

Introit for The Fourth Sunday in Advent

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 Reading - Isaiah 7:10–17

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

The Epistle - Romans 1:1–7

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ² which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, ³ concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴ and 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, ⁵ through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, ⁶ including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

⁷ To 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.



Holy Gospel - Matthew 1:18–25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

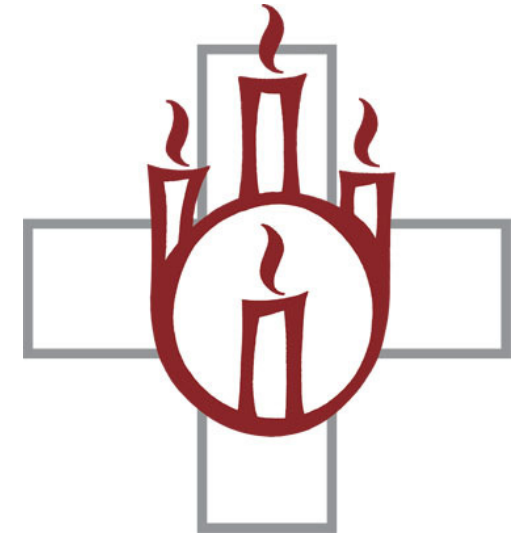
HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Cole Camp, Missouri

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 18, 2016



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Regional Ministry Website: <http://colecampregionalministry.org>

WELCOME TO HOLY CROSS. During the season of Advent we “welcome” Christ to the earth, long after the fact, of course. Your being here, dear visiting friend, gives us opportunity to welcome you as well. Welcoming Christ into our lives fills us full, yet leaves room to spare for you!

WE WILL BE CELEBRATING THE LORD’S SUPPER during our Dual Parish Christmas Day Worship Service at St. John’s next Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. 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.

THOSE USING THE MEANS OF GRACE LAST WEEK:

Worship Service: 84; Visitors: 2;
Adult Bible Class: 6; Sunday School: 15

HOLY CROSS CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK of December 18 to December 25

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

MON.: CCRM Christmas Cantata Practice at Trinity, 7:00 p.m.

TUE.: Preschool Christmas Program at Trinity, 7:00 p.m.

WED.: LSA Chapel Service at Trinity, 8:05 AM

LSA Early Out, 12:30 p.m. (Christmas vacation begins)

Cole Camp Regional Ministry Advent Service at Trinity, 7PM

Cole Camp Regional Ministry Christmas Cantata Rehearsal at Trinity, 8PM

THUR.: Men’s Bible Study at Classic, 7:00 a.m.

Women’s Bible Study at Trinity, 9:30 a.m.

Dual Parish Children’s Christmas Program Practice, 6-8PM (meal provided)

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

NEXT SUN.: Dual Parish Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion at St. John’s, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

GREETER: December – Randy Meyer; January – Marvin Dieckman.

ACOLYTES: Dec. 18—Destiny Kestner; Dec. 24—Grant Louiselle; Dec. 25—Christmas Day at St. John’s; Jan.1—Brooklyn Cross.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Matthew Kurz; members and loved ones in nursing homes or restricted to their homes, including Wilbert Meyer, Marge Burdick, LaRuth Vajen, Helen Harms.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR can be heard on Sunday mornings on KSIS radio, 1050 AM, at 10:15 a.m. Our Savior Lutheran Church also broadcasts their Sunday morning worship service on KSIS, 1050 AM at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday.

FOR A QUICK SPIRITUAL PICK-ME-UP, Dial-a-Devotion is once again being offered by Trinity. If you would like to hear this brief, daily devotion, please dial 660-668-2364 and **press 1** to hear the devotion. Enjoy!

WE WILL BE HAVING CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM Practice today from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and also on Thursday evening, December 22, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. A light meal will be provided for the evening practice.

OUR MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICE will be held this Wednesday evening, Dec. 21st at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity. Please join with the members of the Cole Camp Regional Ministry as we prepare for the coming of our Savior.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA PRACTICES THIS WEEK, are Monday, Dec. 19th at 7PM and Wednesday, Dec. 21st, at 8PM after the Advent Service. (Both practices at Trinity.)

GIVING TREE: The Holy Cross Sunday School has a ‘Giving’ tree in the basement that they are decorating with gloves and mittens instead of ornaments. The Sunday School would appreciate help with this project if you would like to donate new or gently used gloves. These will be delivered to the Cole Camp Food Pantry. The Food Pantry is also in need of paper items such as toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues. There will be a box for these items under the Christmas tree. If you have any questions please contact Sandra Osburn by phone at 660-221-4271 or by Facebook. Thank you!

THE CHILDREN’S CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM this year will be a Dual Parish joint service at Holy Cross and will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday evening, Dec. 24.

OUR CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE will be held next Sunday at St. John’s with a Dual Parish joint service and will include Holy Communion. The service begins at 9:00 am.

THE COLE CAMP REGIONAL MINISTRY invites you to attend the presentation of Fantasia Noel as performed by the Community Choir on Wednesday, December 28th, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Cole Camp.

WORSHIP TIME CHANGES FOR THE NEW YEAR will begin on New Year’s Day, Jan. 1st. During 2017, St. John’s will have the early service beginning at 8:00 a.m. with Sunday School and Bible Class at 9:00 a.m.; and at Holy Cross, Sunday School and Bible Class will begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by the Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS are again \$15.96. Please make checks to Holy Cross. You can use the LW envelope from your offering box or speak to Wanda or Vickie by Jan. 22 for a renewal or a new subscription.

HELP NEEDED: LSA is looking for someone to referee Home Girls and Boys basketball games during the months of January and February. This is a paid job and if you are interested, please contact Mr. Andersen at school or Beth Viebrock at 660-287-2045.

Today’s Service

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Hymn of Invocation: 346

“When All the World Was Cursed”

The Introit

(Printed on the back of the bulletin)

The Readings:

Isaiah 7:10-17

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

The Office Hymn: 810

“O God of God, O Light of Light”

The Sermon

Theme: “Peaceful Invasion”

Text: Isaiah 7:10-14

Hymn 357 (instead of Te Deum)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Closing Hymn: 338

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”