

HAPPENINGS

December 29, 2024 - January 5, 2025

www.holycross-pl.com • www.facebook.com/holycrosspl

WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS – Welcome to the Lord’s House. God bless you as you hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.

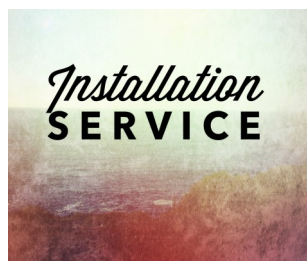


PASTOR GADE'S APPRECIATION BRUNCH TODAY!
Today is Pastor Gade’s last sermon at Holy Cross. He first came to Holy Cross in February of 2021 and then became our Vacancy pastor that April. We are recognizing his faithful service, of almost three years, to Holy Cross with a brunch following the worship service today. Please share how he has blessed you!

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PASTOR MARC ENGELHARDT'S INSTALLATION

Pastor Marc's installation will be next **Sunday, January 5th at 3:00 pm.** A dessert reception will follow the installation service.



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SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

There will be no Sunday School today. We will see you in the new year on January 5th.



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TIME OF GRACE connects people to God’s grace—their love, glory, and power—so they realize the temporary things of life don’t satisfy. However, through Jesus we have access to the eternal God—right now and forever. Subscribe to Time of Grace resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with “Grace Moments” written devotions and “Grace Talks” video devotions. Pastor Mike Novotny, The Core, Appleton, WI, KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am www.timeofgrace.org



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PLEASE SUBMIT ALL HAPPENINGS ARTICLES BY 10 AM WEDNESDAY TO megan@holycross-pl.org

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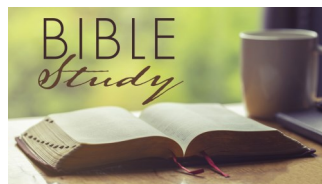


NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING
Registration for the 2025 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans is now open. Go to their website for all the details. <https://www.lcmsgathering.com/registration>



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SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY
Join us every Sunday at 10:15 am after the service.

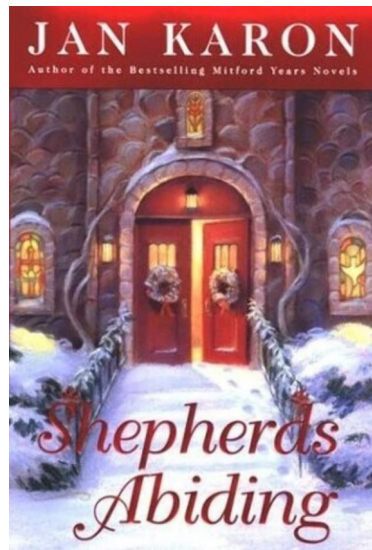


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SUNDAY SCHOOL
All children are welcome to join us at 10:15 am after the service for Sunday School!

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BIBLE BOOKENDERS
If you are someone who likes to plan ahead, get a copy of Jan Karon’s book, *Shepherds Abiding*. It would be a great read for the first snowstorm, and it is the selection of Bible Bookenders book for **January 28th**. The story centers around a nativity set that Father Tim finds. It is in poor condition,

and even though he isn’t the artist in the family, he decides to paint and repair the pieces himself. The story, of course, includes the Mitford characters we all love. This is the eighth book in the Mitford series and a nod to Karon’s 30th anniversary this year. Any questions may be directed to Michele Lein or Bonnie Nowak.

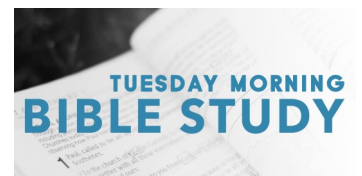
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PRAYER REQUESTS As a community of faith, we are called to lift each other up in prayer and support. We invite you to share your prayer requests with us so that we can pray together as a church family. Whether you have personal concerns, joys, or challenges weighing on your heart, we are here to pray with you. Your requests can be submitted confidentially through email at megan@holycross-pl.org or given to Pastor Gade. Let us join in prayer, knowing that together, we can make a difference through the power of prayer.



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TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY There is no Bible Study December 31st. Join us again on Tuesday, January 7 from 8:00-9:00 am. All are welcome!



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COMMUNION WINE Did you know that Viking Liquor in downtown Prior Lake has been providing our communion wine to us free of charge? So, as you are planning your holiday celebrations, you may wish to stop in to Viking Liquor to purchase your liquid refreshments. While you're there, please make sure to tell John (the manager) "Thank You" for supporting our congregation in this wonderful way over the years.



