

*We were eyewitnesses
of His majesty*

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH (LCMS)

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About the Cover: The apostle Paul had a singular focus upon Christ crucified because nothing else mattered in comparison. In this First Letter to the Corinthians, Paul's weakness in bringing this word to the Church in Corinth only cast greater light on the power of God for salvation. The heights of human eloquence, wisdom, and power pale in comparison to the cross of Christ, for this is the power of salvation for all who believe.

The Transfiguration of Our Lord – February 19, 2023

Divine Service Setting One (LSB 151)

Ring of the Bells, Prelude

Hymn: 'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here

LSB 414

- 1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!
 Thy glory fills the night;
 Thy face and garments, like the sun,
 Shine with unborrowed light.

- 2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
 Thy beauty to behold
 Where Moses and Elijah stand,
 Thy messengers of old.

- 3 Fulfiller of the past
And hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified
And our redemption see.
- 4 Before we taste of death,
We see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright
And make this hill our home.
- 5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!
Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount,
Come with us to the plain.

Invocation, Confession & Absolution

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.


But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead

us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 99:1–5; antiphon: v. 9

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;*

for the LORD our God is | holy!

The LORD reigns; let the peoples | tremble!*

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the | earth quake!

The LORD is great in | Zion;*

he is exalted over all the | peoples.

Let them praise your great and | awesome name!*

Ho- | ly is he!

The King in his might loves | justice.*

You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in | Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his | footstool!*

Ho- | ly is he!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy | mountain;*

for the LORD our God is | holy!

Kyrie (*Sung*)

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis (*Sung*)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

**For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,**

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 24:8–18

⁸And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, “Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

⁹Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, ¹⁰and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. ¹¹And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

¹²The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” ¹³So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. ¹⁴And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.” ¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

¹⁸Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Holy Cross Bells: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

- 1 *Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
 God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
 Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
 Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
 Fill us with the light of day.*

- 2 *All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
 Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
 Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
 Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
 Call us to rejoice in Thee.*

- 3 *Thou art giving and forgiving,
 Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
 Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
 Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
 Joyful, we by grace are Thine!*

Epistle

2 Peter 1:16–21

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” ¹⁸we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. ¹⁹And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, ²⁰knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. ²¹For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse (*Sung*)

Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 17:1–9

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 17th chapter.

(*Sung*) **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. ²And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. ³And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴And Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one

for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.” ⁵He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.” ⁶When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. ⁷But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Rise, and have no fear.” ⁸And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

⁹And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, “Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

(Sung) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: *O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair*

LSB 413

- 1 O wondrous type! O vision fair
Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows,
Where brighter than the sun He glows!
- 2 With Moses and Elijah nigh
The incarnate Lord holds converse high;
And from the cloud the Holy One
Bears record to the only Son.
- 3 With shining face and bright array
Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs above
Who joy in God with perfect love.
- 4 And faithful hearts are raised on high
By this great vision’s mystery,

For which in joyful strains we raise
The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

△ 5 O Father, with the'eternal Son
And Holy Spirit ever one,
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace
To see Thy glory face to face.

Sermon: *You Can't Stay on the Mountain Top*

Matthew 17:1-9

Nicene Creed

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin
Mary and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the
Scriptures and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the**

**living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

*(Offering plates are placed in the narthex, where you may leave a gift
for the Lord's work.)*

Offertory (*Sung*)

**What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the
name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the
Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His
people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O
Jerusalem.**

Preface & Proper Preface (*Sung*)

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 Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary. . . we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (*Sung*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei (*Sung*)

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn: *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee* LSB 631

(An organ interlude occurs between stanzas 3 & 4.)

- 1 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.
- 2 Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav'n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.
- 3 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

Organ Interlude

- 4 I have no help but Thine; nor do I need
Another arm but Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.
- 5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.
- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Nunc Dimittis

**Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation
which You have prepared in the sight of every people:
A light to reveal You to the nations
and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Post-Communion Collect & Benediction

Hymn: *Alleluia, Song of Gladness*

LSB 417

- 1 Alleluia, song of gladness,
 Voice of joy that cannot die;
 Alleluia is the anthem
 Ever raised by choirs on high;
 In the house of God abiding
 Thus they sing eternally.
- 2 Alleluia, thou resoundest,
 True Jerusalem and free;
 Alleluia, joyful mother,
 All thy children sing with thee,
 But by Babylon's sad waters
 Mourning exiles now are we.

