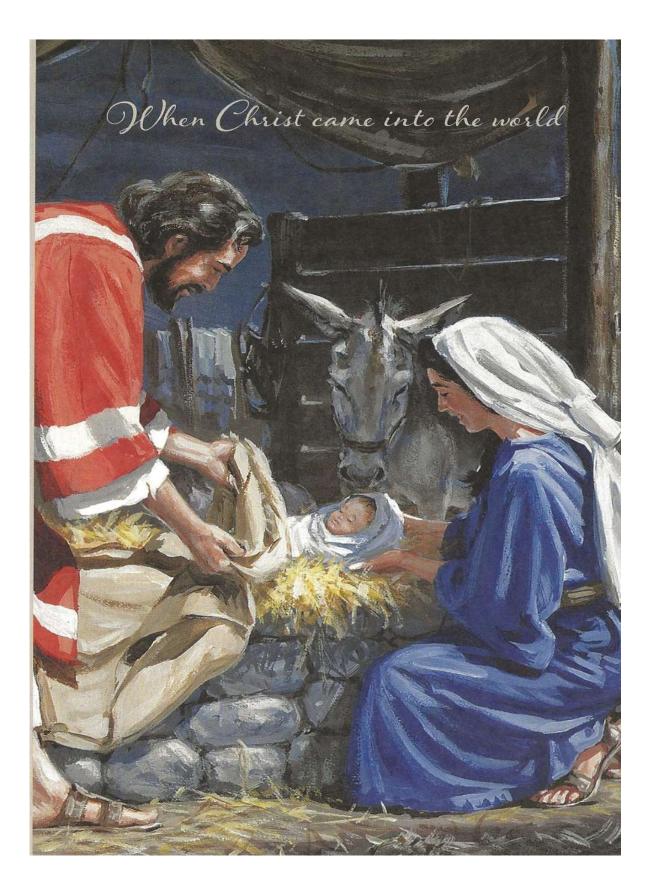
The 4th Sunday in Advent | December 22, 2024



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH 4107 21st Avenue, Moline, IL 61265 P: (309) 764-9720 E: holycrosslutheran@mchsi.com www.holycrossmoline-lcms.org

Rev. Gary A. Wright Rev. Joel Brondos Susan Serre Hope Davenport Pastor Pastoral Assistant Youth Director/Sunday School Superintendent Office Administrator

About the Cover

The Old Testament sacrifices and offerings were always given in order to point forward to Christ. Christ has come to fulfill the Law, not merely with the outward observance of sacrifices and offerings, but with His whole body. For Christ has accomplished what we could never do. By taking on human flesh, He has redeemed and sanctified us, going all the way to the cross. He has become the one-time and eternal sacrifice for us.

Since Holy Communion presupposes a "common unity" of faith and doctrine among those who participate together in this Sacrament, we ask that those who desire to commune with us be confirmed members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation. Those not able to come to the chancel may speak to the pastor or an elder to commune in their pew. If you have not previously communed here, please speak to the Pastor or an elder. If you are not communing, but would like to come to the chancel for a blessing, please kneel or stand with your arms crossed over your chest.

> H The Fourth Sunday in Advent December 22, 2024

Hymn of Invocation: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

- Of the Father's love begotten Ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending He, Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see Evermore and evermore.
- Oh, that birth forever blessèd, When the virgin, full of grace, By the Holy Ghost conceiving, Bore the Savior of our race, And the babe, the world's Redeemer, First revealed His sacred face Evermore and evermore.
- This is He whom seers in old time Chanted of with one accord,
 Whom the voices of the prophets Promised in their faithful word.
 Now He shines, the long-expected;
 Let creation praise its Lord Evermore and evermore.
- 4 O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him; Angel hosts, His praises sing.
 Pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him And extol our God and King.
 Let no tongue on earth be silent, Ev'ry voice in concert ring Evermore and evermore.

5 Christ, to Thee, with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion, And eternal victory Evermore and evermore. Amen.

Stand

 \wedge

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

- **C** Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

- **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Introit

1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b-7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b-47

My soul magni- | fies the Lord,* and my spirit rejoices in God my | Savior.

My mouth derides my | enemies,* because I rejoice in your sal- | vation.

There is none holy | like the LORD;* there is none besides you; there is no rock | like our God.

The barren has borne | seven,* but she who has many children | is forlorn.

The LORD kills and | brings to life;* he brings down to Sheol and | raises up. The LORD makes poor and | makes rich;* he brings low and | he exalts. Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **C** Amen.

