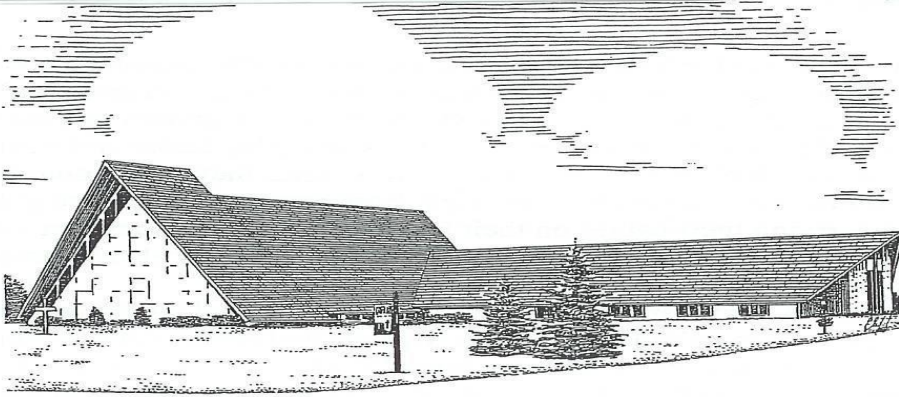


Holy Cross Lutheran Church

"Together in God's Word and love, we boldly go to sow and grow Christ's Kingdom."



Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Clarence, New York

January 14, 2024

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

As We Gather

The Lord persists. He speaks, we listen; by faith, we are able to respond. Samuel is roused from his sleep repeatedly and is finally encouraged to respond. "Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears." Jesus bids Philip to follow, and he does. Jesus claims to have known Nathanael, and in turn Nathanael confesses that Jesus is the Son of God. We, too, can only be responsive to God's will once we have heard His Word and believe.

Welcome

Welcome those of you who are visiting with us today. You are our honored guests! At your convenience, please stop and sign the Welcome Book. For more information, check out holycrossclarence.com. We're glad you're here!

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Please stand.

Hymn of Invocation

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

LSB 901 sts. 1–2, 4–5

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80 Text and tune: Public domain

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

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C 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.

Absolution

- P** 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.
C Amen.

✠ Service of the Word ✠

Entrance Hymn

Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

LSB 589

Kyrie

LSB 168

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A 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.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

- P** 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.**

Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 3:1–20

¹The young man Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.

⁴Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said, “Here I am!” ⁵and ran to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call; lie down again.” So he went and lay down.

⁶And the LORD called again, “Samuel!” and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” But he said, “I did not call, my son; lie down again.” ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the young man. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.” ¹¹Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. ¹²On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. ¹³And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”

¹⁵Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. ¹⁶But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹⁷And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to him.”

¹⁹And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

¹O LORD, you have searched me and known me!
²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
³You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.
⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.
⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.
⁷Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?
⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!
⁹If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.

☩ 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.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 6:12–20

¹²“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be enslaved by anything. ¹³“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” ¹⁷But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, ²⁰for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

☩ This is the Word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff continues the melody for 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.'.

Holy Gospel

John 1:43–51

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.
C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” ⁴⁷Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” ⁴⁸Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” ⁵⁰Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” ⁵¹And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways LSB 707



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in Thy com - mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
Let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan-d'ring sheep.
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

Please be seated.

Sermon

"Bought With a Price"

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Please stand.

Apostles' Creed

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

Prayer of the Church

Please be seated

✝ Offering (Our Response to God's Grace) ✝

In response to God's grace, we return a portion of what God has given us so that His ministry may continue among us. This QR code provides an option to contribute electronically.



Please contact Sue Tichy, our Financial Secretary, if you would like a mailbox or offering envelopes and do not already have them. tichyfamily4@yahoo.com

Offertory

Take My Life and Let It Be LSB 783 sts. 1, 4



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;

Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79 Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

Our Beliefs Regarding Holy Communion (13)

“What does Christ command when He says, ‘This do in remembrance of Me’? Christ commands in these words that this Sacrament be administered in His Church until the Last Day. In this Sacrament, His saving death is proclaimed and the fruits of His atonement are distributed for the forgiveness of sins. This is done as bread and wine are consecrated with our Lord’s words (the Words of Institution), distributed to the communicants, and eaten and drunk. Jesus’ command to do ‘this’ includes all these aspects of the Lord’s Supper: ‘In an assembly of Christians bread and wine are taken, consecrated, distributed, received, eaten, drunk, and the Lord’s death is shown forth at the same time.’” (Formula of Concord; Explanation to Luther’s Small Catechism; see 1 Corinthians 11:26)

