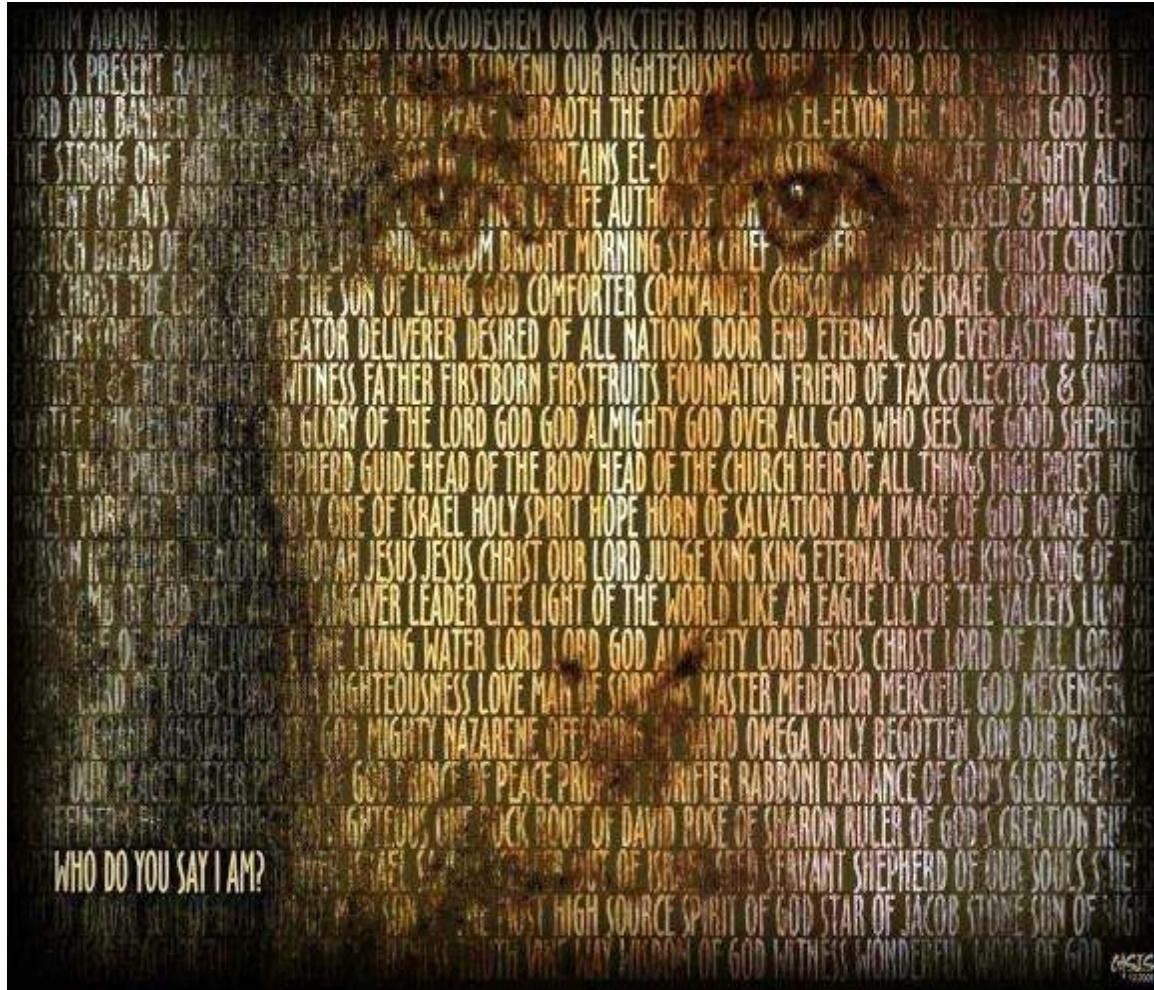




WE ARE TRANSFORMED IN CHRIST
to Share the Hope of Eternal Life.
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
JANUARY 18, 2026



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

434 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

Stand

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

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

C **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

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.**

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.**

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 19:1–4a, b; antiphon: v. 14

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.

Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun.

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.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Kyrie

LSB 204



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

Gloria in Excelsis (intro)

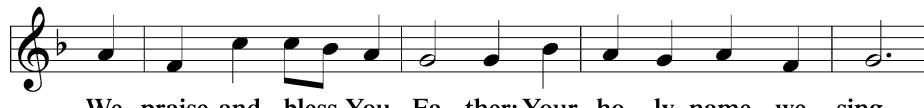
LSB 204



C 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

The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 49:1–7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my name.
²He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow;
 in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, “You are my servant,
 Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain;
 I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
 and my recompense with my God.”

⁵And now the LORD says,
 he who formed me from the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
 and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
 and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says:
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
 to raise up the tribes of Jacob
 and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷Thus says the LORD,
 the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,
 the servant of rulers:
“Kings shall see and arise;
 princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
 the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

¹Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse (intro)

C 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

Mark 8:27-38

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

²⁷ And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸ And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹ And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” ³⁰ And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

³⁴ And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it.”

Gospel

²⁷ And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸ And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹ And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” ³⁰ And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

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³⁴ And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. ³⁶ For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? ³⁷ For what can a man give in return for his life? ³⁸ For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

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 ^T of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

402 The Only Son from Heaven

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Seminarian Michael Wilke

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

Stand

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



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.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12
Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Installation of 2026 officers and board members.

Prayer of the Church Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 18, 2026

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

We praise You, O Lord, for You declared it too light a thing that Jesus should redeem only the tribes of Jacob and instead made Him a light for all the nations. Fill our hearts with joy that He is the Savior of all, and grant that our voices may help spread Your salvation to the ends of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, Your Son, Jesus Christ, summoned Andrew and Peter to follow Him and would later send them to bear witness to His name. Continue to call men into the holy ministry. Bless all

who hold and study for that office, that they would grow in all godly wisdom and faithfully make known Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, You faithfully watched over the tribes of Jacob, providing them both daily bread and redemption in abundant measure. Watch over the homes of Your people. Bless them with all that they need for this body and life, and preserve them in the glad confidence that Christ is their strength and their salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, guide and give wisdom to the nation and our president, the governor of this state, and all judges and magistrates. Protect those who serve us as firefighters, police, disaster workers and medical personnel. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, Your Son became the Lamb of God to take away all of our sins and infirmities by His death and resurrection. Remember all who are in need of Your help and healing *[especially _____]*. Deliver them according to Your merciful will, and preserve them in the certainty that their sins are taken away. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful Lord, You give us the precious body and blood of Your beloved Son for the forgiveness of our sins. Grant us faith as we approach the Lamb of God in this Sacrament. Enable us to keep in holy hearts what we receive upon our lips. Send Your Holy Spirit to keep us in this faith until Christ comes in His glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, through Your Holy Spirit You work in us to bring forth fruits of righteousness. Grant us a steadfast heart in times of duress, strength amid temptation and the grace of humility, that we may not fall victim to pride and arrogance. 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.**

Almighty God, heavenly Father, grant that we who have celebrated the incarnation of our Lord, Jesus Christ, may die to sin and rise to new life, that we may treasure up and ponder in our hearts the Christ announced by Your forerunner; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

Pax Domini

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis (intro)

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your servant go.
2 All glory to the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.
For I have seen the glory of the One;
the glory of the Three in One;
the glory of the God's three names.
A light to lead the beginning, the Un-
tiling, the Un-
to Your holy hill, the glo-ry of Your
now, shall ever be, the glo-ry of Your



Benedicamus

LSB 212

Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

The Lord bless us and keep us

The Lord make His face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and T give us peace.

C **Amen.**

534 Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor

Text: George H. Bourne, 1840–1925, alt.

Text: Public domain

Sit

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY EVENTS

Immanuel Lutheran 77th Annual Pancake Day

- February 14th starting at 6:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- serving pancakes, sausage, syrup, coffee, milk, OJ, water adults start at \$9 5-9 years old \$5 4 years and under eat free
- Immanuel Lutheran school gym 225 W South St. Perryville MO

Salem Adults in Christ presents "The Taming of Judge Roy Bean"

- Showtimes: March 13 (7:00 PM), March 15 (5:00 PM), March 21 (7:00 PM), March 22 (5:00 PM)
- Tickets: \$12/adult, \$5/children 6-12, free for kids under 5
- Concessions include pork burgers, pretzels, nachos, soda, and water
- Venue: Salem Lutheran gym, 299 PCR 328, Farrar, MO 63746

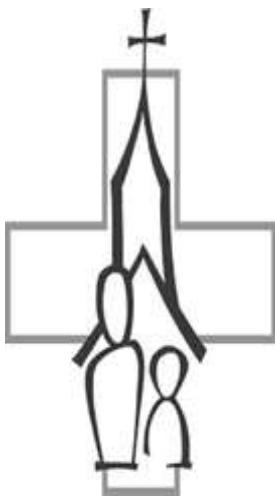
WEEKLY CALENDAR/UPDATES

Vacancy pastoral hours upon request

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

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 11:30 AM



SERVING TODAY

Pastor/Seminarian: Seminarian Michael Wilke
Scripture Reader: Meaghin Schremp
Ushers: Wayne Schremp & Rick Hutson
Communion Servicer: Randy Ruzicka
Organist: Organist I Pad

UP COMING SUNDAY JANUARY 25, 2026

Pastor : Stephen Constien
Scripture Readers: Laura Pruneau Fallet
Ushers: Wayne Schremp & Rick Hutson
Communion Servicer: Randy Ruzicka
Organist: Todd Brueckner

Sunday Church Attendance	Attendance
First Week	35
Second Week	41
Third Week	
Fourth Week	
Fifth Week	

Your Financial Support of Your Church	11/30/25	Year-to-Date
Weekly Budget Requirement	\$2,902.00	\$5,804.00
Actual Offerings—including online offerings (budget)	\$3,897.37	\$6,958.65
Ahead/Behind Budget Requirement	\$995.37	\$1,154.65
% Ahead/Behind	34.3%	19.9%

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, Doris Bayuk, 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 continued prayers for healing for **Wayne Phillips**. Continuing prayers for **Maia Rottler** she is on treatments for Leukemia (granddaughter of LuJune Rottler)

For those celebrating birthdays in January **Paul Ringwald** (Jan. 04), **Ron Bollinger** (Jan. 05), **Colte Bolland** (Jan.10), **Nathan Ringwald** (Jan.16), **Delaney Perschbacher** (Jan. 23), **Michael Keir** (Jan. 30), **Nikki Ringwald** (Jan.31).

For those celebrating wedding anniversaries in January

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 that 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.