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he shall be their peace.

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

Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.* Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.
Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;* righteous and having sal- | vation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.* From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle

Hebrews 10:5–10

⁵When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; ⁶in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. ⁷Then I said, 'Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.""

⁸When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), ⁹then he added, "Behold, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. ¹⁰And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

Stand

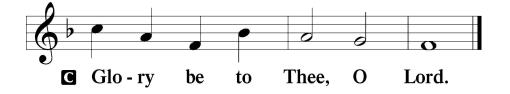
Alleluia

LSB 190



Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.



³⁹In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, ⁴⁰and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, ⁴²and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

Luke 1:39-45

⁴³And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

LSB 191

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.

Hymn of the Day: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

- O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear. *Refrain*
- *ref* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!
- O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
 Who ord'rest all things mightily;
 To us the path of knowledge show,
 And teach us in her ways to go. *Refrain*
- 3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height In ancient times didst give the Law In cloud and majesty and awe. *Refrain*
- O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
 Free them from Satan's tyranny
 That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
 And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. *Refrain*
- 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. *Refrain*

- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 In one the hearts of all mankind;
 Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
 And be Thyself our King of Peace. *Refrain*

Sermon "A Dance of Joy: Celebrating the Incarnation" Luke 1:39-45

Votum

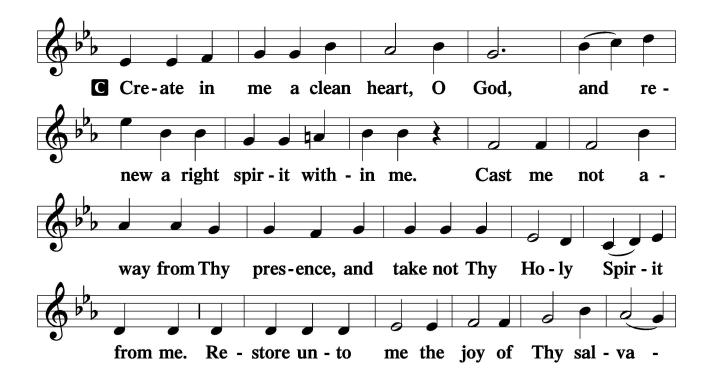
P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

С

Amen.

Stand **Offertory**

LSB 192



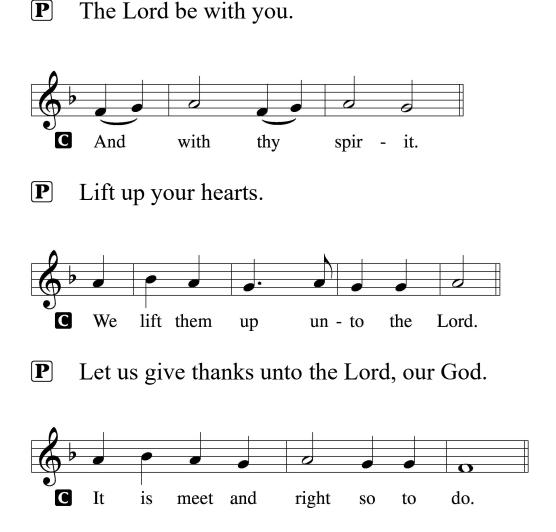


Prayer of the Church

LSB 193

LSB 194

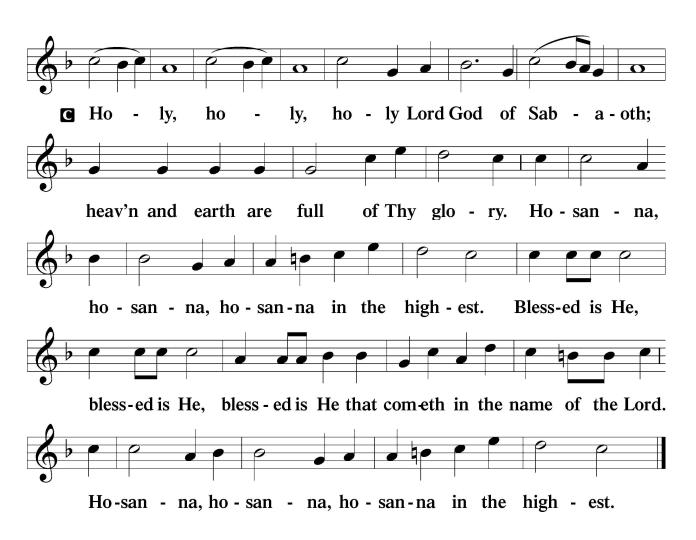
Preface



 It is truly meet, 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in 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 195



Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

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

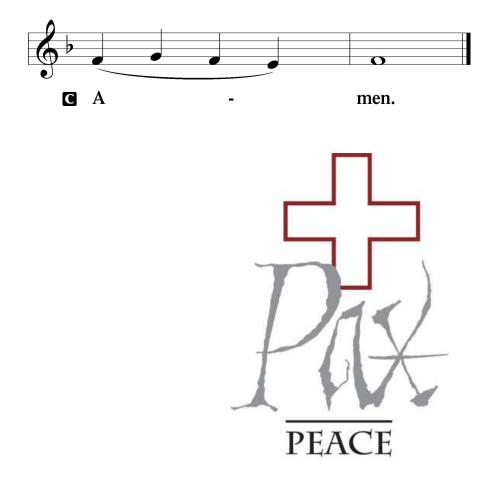
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."

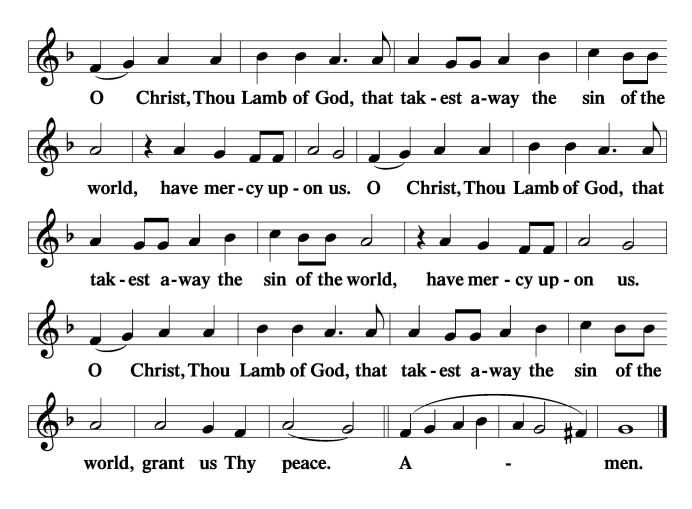
Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei



Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: "The Infant Priest Was Holy Born" LSB 624

 The infant Priest was holy born For us unholy and forlorn; From fleshly temple forth came He, Anointed from eternity.

- 2 This great High Priest in human flesh
 Was icon of God's righteousness.
 His hallowed touch brought sanctity;
 His hand removed impurity.
- 3 The holy Lamb undaunted came To God's own altar lit with flame; While weeping angels hid their eyes, This Priest became a sacrifice.
- 4 But death would not the victor be Of Him who hung upon the tree. He leads us to the Holy Place Within the veil, before God's face.
- 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the rail on bended knee Our hungry mouths from Him receive The bread of immortality.
- 6 The body of God's Lamb we eat, A priestly food and priestly meat; On sin-parched lips the chalice pours His quenching blood that life restores.
- With cherubim and seraphim
 Our voices join the endless hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our Priest and King.

Distribution Hymn: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming As prophets long have sung, It came, a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter, When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The rose I have in mind; With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright, She bore to us a Savior, When half-spent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness ev'rywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us And lightens ev'ry load.

4 O Savior, child of Mary, Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of glory, Who dost our weakness know:
Bring us at length we pray To the bright courts of heaven, And to the endless day.

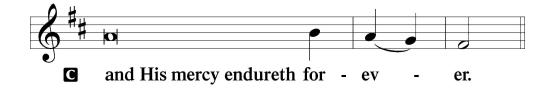
Stand

Nunc Dimittis

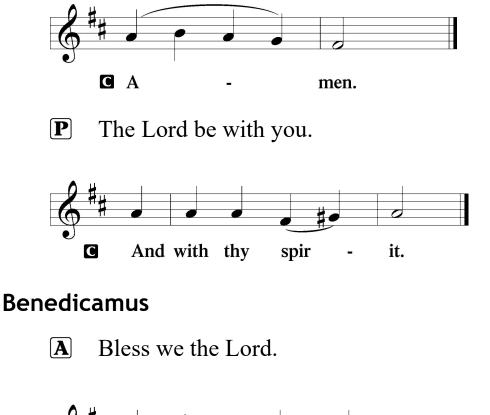


Thanksgiving

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



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.



LSB 201



LSB 202

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Hymn to Depart: "Once He Came in Blessing"

Once He came in blessing,
 All our sins redressing;
 Came in likeness lowly,
 Son of God most holy;
 Bore the cross to save us;
 Hope and freedom gave us.