The Bible teaches that those who eat His body and drink His blood without such repentance and faith bring judgment upon themselves. Therefore, out of love for you and faithfulness to God’s Word, guests at the Lord’s Table MUST: 1) be baptized and believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; 2) believe Jesus’ words that in, with, and under the bread and wine you receive His body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins; and 3) sincerely intend, with God’s help, to turn from any and every sin in your life. Anyone who has not yet been instructed in the Sacrament, is unsure about this, or holds a different belief regarding Holy Communion, should speak with our pastor before receiving the Lord’s Supper.

Please stand.

Preface

LSB 160

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.

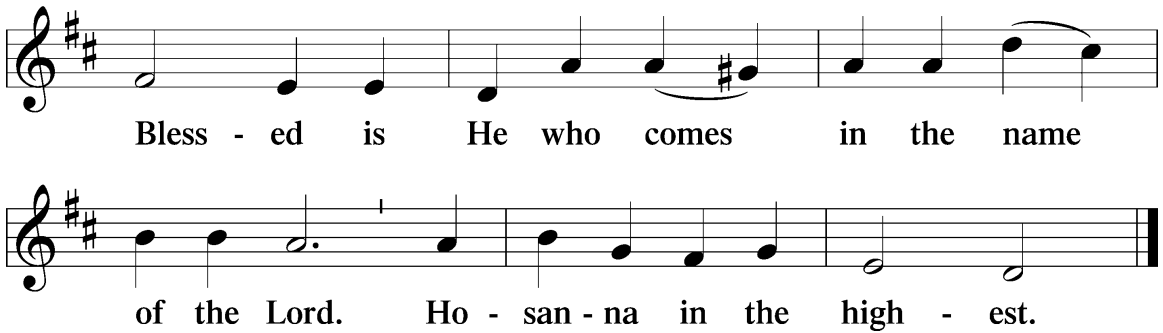
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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.**

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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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

LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



C 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



Distribution

In this Sacrament, we believe in the real presence of Christ's body and blood as we receive the consecrated bread and wine. Members and visitors of sister LCMS congregations instructed in the doctrine of the Lord's Supper are welcome to partake in this meal. Christians not yet instructed in the Lord's Supper are welcome to come forward; please cross your arms to indicate the pastor should give you a baptismal blessing. (If you are interested in Baptism and the Lord's Supper, Christ has prepared these gifts for you! Our pastor will be available after the service to discuss preparation for church membership and Holy Communion.)

Distribution Hymns

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" LSB 909

"The Church's One Foundation" LSB 644 sts. 1–5

Please stand.

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.

Benediction

LSB 183

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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Hymn to Depart

Hail, O Source of Every Blessing LSB 409

1 Hail, O Source of ev-'ry bless-ing, Fa-ther of our
 2 Once far off but now in-vit-ed, We ap-proach Your
 3 Hail, O all-in-vit-ing Sav-ior! Gen-tiles now their

hu-man race! Gen-tiles now, Your grace pos-sess-ing, In Your
 sa-cred throne, In Your cov-e-nant u-nit-ed, Rec-on-
 of-f'rings bring, In Your tem-ples seek Your fa-vor, Je-sus

courts ob-tain a place. Grate-ful now, we fall be-fore You,
 ciled, re-deemed, made one. Now re-vealed to east-ern sa-ges,
 Christ, our Lord and King. May we, bod-y, soul, and spir-it,



In Your Church re - joice to live, See Your glo - ry
See the Star of Mer - cy shine, Mys - t'ry hid in
Live de - vot - ed to Your praise, Glo - rious realms of



and a - dore You, Thank - ful for the grace You give.
for - mer a - ges, Mys - t'ry great of love di - vine.
bliss in - her - it, Grate - ful an - thems ev - er raise.