UPCOMING

- DEC 29** Pastor Gade Appreciation Brunch
- JAN 5** Pastor Engelhardt's Installation
- JAN 7** Elder's Meeting
- JAN 21** Church Council
- JAN 26** Voter's Meeting

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THE FATHER'S CHRISTMAS GRACE
By Robert Schaetzle, www.faithwriters.com

But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. (Ephesians 4:7 RSV)

Much is given, but how much is actually received? The Father's grace is waiting for us to hold and receive. For each one of us to desire and be thankful. The power of God's preeminence is manifested through the voice of His abiding Holy Spirit.



When I awake and dedicate each day to listen to the Voice of God's Spirit and His Word, to lead me in prayer, I am receiving God's **grace to feed me.**

When I am in the presence of my own family, embrace a loved one, or hold one of my grandchildren, that is **grace I can touch**, and be blessed with the **grace of love and encouragement.**

When my daughter asks me to take 'Charlie,' one of my canine grandsons for a walk, I am **demonstrating God's grace and strength to exercise my 85 years of living with thankfulness.**

When I stop on my walk to chat with a neighbor, I exercise **God's grace to never be too busy to get acquainted with someone new.**

When I see the beauty of the earth, or look at the constellations, that is grace I recognize as **God's workmanship.**

When I attend worship with my brothers and sisters of faith, I am in the midst of God's presence, **grace through worship.**

When I hold the hand of someone weak with disease I can give **grace of God's comfort.**

When I am at the check-out at the grocery store and give reason to celebrate Christmas, **I am giving invitation of grace to celebrate Jesus.**

When I am part of a choral fellowship gathering during the advent of Christmas, and sing the 'Hallelujah Chorus', **this is grace with the 'Voice of God's love,' to listen, and celebrate Jesus.**

Father, thank you for this you give... Your Christmas Grace.

Life QUOTES

DECEMBER 29 "We long to hear those words from the master, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! Come! Share your master's happiness!' Someday you will hear them as He welcomes you into eternal dwellings. But for now, there is much to do for Jesus. So, as you go to live for Him, let those words echo in your mind and spur you on to be faithful and fruitful servants in His kingdom." *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Dinah Gilberts December 4
- Ben Huston December 7
- Mui Cheng December 9
- Earl Drangstveit December 9
- Karly Oak December 19
- Jason Kruse December 20
- Lois Helms December 25
- Carol Albrecht December 26
- Bo Brunner December 28
- Nivedita Fulbert December 30

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

SUNDAY

29 9:00 am Worship
10:15 am Pastor Gade Brunch

MONDAY

30 6:00 pm IFC

TUESDAY

31

WEDNESDAY

1 10:00 am Happenings Articles Due

THURSDAY

2

FRIDAY

3

SATURDAY

4

SUNDAY

5 9:00 am Worship w/Pastor Marc Engelhardt
10:15 am Sunday School
10:15 am Bible Study
3:00 pm Pastor Marc Engelhardt Installation

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated weekly. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We



We receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you. **Note: Communion Kits are available, if needing one please contact Pastor.**

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Welcome to
Holy Cross
A Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Congregation



THE INFORMATION CENTER is located at the main entrance of the church. There are a variety of items for you to take home or share with a friend. Prayer request forms are available too. Please sign the guest book if you are visiting today. Thank you!

SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, DECEMBER 29

ELDER: Doug Brunner
LECTOR: Joy Anderson
USHER: Steve Oak
ACOLTYE: Daniel Vannett
AV: Dinah Gilberts
OFFERING: Dave Albrecht & Denny Case

ATTENDANCE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

SERVING THE LORD AND HIS PEOPLE, JANUARY 5

ELDER: Dave Albrecht
LECTOR: Ben Woltmann
USHER: Denny Case
ACOLTYE: Daniel Vannett
AV: Eric Brown
OFFERING: Carol Albrecht & Pam Hunter

WORSHIP: 61 | BIBLE STUDY: 15 | SUNDAY SCHOOL: n/a



14085 Pike Lake Trail NE, Prior Lake, MN 55372 • Phone: 952-445-1779
Music & Choir Director: Mui Cheng • Praise Band: Nathan Hentges & Greg Albrecht
Office Ministry Assistant: Megan Luckfield • Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Dean Gade