

GOSPEL
LUKE 24 13-35

*“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”
Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.*



Holy Cross Lutheran Church
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

200 Market Street, Ste. Genevieve, MO.63670

Office Phone 573-883-5361

holycrossstegen@gmail.com

Website: holycrossstegen.org

Facebook: facebook.com/holycrossstegen

Needs for pastoral care in our area, call one of our Elders-

Rick Hutson 573-780-9390,

Randy Ruzicka 314-210-4279 or Wayne Schremp 573-883-6060

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

The ringing of the bells starts at 9 a.m. Pastor/Seminarian prepares for a long set of bell tones before walking up to altar.

Words written in **Bold** generally signify congregation response.

The Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We are transformed in Christ

To share the hope of eternal Life.

Welcome, let us stand and share the sign of peace and conversation.

Sit

Confession and Absolution

477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 133; antiphon: v. 1

Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of
Aaron,

running down on the collar of his robes!

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

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.

Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!

Kyrie

LSB 204



☐ Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis (Intro)

LSB 204



☐ 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world.
Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death,
perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who
lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

First Reading

Acts 2:14a, 36–41

¹⁴Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

³⁶Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked

generation.” ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Peter 1:17–25

¹⁷If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one’s deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake, ²¹who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²²Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, ²³since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; ²⁴for

“All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
²⁵but the word of the Lord remains forever.”

And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse (intro)

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 24:13–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²²Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” ²⁵And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?”

²⁷And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them.

³⁰When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

³³And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C 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.

Sit

469 Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.

Sermon

Pastor Stephen Constien

For today's prayer requests, please write them on the attendance card provided during the service. Once completed, fold the card and either hand it to an usher or place it in the offertory plate. The Pastor or Seminarian will include these requests during the Prayers of the Church.

We honor the Lord with our tithes and our gifts. Please (**Stand**) as the offering is brought forward and sing.

Three ways to give:

- 1) offering plate—cash or check.**
- 2) online at holycrossstegen.org ○ Click the “Give” icon.**
- 3) by mail.**

956 Create in Me (intro)

Psalm 51:10-12



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church, Third Sunday of Easter, April 19, 2026

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

God of all compassion, Your Spirit opens the Holy Scriptures to the hearts of Your people. Enlighten us by the resurrection light that never fades, that our hearts may burn in faith toward You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Blessed Lord, You have established Your Church so that Your promise of eternal life might be delivered to us, to our children and to all who are far off — to everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself. Grant us faithful pastors to proclaim repentance and forgiveness through Word and Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, grant that Your Word may be the foundation of every Christian home; that husbands and wives may be united in faith and hope; and that children may hear and be nurtured in this Word by faithful parents. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, stifle the powers of darkness and end the reign of war, violence and terror. Give leaders who will seek peace and work for the common good. Instill in them a love of righteousness and guide them in the pursuit of justice for all. Bless _____, our president; the Congress of the United States; _____, our governor; all state and local officials; all medical and emergency workers; and all members of the armed forces. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O God, You have not forgotten us in our afflictions or abandoned us in our weakness. Deliver the sick and suffering according to Your will, and give comfort to the dying, especially to those who have requested our prayers [*including* _____]. Guard us against despair, and grant us patience in days of trouble as we await Your perfect healing. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, Your compassion is made known to us through Your Son's breaking of the bread. Open our hearts and mouths to receive forgiveness in the body and blood of Christ, who suffered for us and has entered into His glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Gracious Father, Grant to this congregation the guidance of the Holy Spirit to choose a Pastor according to Your will for Holy Cross church, Lord in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, through the life, death and resurrection of Your Son, You have delivered our souls from death, our eyes from tears and our feet from stumbling. Comfort all who mourn with this truth, that they may not grieve as others do who have no such hope. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

These things and whatever else You know that we need, kind Father, grant us for the sake of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208





Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed. By His death, He has redeemed us from bondage to sin and death, and by His resurrection, He has delivered us into new life in Him.

Grant us to keep the Feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His life's blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei (intro)

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart T in peace.

C **Amen.**

878 Abide with Me

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.

480 He's Risen, He's Risen

Text: C. F. W. Walther, 1811–87, abr.; tr. Anna M. Meyer, 1867–1941, alt.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003473

Stand

Nunc Dimittis (intro)

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

- A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

- A Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
- C Amen.

537 Beautiful Savior

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.
Tune: Public domain

Sit

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.

APRIL/MAY EVENTS

The fresh flower arrangement on the altar, given by anonymous donor.

