

You are the light of the world.

Matthew 5:14



Holy Cross Lutheran Church
January 18-February 8, 2026
Transfiguration of our Lord
February 15, 2026



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'd love to work side-by-side with you, as God is building a more vibrant community here in south Austin.



a place where all are
SEEN + KNOWN + LOVED
among God's creation

Children in worship

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 is a nursery available for children 5 and under; ask an usher for directions. 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 an usher.

INTRODUCTION TO THE SUNDAYS AFTER EPIPHANY

During this time in the church, we focus on the essential stories of discipleship, full of Christ, baptism, and light. The Gospel writer known as Matthew enlivens this time with familiar stories of our faith. The color throughout this time is green, except for the culminating Sunday, Transfiguration of our Lord, in which the color is white.

January 18th: the second Sunday after Epiphany

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.



January 25th: the third Sunday after Epiphany

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be "caught" in the net of God's grace and mercy.



February 1st: the fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be "caught" in the net of God's grace and mercy.



February 8th: the fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.



February 15th: Transfiguration of Our Lord

Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

The assembly stands.

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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
**you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in ✝ Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.

The assembly continues with the gathering song, following the cross.

Water may be sprinkled on the assembly as a sign of baptism.

GATHERING SONG

January 18th: ELW 715: Christ, Be Our Light

January 25th: ELW 661: I love to tell the story

February 1st: ELW 714: O God of mercy, God of light

February 8th: ELW 532: *Gather Us In*

February 15th: ELW 838: *Beautiful Savior*

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.

Refrain



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the melody for 'Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.' The second staff contains the melody for 'Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.' Both staves use a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

The Assembly sings the refrain, and the cantor sings the verses.

KYRIE

For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response
to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,
for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives
in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

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>January 18th:</i>	Isaiah 49:1-7
<i>January 25th:</i>	Isaiah 9:1-4
<i>February 1st:</i>	Micah 6:1-8
<i>February 8th:</i>	Isaiah 58:1-12
<i>February 15th:</i>	Exodus 24:12-18

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

PSALM

<i>January 18th:</i>	Psalm 40
<i>January 25th:</i>	Psalm 27
<i>February 1st:</i>	Psalm 15
<i>February 8th:</i>	Psalm 112
<i>February 15th:</i>	Psalm 2

SECOND READING

<i>January 18th:</i>	1 Corinthians 1:1-9
<i>January 25th:</i>	1 Corinthians 1:10-18
<i>February 1st:</i>	1 Corinthians 1:18-31
<i>February 8th:</i>	1 Corinthians 2:1-16
<i>February 15th:</i>	2 Peter 1:16-21

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

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

*The psalms begin the songs
and hymns in the red Worship
book numbering 1-150 or
receive a bookmark from the
usher.*

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The assembly stands to receive the Word of God.

GOSPEL

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

- January 18th: Isaiah 49:1-7
January 25th: Matthew 4:12-23
February 1st: Matthew 5:1-12
February 8th: Matthew 5:13-20
February 15th: Matthew 17:1-9

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

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

- January 18th: ELW 341: *Now behold the Lamb*
January 25th: ELW 696: *Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult*
February 1st: ELW 669: *Rise up, O saints of God!*
February 8th: ELW 677: *This little light of mine*
February 15th: ELW 612: *Healer of our every ill*



The assembly is seated.

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



APOSTLES CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say "Peace be with you" or similar words.

MEAL

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN ELW 312 *Jesus, come! For we invite you* vs. 1 & 4

Jesus, Come! For We Invite You



→ 1 Je - sus, come! for we in - vite you, guest and mas - ter,
 2 Je - sus, come! trans-form our plea - sures, guide us in - to
 3 Je - sus, come! in new cre - a - tion, heav'n brought near in
 → 4 Je - sus, come! sur - prise our dull - ness, make us will - ing



friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca - na's wed - ding,
 paths un - known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser - vants,
 pow'r di - vine; give your un - ex - pect - ed glo - ry,
 to re - ceive more than we can yet im - ag - ine,



speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or
 let us trust in you a - lone: though your hand may work in
 chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine: rouse the faith of your dis -
 all the best you have to give: let us find your hid - den



doubt - ing, hope be born and joy re - stored.
 se - cret, all shall see what you have done.
 ci - ples— come, our first and great - est Sign!
 rich - es, taste your love, be - lieve, and live!

Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938
 Music: UNION SEMINARY, Harold Friedell, 1905–1958
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OFFERING PRAYER

God of majesty,
 no eye has seen, no ear has heard
 what you have prepared for those who love you,
 yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
 Use what we have gathered
 to feed us with the reign of God come near,
 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly stands after the offering is gathered. During this time, the table is set. Bread, wine, money, and other gifts may be brought forward, while the assembly sings the offertory.

