rd Sunday in Easter: May 4</i>	Revelation 5:11-14
<i>4th Sunday in Easter: May 11</i>	Revelation 7:9-17
<i>5th Sunday in Easter: May 18</i>	Revelation 21:1-6
<i>6th Sunday in Easter: May 25</i>	Revelation 21:10, 22--22:5
<i>7th Sunday in Easter: June 1</i>	Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

*As the reading concludes, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.***

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

*Response after the announcement: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

<i>2nd Sunday in Easter: April 27</i>	<i>John 20: 19-31</i>
<i>3rd Sunday in Easter: May 4</i>	<i>John 21: 1-19</i>
<i>4th Sunday in Easter: May 11</i>	<i>John 10: 22-30</i>
<i>5th Sunday in Easter: May 18</i>	<i>John 13: 31-35</i>
<i>6th Sunday in Easter: May 25</i>	<i>John 14: 23-29</i>
<i>7th Sunday in Easter: June 1</i>	<i>John 17: 20-26</i>

*Response after the conclusion: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

*Sing responsively;
Cantor sings odd verses
People sing even verses*

*The psalms begin the songs
and hymns in the red Wor-
ship book numbering 1-150.*

*The assembly stands to
receive the Word of
God.*



The assembly is seated.

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.



SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

2nd Sunday in Easter: April 27

ELW 375: Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen

3rd Sunday in Easter: May 4

ELW 383: Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!

4th Sunday in Easter: May 11

ELW 502: The King of Love My Shepherd is

5th Sunday in Easter: May 18

ELW 377: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

6th Sunday in Easter: May 25

ELW 631: Love Divine, all loves excelling

7th Sunday in Easter: June 1

ELW 826: Thine the Amen

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward, while the assembly sings:

OFFERTORY

ELW 186

Create in Me a Clean Heart

OFFERING PRAYER

Living God,
you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together
in your peaceable reign,
and you welcome us all at your table.
Reach out to us through this meal,
and show us your wounded and risen body,
that we may be nourished and believe
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, the table is set and the pianist or choir may offer a song.

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands.

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads prayer after the offering.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
That we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

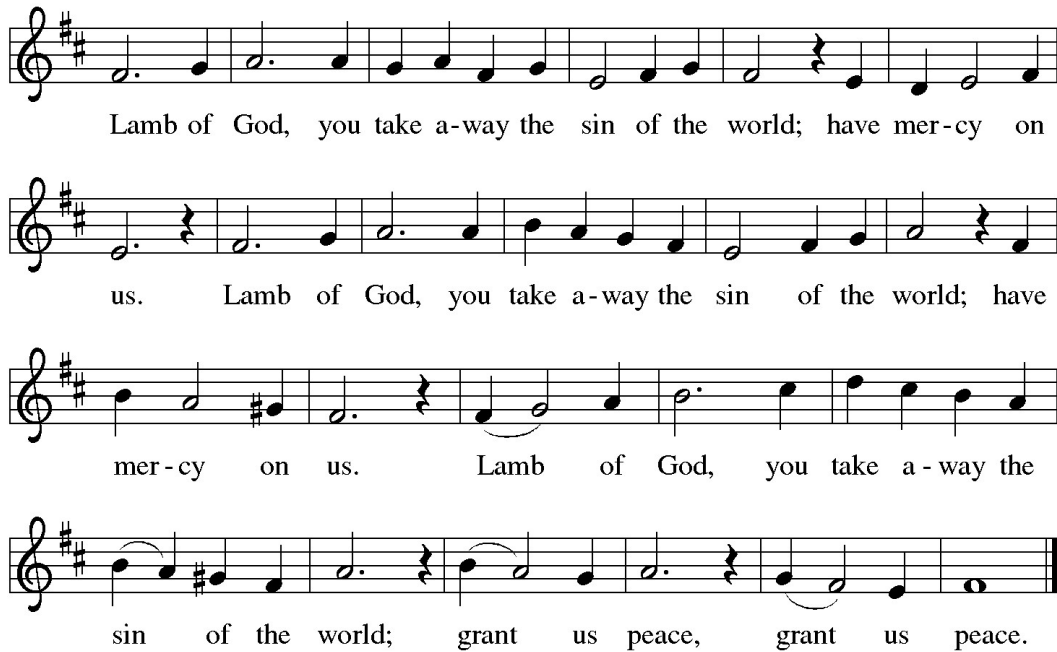
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The table of life is spread before you.
Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, generous God,
for in this bread and cup
we have tasted the new heaven and earth
where hunger and thirst are no more.
Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection,
that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name.
Amen.