- Now He gently leads us;
 With Himself He feeds us
 Precious food from heaven,
 Pledge of peace here given,
 Manna that will nourish
 Souls that they may flourish.
- Soon will come that hour
 When with mighty power
 Christ will come in splendor
 And will judgment render,
 With the faithful sharing
 Joy beyond comparing.

LSB 333

4 Come, then, O Lord Jesus, From our sins release us. Keep our hearts believing, That we, grace receiving, Ever may confess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

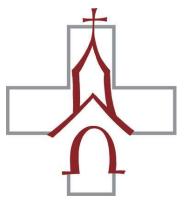
THANK YOU TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE

Preacher: Rev. Gary A. Wright

Organist: Julia Koester

Elders: 10:45 A.M.: Jerry Tutskey ~ Scott Paller

Videographers: Rick Serre, Max Serre, Alex Serre,



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THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES...GOD WILLING

| SUNDAY, DEC 22 | 9:30 A.M. | Children's Christmas Program |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|
| | 10:45 A.M. | Divine Service |
| MONDAY | Newsletter & Calendar Items Due!!! | |
| TUESDAY | 5:00 P.M. | Candlelight Service |
| WEDNESDAY | 9:00 A.M. | No Bible Class |
| | 10:15 A.M. | No Fitness Class |
| | 10:40 A.M. | No Fellowship Hour |
| | 10:45 A.M. | Christmas Day Service |
| THURSDAY | Office closed until Monday January 6 th | |
| SUNDAY, DEC 29 | 9:30 A.M. | Bible Class/SS |
| | 10:45 A.M. | Divine Service |

Per HIPPA privacy regulations, if you put someone on the prayer list, please make sure you have first secured their permission to do so.

<u>Prayer List</u>

Prayer list emphasis for today:

Friends & family of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer *Serious health conditions:* Rev. Murdock, Bethany Albrecht, Fred Poe

Celebrating Birthdays This Week!!!

Rebecca Dawson ~ Bruce Noah ~ Michael McKean ~ Jan Phillips ~ Lori Stewart

Please remember to complete one of the attendance cards in the pew rack. This information is used for many planning purposes!

The flowers on the altar are provided by the loving family of Bruce Noah in celebration of his 70th Birthday!

Christmas cards are available for purchase in the church library. Prices are marked on the boxes.

If you would like to purchase an 8" red Poinsettia, the sign-up sheets are in the entryway. The cost is \$17.00/ea. You may take it home after the Christmas Day service. If you have any questions, you may contact the office. Thank you!

Our Pantry Sunday recipient for the month of December is Cristo Rey. Please keep them in your thoughts while you're out shopping!

Just a reminder... There will be **NO** Peace Quilters in the month of January.

ATTENTION!!!

The staff at Holy Cross is currently in the process of updating our records of contact information for members, etc. If you need to update your address, phone number or email, please contact the office at your earliest convenience. Thank you!

Volunteering to Serve

As we approach 2025, Holy Cross is looking for volunteers to serve on committees and leadership positions. If you are interested in serving the Lord through leadership/ committee work or general assist, please call or text Marcia Green *refer to church phone directory.

The Mutual Encouragement Committee

serves a meal the second Monday of every month following a worship service at Christian Care in Rock Island. In this way we serve both body and soul of those in our community who find themselves in need. Our next date of service is Monday, January 13, 2024. Monetary donations are always welcome and are used to purchase spaghetti ingredients, salads and garlic bread. A sign-up sheet is located in the entryway for those interested in providing desserts or fresh fruit. These items, clearly marked for Christian Care, can be left in the Holy Cross kitchen on Monday or Sunday immediately preceding. Space is limited in the Christian Care kitchen, so those signing up to serve must be limited to four. The Mutual Encouragement Committee thanks you in advance for your kind and generous cooperation.

Volunteers are needed to watch the security monitor during our services! If you can help in this way, please sign the sheet in the church entryway. If you have any questions, please talk to a member of the Board of Elders.

Fitness Class/Fellowship Hour

Exercise class begins at 10:15 A.M. immediately following the 9 A.M. Bible Class led by Pastor Wright. Come join in for the 20-minute chair exercises followed by Coffee Hour and Fellowship with friends. Coffee, tea, and treats are served. Everyone is invited!

Holy Cross has been blessed in their support to Sri Lanka this year. Our \$4,000 pledge to Rev. Mahlburg's work was achieved. God be Praised!

