

Introit -

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

**I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;**

my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.

**O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is
steadfast love,**

and with him is plentiful redemption.

And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.

**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.**

Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains might quake at your presence.

Old Testament: Isaiah 7:10-17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." ¹²But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." ¹³And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

[P] This is the Word of the Lord

[C] Thanks be to God

Epistle: Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our

Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

[P] This is the Word of the Lord..

[C] Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

[P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

[C] Glory to You, O Christ.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face,

who will prepare your way before you.'

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹²From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C] Praise to You, O Christ.

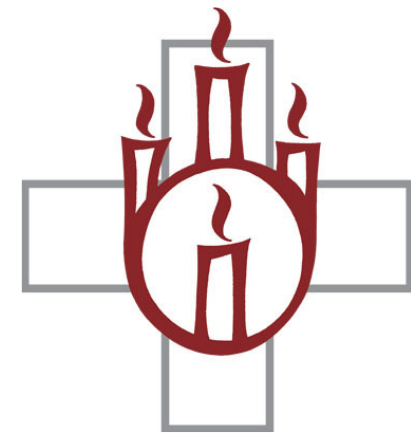
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Cole Camp, Missouri

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2019



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WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS. “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son.” May the Spirit of God abide with you at Christmas and His love bless you in the coming year!

WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE LORD’S SUPPER during our Christmas Day worship service on Wednesday morning at St. John’s. Please fill out a communion registration card today if you plan to use this Sacrament for the strengthening of your faith and place it in the basket at the back of the church.

COMMUNION TODAY: If anyone has difficulty going to the altar to receive communion, please let an usher know, and pastor will come to your pew to commune you individually.

THOSE USING THE MEANS OF GRACE LAST SUNDAY

Worship Service: 72; Visitors: 2,

Bible Class: 12, Sunday School: 13.

Dual Parish Mid-Week Advent Service at Holy Cross: 80.

CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK December 22 thru December 29

TODAY: HOLY COMMUNION

Children’s Christmas Program Practice at Holy Cross, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Christmas Cantata Choir Practice, 4:00 p.m. at Trinity

TUE.: Children’s Christmas Eve Program at Holy Cross, 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at St. John’s, 7:30 p.m.

WED.: Dual Parish Christmas Day Service with Communion at St. John’s, 9AM

THUR.: Bulletin Deadline to Karen by noon on Thursdays. (ph. 660-668-2425)

SAT.: Saturday evening worship at Trinity, 6:30 p.m., Bible Class at 7:30 p.m.

NEXT SUN.: Worship Service at St. John’s, 8:00 a.m.

Bible Class at St. John’s, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School and Bible Class at Holy Cross, 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service at Holy Cross, 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Cantata by the Cole Camp Community Choir, at Trinity in

Cole Camp, 6:00 p.m. (sponsored by Cole Camp Regional Ministry)

ACOLYTES: Dec 22—Tyler Howard; Dec 29—Dylana Stoppel; Jan 5—Emily Burdick.

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: December 22 - Randy Harms and Randy Meyer.

HOLY CROSS GREETER: December – Randy Meyer.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Eileen Brandes, Ethelene Jagels, Thomas Eckhoff, Lora Harms, Bill Talbott, Greg Ives, and members and loved ones in nursing homes or restricted to their homes.

HOLY CROSS BUDGET for 2019 is \$13,042.50 per month. November donations were \$12,800.00. Budget was short by \$242.50 and October was short by \$729.17. Our loan balance is \$7398.60.

CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE is this afternoon at Holy Cross from 1:30 to 3:30.

COMMUNITY CHOIR MEMBERS, PLEASE NOTE!! The Christmas Cantata practice scheduled for today at Trinity has been moved up to 2:00 p.m.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE: Come and enjoy the Sunday School Children’s Christmas Eve program on Tuesday evening, December 24th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Holy Cross. You are also invited to a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at St. John’s at 7:30 p.m. This year, our Dual Parish joint Christmas Day worship service with Holy Communion will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday morning at St. John’s.

WORSHIP TIME CHANGES: Beginning on the first Sunday in January, our Dual Parish worship times will change. In 2020, Holy Cross will have the early worship at 8AM with Sunday School and Bible Class at 9AM and St. John’s will have the late worship service at 10:30 a.m. with Bible Class before the service at 9:30 a.m.

2020 DIRECTORY: It’s time, once again, to update our church directory. If you have had a change of address, have an email address you like to use, gotten a new cell phone, or deleted your landline phone, please let Karen Oelrichs know, so we can have a current and up-to-date church directory. Karen’s email is karen.oelrichs@gmail.com, mailing address is 711 S Oak, Cole Camp, MO 65325, call her at 660-668-2425 and leave a message or text her at 660-281-9796. The deadline is Sunday, December 29th. Thanks!

THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CANTATA presented by the Cole Camp Community Choir will be held NEXT Sunday evening, December 29th at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cole Camp, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please join us as we experience through reflective readings and joyous songs a Celtic Christmas Celebration, entitled “Have You Heard?” with music by Joel Raney and orchestration by Ed Hogan. This event is sponsored by the Cole Camp Regional Ministry and EVERYONE is invited! There will be a free-will offering taken at the door to help fund future regional ministry events for the Cole Camp Community.

FOR THE 5th YEAR IN A ROW, the Cole Camp Food Pantry challenges you to participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring! Once again the Pantry is seeking donations of cans of soup and boxes of crackers. (Please, no Ramen noodles.) The congregation or organization in the Cole Camp area that collects the most individual items wins the Souper Bowl traveling trophy for the year, in addition to supporting our local pantry. Items need to be collected by Sunday, February 2nd. On this day, the big win happens when we can take another step toward eliminating hunger in our area. Thank you for your participation!

MISSION FAIR: Are you looking for a winter project? Now you have a project on which to work! It is never too early to start thinking about the Mission Fair for our 2020 MO District Convention. Are you a crafter? Do you sew, knit or crochet? Have you seen something cute and just had to buy it? Maybe you are a painter? All of these and more are good jumping off points for producing items for the Mission Fair. If you like it, someone else will, too. Share your ideas with women across the state by putting them into action and bringing them to the Mission Fair. **START NOW!!!** The LWML MO District Convention is at the University Plaza Hotel, Springfield, June 12-14, 2020.

THE NEXT MARRIAGE AND FAMILY PLANNING TEAM MEETING is scheduled for January 9th at 11:30 a.m. at the Trinity conference room.

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Order of Worship

Divine Service Setting Four

page 203

Hymn 341

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

Hymn of Praise is omitted during Advent

The Collect of the Day

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

The Readings:

Isaiah 7:10-17—Immanuel

Romans 1:1-7—Paul, apostle to Rome

Matthew 1:18-25 – Birth of

Jesus foretold

Hymn of the Day 335

“O Bride of Christ, Rejoice”

The Sermon

Distribution Hymns

350 “Come Thou Precious

Ransom, Come”

343 “Prepare the Royal Highway”

349 “Hark the Glad Sound”

Closing Hymn: 336

“Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending”