



January 4, 2026 - 9:30 am

2nd Sunday of Christmas



GATHERING: The Spirit Calls Us Together

Prelude

"Mary Did You Know"

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness—

Call to Worship

Gathering Song

"Angels from the Realm of Glory "

ELW 275

Greeting

Kyrie

ELW Page 98

Hymn of Praise

"We Three Kings of Orient Are "

Prayer

Special Music

"The Work of Christmas Begins"

WORD: We Hear God in Scripture & Preaching

Children's Message

Jeremiah 31:7-14... Thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel."⁸ See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor together; a great company, they shall return here.⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back; I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path where they shall not stumble, for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him and will keep him as a shepherd does a flock."¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again.¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them and give them gladness for sorrow.¹⁴ I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Ephesians 1:3-14... Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places,⁴ just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love.⁵ He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will,⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight⁹ he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure

that he set forth in Christ,¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will,¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit;¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

John 1:1-18...In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.² He was in the beginning with God.³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John.⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him.¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'")¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Pastor Russell Martin

Hymn of the Day

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

Prayers

Sharing God's Peace

MEAL: God Feeds us with the Presence of Jesus

Offering

Special Music

"Joseph's Lullaby"

Offertory

"Infant Holy Infant Lowly"

ELW 276

Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Communion

Communion Songs

"Lamb of God"

"Twas in the Moon of Wintertime"

ELW 284

Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING: Being Loved, God Sends Us to Love

Blessing

Sending Song

"Christ be Our Light "

ELW 715

Dismissal

Postlude

Announcements

- ⇒ Roses are in celebration of Bev William's 90th birthday!
- ⇒ Food Pantry Our next food pantry is our Thursday, January 15th from 5 to 7pm. [CLICK HERE](#) to help. Donations are needed! Our most pressing needs right now are ramen, pasta sauce, and tuna. To help with our inventory control please only put your donations in the blue bin. Thank you for your continued support of this vital community ministry.
- ⇒ Altar Flowers for 2026 are now available for purchase for \$47. Please [click here](#) to sign up or contact the church office.
- ⇒ Budget Forum Join us following worship Sunday January 11th for our Budget Forum where the 2026 budget will be discussed.
- ⇒ Congregation Annual Meeting Save the Date Sunday, January 25th at 10:45am in person only.
- ⇒ Giving through Venmo You can now support the ministries of Holy Cross via Venmo. Find us on Venmo @HolyCrossLutheran.

Calendar for Upcoming Week

Sunday, January 4

9:30 am Worship
2:00 pm Virgil Pilger Celebration of Life—VFW

Monday, January 5

6:30 pm Boy Scouts
9:00 pm CMA Meeting

Tuesday, January 6

7:30 pm AA Meeting

Wednesday, January 7

12:30 pm Tai Chi Balance Class
6:00 pm Confirmation/Uke Choir
6:30 pm Youth Worship
7:00 pm Radical Ringers/Youth Group

Thursday, January 8

6:00 pm Finance Committee Mtg
6:30pm Carolon Bell Choir
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, January 9

1:00 pm Knitting in the Narthex
7:00 pm Belles N Beaus

Saturday, January 10

9:30 am Sarah Circle At Holy Cross

Sunday, December 11

9:30 am Worship
10:40 am Sunday School/Budget Forum
10:50 am MS/HS Ensemble
11:00 am MS/HS Bell Choir
2:00 pm Christmas Caroling
3:00 pm Girl Scout Troup 48012 Mtg

Prayer Requests from our Church Community

Member Concerns: Norm Firkins; Phyllis Beam; Donna McCoy; Connie Mertz.

Friends and Relatives: Jane Marsh, aunt of Jen Gitt; Jim O'Grady, uncle of Pastor Heather Grell; Pat & Barry Butterfield, mother and father of Amy Odson; Deniel Algarin, nephew of Alicia Glesne; Scott Matheson, brother in law of Julie Noteman; Joshua Perilo, son of Sharon Perilo; Crosby Vargas, friend of Julie Noteman; Savannah Barb, cousin of Emma & Geno Roberts; Sonrisa Lewis, friend of the Harvey family; Avery W.; Ken Gross, cousin of Julie Noteman; Josh Moreau, friend of Wendy Brenner's family; Nancy Bartell, sister-in-law of Peg Schneider; Michael Schadendorf, grandfather of Edith and Tanya Valandra; Erin Peters, daughter of Gail Ginger; Anna Victor, aunt of Jen Gitt; Dave Huggins, friend of Jim & Peg Schneider; Mya Calendar, daughter of Trisha Ryan; Carol Deditz, sister of Julie Noteman; Opal Calendar, foster granddaughter of Trisha Ryan; Kelsey Schneider, daughter of Jim & Peg Schneider; Theresa Ramelb, friend of Jacque Petersen; Shari Jensen, friend of Ed Krueger; Ronda Bayer, friend of Debbie Risinger; Debbie Haacke, coworker of Debbie Risinger; Linda Anderson, Barb Kay's sister; Aaron McDonald and Family and Caregivers, McDonald's grandson.

Grieving: Bill Turley and his family as they mourn the death of Dorothy.

Irene and Troy Schnack and their families as they mourn the death of Gordon.

Charlene Pilger and her family as they mourn the death of Virgil.