- 3 Alleluia cannot always
Be our song while here below;
Alleluia, our transgressions
Make us for a while forgo;
For the solemn time is coming
When our tears for sin must flow.
- 4 Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee,
Grant us, blessed Trinity,
At the last to keep Thine Easter
With Thy faithful saints on high;
There to Thee forever singing
Alleluia joyfully.

THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE

Liturgist:	Rev. Dr. Wilfred L. Karsten
Preacher:	Vicar James Martin
Organist:	Lynette Karsten
Instrumentalists:	The Holy Cross Bells – Barbara Rauh, director
Elders:	8:15 Ben Brondos; 10:45 Paul Kretschmar
Videographers:	Rick Serre, Max Serre, Dale Farmer

Acknowledgments

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This Week's Activities, God Willing

Sunday, Feb. 19	8:15 a.m.	Divine Service HC
	9:30 a.m.	SS/BC
	10:45 a.m.	Prayer & Preaching
	2:00 p.m.	IRC Devotions
	2:45 p.m.	Crosstown Devotions
~~~~~ Pick up "Souper Sunday" Meal ~~~~~		
Monday	March Newsletter items due	
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Vicar's Bible Class
	4:30 p.m.	Youth Catechism
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Fitness class
	10:30 a.m.	Fellowship
	5:00 p.m.	Handbells
	6:00 p.m.	Choir
	6:45 p.m.	Imposition of Ashes
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service HC
	9:30 a.m.	<b>NO BIBLE CLASS</b>
Sunday, Feb. 26	8:15 a.m.	Divine Service
	9:30 a.m.	SS/BC
	10:45 a.m.	Divine Service w/HC

*Per HIPPA privacy regulations, if you put someone on the prayer list, please make sure you have first secured their permission to do so.*

### ***Prayer List***

***Prayer List emphasis for today:*** Friends of the congregation with cancer

***Recovering from surgery:*** Phyllis Murdock

***Surgery This Week:*** Dawn Smith (Mother of Heidi Sias)

### ***This Week's Birthdays***

***2/20*** Carol Ferrell; ***2/21*** Lyle Kushmer; ***2/22*** Alexa Ellis, Chelsey Ellis, Noah Thompson;  
***2/23*** Duane Lohse; ***2/25*** Kaleb Thompson.

**The altar flowers** are given by Sieg Paulsen in loving memory of Dick Paulsen.

**The Vicar's Tuesday Bible Class** continues its study of *Romans*.

**Pastor's Thursday class is studying:** *Christians in a Woke World: A Call to Courage, Confession and Love*. Everyone is invited to both of these classes. **Pastor's Thursday morning class will not meet this week.**



**You may pick up your Souper-Sunday meal that was previously ordered.** Meals will be available after 1st service, after Sunday School hour or after 2nd service today.

**Wednesday –Fitness and Fellowship. You may attend one or both activities.**

**At 10:00 a.m.** Come join in for the 20-minute chair exercises.

**At 10:30 a.m. is Coffee Hour Fellowship** with friends. Coffee, tea, and treats are served. Everyone is invited! For more information, contact Marcia Green.

***You can access the link of the 8:15 service in real time*** by going to the Holy Cross homepage on the Internet or the Holy Cross You Tube channel. Audio CDs are available upon request for those who do not have computer access. Please let Connie know if you would like a disk and copy of the bulletin or a written copy of the sermon and a bulletin.

**Lenten Services:** Our Ash Wednesday service on February 22 will begin at 7:00 (preceded by the individual imposition of ashes from 6:45 – 7:00, for those who desire such). There will be no dinner or hymn singing preceding the Ash Wednesday service. On subsequent Lenten Wednesdays, dinner will be served from 5:00-6:15 and hymn singing will occur at 6:45. **Our Lenten Theme this year is *His Final Steps*, with several pastors of the Rock Island Circuit participating.**

**Contribution statements are available.** Please call the office and leave a message, or send an email to [holycrosslutheran@mchsi.com](mailto:holycrosslutheran@mchsi.com)

**St. John's East Moline will be hosting a Chili Cookoff Fundraiser** for St John's Food Pantry Sunday, next Sunday, February 26, 2023. **Doors Open 5:00pm**

**You will find forms on the entryway table with information on the trip to The Ark Encounter.