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

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.

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, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high -
est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-
san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

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



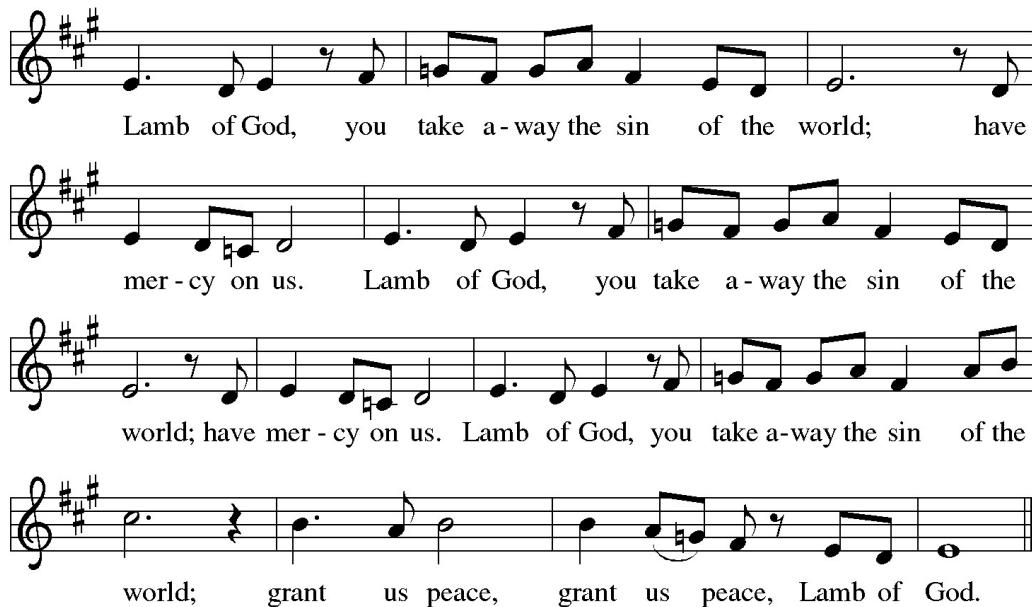
Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
 Come to the table; taste and see.

*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.*

SONG DURING COMMUNION: Lamb of God



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, Lamb of God.

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.



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

The assembly stands after all have returned to their places.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We stand together.

Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood
you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & BLESSING

May the triune God,
who has put a new song in your mouth
and tuned your heart for praise
✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Every Week: ELW 314: Arise, your light has come!

The assisting minister sends the assembly into mission.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.



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Announcing the Annual Congregational Meeting & Potluck Lunch SUNDAY, JANUARY 25th

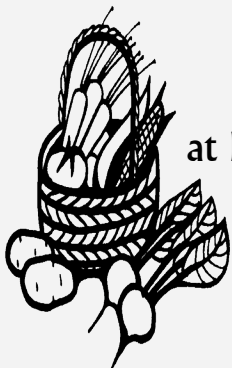
Following worship, in the
Fellowship Hall

Members will vote on approval of
the Stewardship Plan for 2026,
elect new leaders for this coming
year, and we all will share in
thanksgiving for God's grace and
abundance with, for and through
our community.



January		February	
1	KK Nelson	9	Wendee P Clark
9	Heather Wykrent	9	Dan Manfredini
14	Sam Smith	14	Mary Ann Foster
18	Marie Wykrent	20	Benjamin Johnson
24	Janet Tracy	28	Manuel Jimeno
26	Marilyn La Ronde		
27	Kevin Munns		

Bread for All Food Pantry



happens every Monday
at Faith Presbyterian Church,

1314 E. Oltorf

our partner through
Austin City Lutherans

Help serve from

5:30 to 6:30pm

Holy Cross night is the 2nd
Monday.




A week in the life of Holy Cross:

- Sundays: 10am Worship
11am Fellowship
- Wednesdays: 11am-3pm LWR Quilters
- Saturdays: 8am-8pm Pan-Am Church

Jazzercise & Meals on Wheels meet daily.

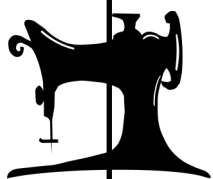
Upcoming Events in January:

- January 25th: Annual Meeting & Potluck Lunch



I will change your name.
I will change your name
You will no longer be called
Wounded,
Outcast,
Lonely,
or Afraid

I will change your name
Your new name shall be...
Confidence,
Joyfulness,
Overcoming One,
Faithfulness,
Friend of God,
One who seeks My face.



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?

Visitors, feel free to take this bulletin with you today. Others are asked to return this bulletin to the basket or an usher for re-use until February 15, 2026.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

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