Whether you're celebrating your first or fiftieth wedding anniversary this year, each milestone is truly remarkable. These occasions remind us of the greatness found in love and humility toward our partners—may you continue to grow together!

Voters Meeting will be held after today's church service. All are welcome. Desserts, coffee, and water will be provided.



'Thank you' so much to everyone who contributed to this year's Easter lily flower fund. The lilies were lovely, and your generosity made them possible. We also have some extra Easter lilies—if you'd like to take another one home, please feel free to pick one up in the fellowship hall after the service.

April 19: Trinity Lutheran Friedheim "Men's Club" Pancake and Sausage Breakfast
Free Will Offerings Carry Outs Available

May 3: Grace Lutheran Church Uniontown, MO "Church Supper" Fried chicken, kettle beef and all the trimmings Dine-in 3pm-6pm and Drive-thru 3pm-7pm \$15.00 for Adults - Children (6-10) \$7.00

Sunday's Church Doors Open at 8:00 AM Service Begins at 9:00 AM Following with a Bible Study coffee and pastries generally served.

Tuesdays Bible Study starting at 10:30 AM to 11:30AM

Secretarial Office Hours Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM



SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Stephen Constien

Scriptures Reader: Vickie Eisenbeis

Ushers: Wayne Schremp and
Rick Hutson

Communion Servicer: Randy Ruzicka

Music: Ipad system

UPCOMING SUNDAY April 26, 2026

Seminarian : Peyton Holland

Scripture Readers:

Ushers: Wayne Schremp & Rick Hutson

Organist: Todd Breuckner

Sunday Church Attendance	Attendance
First Week	63
Second Week	53
Third Week	
Fourth Week	

Your Financial Support of Your Church	4/12/26	Year-to-Date
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$2,902.00	\$47,530.00
Actual Offerings including online offerings (budget)	\$2,755.00	\$39,504.64
Ahead/Behind Budget Requirement	-\$147.00	-\$8,025.36
% Ahead/Behind	-5.1%	-16.9%

In Our Prayers This Week and Celebrations

Throughout the week, please keep these people in your daily prayers. As a model for prayer, consider going through the A.C.T.S. of prayer. *Adoration*: praising God for who He is. *Confession*: confessing your sins to God, especially those that weigh on your heart. *Thanksgiving*: thanking God for specific blessings. *Supplication*: asking God for help.

For those who are homebound **Barb Jones, Sharon Estes, Doug Arnold, Nick Krege, Pansy Meyer, Val Rakey.**

For healing and continued recovery **Bill Staffen** (Bonnie Keir's brother, cancer), **Dustin Hutson** (recovering from a brain bleed), **Pastor Jim Kirk** (treatment for myeloma) **Carol Steiger-Rudoff** continued prayers for recovery of cancer (Connie Schwent's Sister In-law), **Laura Pruneau Fallert** (Cancer treatment) that her blood counts stay strong and that she is excepted to a new trial period with her oncology team. Continued prayers for healing for **Wayne Phillips**. Continuing prayers for **Maia Rottler** she is on treatments for Leukemia give her family faith to help her in this journey. (granddaughter of LaJune Rottler). Sending prayers for Carl Noll's recovery.

For those celebrating birthdays in April **Levi Huck** (April 5), **Stephanie Schlueter** (April 11), **Paula Boland** (April 15), **John Inman** (April 15), **Frank Rolfe** (April 19), **Glenn Fluegge** (April 28).

For those celebrating wedding anniversaries in April **John & Bonnie Zerwig** (April 6), **Glenn & Vickie Eisenbeis** (April 14), **Dan & Kelly Sullivan** (April 16)

For Those Who Mourn

For local, state, and national elected officials that they uphold goodness and work humbly for those they serve.

For our community that more people believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We continue to pray for a Pastor to find his calling to Holy Cross Church.

For our church family A big thank you to EVERYONE who have been able to attend April Sunday Service's the numbers have been amazing!! We are transformed in Christ to share the hope of eternal life.

To submit a prayer request for inclusion in the bulletin, contact Connie, the church secretary, at 573-535-0084, or the church office at 573-883-5361 or holycrossstegen@gmail.com. Please provide your request by Wednesday noon to ensure it appears in that week's bulletin. Prayer requests will continue to be listed until removal is requested by the submitting family. If you would like the Pastor or Seminarian to read a request aloud during the service, write it on the attendance card, fold the card, and either give it to an usher or place it in the offering plate.