The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

Our church believes that when we celebrate communion, we gather around God's table. At this table we share the true body and true blood of Christ, in, with, and through the bread and wine. We are fed and nurtured around this table with the whole church of every age. All are welcome.

When the usher invites you, approach the front down the center aisle, reach out your hand and bread will be given to you. To the side the Assisting Minister will have wine or grape juice prepared for you. Place your empty cup in the empty tray as you go back to your seat by way of the side aisle.

After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.

The assisting minister leads the prayer after communion.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

2nd Sunday in Easter: April 27

ELW 535: *Hallelujah! We sing your praises*

3rd Sunday in Easter: May 4

ELW 384: *That Easter day with Joy was bright*

4th Sunday in Easter: May 11

ELW 764: *Have No Fear Little Flock*

5th Sunday in Easter: May 18

ELW 389: *Christ is Alive! Let Christians sing*

6th Sunday in Easter: May 25

ELW 785: *When Peace like a River*

7th Sunday in Easter: June 1

ELW 855: *Crown him w/many Crowns*

DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Share the Peace as you depart. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia.



*The assisting minister
sends the assembly into
mission.*



Bread For All continues to provide food for over 100 neighbor household in south Austin each Monday evening. Volunteers are always appreciated. The food distribution operates on a safe COVID basis. Contact Gary Tracy if you'd like to help, or just show up ready to help by 4:30pm on Mondays.

Bread for All operates out of Faith Presbyterian Church and Holy Cross supports this ministry through Austin City Lutherans.

Bread for All Food Pantry shares food with our neighbors.
Compartiendo comida con todos nuestros vecinos.

HCLC 2nd Monday / Cada Lunes 5:00 – 6:30 P.M.
Faith Presbyterian Church, 1314 E. Oltorf
April 14, May 12 and June 9 are our next Monday's
We've been going out for dinner after.

Youth Service Sunday

MAY THE
FOURTH
 BE WITH YOU

Local Boy Scouts will join us following worship on May 4, around 11:30, to pack LWR health and layette kits.....**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

In preparation for this event, we request donations of several items for the kits (flat fold cloth diapers; socks; shirts 0-24month; caps/hats for babies; toothbrushes; 4oz soap bars.

Thank you to **THRIVENT** for their support in the form of an action team grant.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



April	
1	Debbie Garcia
7	Michael Qualben
8	Madison Johnson
16	John Tracy
20	Ellen Christensen
23	Jan Quirl
24	Paige Clark
25	Happy Almaguer
27	Conner Hees
27	Jackson Hees
29	Kimberley Gardner



An Ordinary Week at Holy Cross

Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
10am Worship 11am Fellowship 4:15pm Jazzercise	9am Jazzercise 11-12:30 MOWs 5:15pm Jazzercise 5-6:30 Bread for All Food Pantry	9am Jazzercise 11-12:30 MOWs 5:15pm Jazzercise	9am Jazzercise 11-12:30 MOWs 11am-3pm LWR Grace Knotters	9am Jazzercise 11-12:30 MOWs 5:15pm Jazzercise	9am Jazzercise 11-12:30 MOWs 5:15pm Jazzercise	7:45am Jazzercise 9am-8pm Pan-am 7th Day Adventist Church worships



Holy Cross 2025 Church Council

Bill Elzey
 Chris Fuqua - Vice President
 Debbie Garcia - Secretary
 Bob Kallstrom
 Christina Landeros
 Sue Munns - President
 Gary Tracy

If you have any questions, input or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us at 2025council@holycrossatx.org

Our monthly council meeting is the second Wednesday of each month

Come "pack & tack" for Lutheran World Relief

Folks from Holy Cross (with neighbors) tie quilts to be sent around the world on Wednesdays from 11am to 3pm

And they pack sewing, school, layette, and personal care kits, too! Eat lunch together (and frequently a sweet treat!) Can you help pack & tack?



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Sundays: Worship 10am + Community 11am

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.