We will be supporting **The Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church's** annual Christmas outreach events bringing the gospel to non-Christian children and families. Our goal last year was \$3,000 and by God's grace our \$3,000 goal will be met this year as well. Donations for this purpose may be made payable to Holy Cross and should be given by December 15. Please clearly mark your gift **"Sri Lankan Christmas."** Thank you.

The Mission of the LCMS Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF) is to aid The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) congregations, schools, and agencies of the LCMS Central Illinois District (CID) in building and expanding their facilities and ministries for the growth of God's Kingdom.

New Dollar for Mission Project

We have been able to fund four of our current DFM projects. We are moving our subsequent approved DFM project. **Restroom and water heater at University Lutheran Church, Champaign** Dollar for Missions (DFM) contributions are now being devoted to necessary infrastructure at the University Lutheran Church in Champaign (UniLu). New toilets will be installed in the men's room, and a new water heater will be installed for the building. "Items like these seem far from glamorous," said CID Mission Executive Ken Schurb. "They do not capture our senses until problems arise in connection with them. Then their importance stands out."

SACRED MUSIC & TALK FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON...

You can listen 24/7 to sacred talk and music for the 12 days of Christmas at issuesetc.org, lutheranpublicradio.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, TuneIn, Apple HomePod and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at <u>kfuo.org</u> and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: **@KFUOradio** on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u>, and Instagram.

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO AM850 & kfuo.org:

Celebrate the season of Christmas with sacred music and songs during the 12 Days of Christmas, December 24th-January 6th. Regular programming will resume on January 7th.

Prayer List

Members in Facilities: Cedarhurst, Moline-Susan Wyant; Park Vista-Ron & Caroline Luecke; Wodridge Supportive Living, Galesburg- Dick Ristau; Illini Restorative Care- Henry Setton; Friendship Manor- Dick Hochstetler, PhylThorngren; Mercer Manor, Aledo-Bob Koehler; Cedarhurst Memory Care, Moline- Jan Phillips;

Hope Creek, East Moline-Elizabeth Cobb

Serving in the Military: Alexa Ellis (daughter of Tera Elliott, granddaughter of Mike and Cheryl McLaughlin), Logan Noard (son of Kyle and Marilyn Noard), Stephen Waugaman (grandson of Donna Knudtson), Cameron Moore (grandson of Lew & Maria Steinbrecher), Matthew Glider (grandson of Doris Glider), Andrew Tolley (son of Carole Tolley), David Revel (son of Craig & Laurie Revel), Jeffrey Teuscher (nephew of Willie Swain), Austin Cox (grandson-in-law of Sieg Paulsen) Leith Masri (son of Peggy Jones), Jakob Ryckeghem (grandson of Connie McKean) Brett Kramer (grandson of Terry Kramer).

Members of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer:

Rev. Murdock, Kathrine Hopkins.

Friends & family of the congregation receiving treatment for cancer:

Steven Bell (nephew of Pastor & Phyllis Murdock), Dan Schmidt (brother of Sarah Paller) Tom Leahey (son-in-law of Bob Hellstrom) Gail Stuenkel, Lisa Crawford, Joanne Lyons, Dave Patterson, Harold Foster, Judy Knudsen, Peggy Arkland (friend of the McLaughlin's), Kim Trask (sister of Robbie Garrison),

Corey Dombrowski (neighbor of Dan & Melissa Thorngren).

Serious Health Concerns:

Rev. Murdock, Joyce Spidle, Ladd Poell (friend of Donna Knudtson), Tracy Bennet (friend of Sieg Paulsen), Sandy Lohse, Bob Trueblood (brother of Joyce Spidle),Tony Loritz, friend of Jennifer Swanburg, Dennis Rusk, Richard Geisler, Heidi Sias, Maureen DeLassus, Kelly Teuscher, Kenny Lackey, Gwen Shrake, Pam and Bill, friends of Gwen Shrake, Monroe 'Chip' Kemerling (cousin of Don Freeman).

Recovering/Ongoing Health Concerns:

Anita Ingold-Kroll (daughter of Martha Kroll), Levi Koopmas (relative of Patricia Erickson), Lucy Jahns, Penny Dawson, Donald Dawson, Scarlet Durbin, Phyllis Murdock, Sherri Lohse, Beryl Edwards, Helen White, Gary Johnson, Fred Poe, Carol Ferrell, Susan Jamieson, Joshua Duburg, Sieg Paulsen, Cindy Davenport.