** These forms are *not a commitment, only an indication of interest* in the trip. Please fill out a form and turn it in to Mike or Jennifer Zecher or to the church office so we know if there is enough interest to proceed with plans.

### **Save the Date for Blood Drive**

The next Holy Cross Blood Drive has been scheduled for April 4, 2023 from 2:30-6:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Blood donors who want to support the blood drive can donate blood until February 7th. If you have any questions, you can contact Marcia Green (309)236-2923.

**Where are Dollars for Missions going?** Right now, they are providing the first half-year of support for a Vicar to help develop the latest new church start in CID, Immanuel Lutheran Chapel in Springfield. The mother church, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Springfield, will be the recipient of the first \$30,000 of DFM funds for this purpose. For more information, see <http://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-dfm-current-project.html>

**SOLID, SERIOUS, SUBSTANTIVE...** Issues, Etc. is a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. **This week's topics include: The Season of Lent, The Hymn “From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee,” The Movie “Living,” Witnessing to Homosexuals and more.** You can listen on-demand at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

**The February Voters Assembly adopted a Safety/Security Policy.** The most noticeable aspect will be the locking of the doors during worship with active monitoring to permit access for those arriving after the doors are locked. Full details of the security measures are available on the shelf in the entryway.

## **PRAYER LIST**

*Please help to keep this list current* by calling the church office when a name may be added or removed.

**Members in Facilities:** **River Crossing, Moline-** Roger Wolken **Cedarhurst, Moline-** Susan Wyant, Patricia Barr; **Crosstown, Silvis-** Barb Noah; **Park Vista-** Gordon Sellmann; **Woodridge Supportive Living, Galesburg-** Dick Ristau; **Illini Restorative Care-** Henry Setton; **Friendship Manor-** Dick Hochstetler, Dan and Phyllis Thorngren.

**Serving in the Military:** Alexa Ellis (daughter of Tera Elliott, granddaughter of Mike and Cheryl McLaughlin), Logan Noard (son of Kyle and Marilyn Noard), Stephen Waugaman (grandson of Donna Knudtson), Cameron Moore (grandson of Lew & Maria Steinbrecher), Matthew Glider (grandson of Doris Glider), Andrew Tolley (son of Carole Tolley), David Revel (son of Craig & Laurie Revel), Jeffrey Teuscher (nephew of Willie Swain), Austin Cox (grandson-in-law of Sieg Paulsen), Matthew Patterson (son-in-law of Mike Waters), Emilio Cantu (nephew of Jim & Kathy Cramblett), Leith Masri, (grandson of Marian Jones), Jakob Ryckeghem (grandson of Connie McKean).

**Member of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer** Bob Jahns.

**Friends of the congregation receiving treatment for Cancer:** : Natalie Nelson (daughter of Gregg & Tami Winter), Kate Stuenkel, Lisa Crawford, Virgil Curry, Joanne Lyons, Dave Patterson, Harold Foster, Judy Knudsen, Jeana McAllister.

**Serious Health Concerns:** Edgar Johnson, Susan Raber, Tina Rosko, Isla Galliard, Emily Scott, Glen Natzke, Dennis Rusk, Emily Brown, Richard Geisler, John David Ferrell, Sherian Robinson, Heidi Sias, Maureen DeLassus, Kelly Teuscher, Kenny Lackey, Gwen Shrake.

**Recovering/Ongoing Health Concerns:** Barb Ridnour, Vicki Broberg, Barb Noah, David Kramer, Donald Dawson, Kristine Westmoreland, Rev. Cecil Murdock, Kathrine Hopkins, Beryl Edwards, Vickie Shrake, Helen White, Gary Johnson, Fred Poe, Carol Ferrell, Susan Jamieson, Joshua Duburg, Sieg Paulsen, Jim Miene, Carol Rodgers, Cindy Davenport, Joseph Smithy.