Text: Basil Woodd, 1760–1831, alt. Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Holy Cross Happenings

Jan. 14	Sunday	Divine Service	8:00 a.m.
Jan. 14	Sunday	Adult Bible Class	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 14	Sunday	Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 14	Sunday	Confirmation Class	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 14	Sunday	Divine Serv w Praise Band	11:00 a.m.
Jan. 16	Tuesday	Morning Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Jan. 16	Tuesday	Evening Bible Study	8:30 p.m.
Jan. 17	Wednesday	Lunch 'n Learn	11:30 a.m.
Jan. 18	Thursday	Hebrew Men's Group	7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. Sunday School resumes with the Story of Samson (Judges 16). Come grow with us in faith!

CONFIRMATION CLASS. Confirmation class continues as we study Joshua and Jericho. *"Be strong and courageous...."-Joshua 1:6,7,9*

ADULT BIBLE CLASS. Our study on "Unshakable Faith" continues **TODAY, January 14, at 9:30 a.m.** in the HCCC.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study. Join us Tuesday mornings from ~9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Holy Cross Christian Center for a Bible study on the Lord's Prayer, led by Rev. Nickel. This week's study (**January 16**) is on "Lead us not into temptation." For more details contact Karen Langewicz (klang1346@yahoo.com 683-8332).

Tuesday Evening Zoom Bible Study. Join us **Tuesday evenings from 8:30-9:30 p.m.** by Zoom from the comfort of your own home for a Bible study on the book of Job. Zoom link is <https://zoom.us/j/814394588>.

PORTALS OF PRAYER. Are available for pickup in the Narthex.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY. 2024 Envelopes are in your mailbox. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Tichy at: holycrossclarences@gmail.com

LUNCH 'N LEARN. The January edition is coming up quickly on **Jan. 17.** The menu will be delicious winter "comfort foods" of: sloppy Joe's, tater tots, corn, and ice cream with a cookie for dessert! The speaker is Katie Earl from **Erie County University Express.** She asks us: Do you like learning new things? Are you interested in meeting people with similar interests? University Express is for you! We'll talk about how the program works and you'll get a sneak peek at what we are offering for the spring semester. We'll also discuss the other programs and services that the Erie County Department of Services offers to keep you busy and connected.

HEBREWS MEN'S GROUP. Join other men from Holy Cross, St. Paul's and other local LCMS congregations for fellowship and spiritual encouragement. (We meet the third Thursday each month year-round.) Next meeting is **Thursday, January 18th at 7:00 p.m. at Yogi's Brick Oven Bistro, 15 Main Street, Akron.**

CROSS CONSTRUCTION FOR KRAMPITZ HALL. At our December Voters meeting the congregation selected a design for a cross for the east wall of Krampitz Hall to give glory to God and witness to Christ. The selected design reflects the shape of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod standard logo cross, and would have three strands of wood (light, medium and dark) representing the Holy Trinity. Doug Hartley has graciously agreed to take the lead in constructing the cross or arranging to have it constructed. If you have woodworking experience or other input and would like to assist in this effort for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ, please see Doug or contact him (kdahartley@aol.com or cell 716.830.2576).

"THE CHOSEN" BIBLE STUDY. Participants in our video Bible study of "The Chosen" will be attending the movie theatre opening of episodes 1-3 of season 4 of this series on Thursday, February 1 at 1:55 pm at Regal Cinema, 6707 Transit Road. We invite you join us for this cinematic depiction of Jesus Christ and His disciples. Advance tickets may be purchased online at fathomevents.com or regmovies.com. See Pastor Nickel for any questions.

2023 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS. The statements are in your church mailbox. Please pick them up at church to save Holy Cross postage expense mailing them. Please contact me, Sue Tichy, at holycrossclarences@gmail.com if you have any questions or need your statement emailed to you.

Stewardship Corner

January 14 – Second Sunday after the Epiphany

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 – “You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.” God owns everything, including our very selves. We were made to serve Him and glorify Him and will never truly be happy or find our fulfillment until we learn that lesson. Jesus has redeemed us and brought us back into the kingdom of the Father, and that has set us free to serve Him in joy, generosity, liberty and faith. If you’re looking for a way to serve in 2024, please contact Pastor Nickel, one of the Elders, or a Council member.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Rev. Jeffrey Nickel
Curtis Cook, Organist
Bill Cook, Choir Director
Dave Shelton, Praise Band Director
Doug Hartley, President
Judy Chiswell, Administrative Assistant



20 8am Second Sunday after the Epiphany January 14, 2024