



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER - March 2024

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How do I pray, especially when I don't know what to say?

As Christians, we know that God's Word tells us to pray in all circumstances. Sometimes prayer comes easily and joyful. The words seem to flow from us. Yet, sometimes in our sinfulness we don't feel like praying or we don't know what words to use. For some of us, prayer is something we struggle with in our daily walk with God. In those circumstances when prayer doesn't come easily what do we do? Do we leave the praying to someone else? No!

My advice to people who struggle with prayer or don't know what words to use is simple and two-fold: 1) Read/Pray the Psalms. The Psalms cover a great variety of topics. One of them is bound to apply. 2) This is even easier - pray the Lord's Prayer. Don't overthink things. Pray the Lord's Prayer because Jesus gave us this prayer and it can be used in any circumstance.

Martin Luther has a great quote about the Lord's Prayer and why Christians should not hesitate to pray it in any and all circumstances: *"The best form of prayer is in the Lord's prayer, which Christ Himself has prescribed to us and has bidden us to pray. If you pray this prayer, you need not worry about having omitted anything. For Christ Himself can understand it better than you and can apply it better to all the particulars of present calamities than you, even though you made long explanations. Yet it is not bad – in fact, it is of great benefit – to pray expressly for this or that. Only let us strive for a heart that is sure that our prayer will not be offered in vain, but for Christ's sake. For if Christ has prescribed the form of prayer, it follows that it pleases Him...If He has promised to hear, it follows that He will hear. Therefore we should accustom ourselves to this Christian activity."*

God's peace to you as you pray the Lord's Prayer.
-Pastor Zucker

Tithes, Offerings and Attendance

Year To Date : Offerings~\$140,811.02 Expenses~ \$144,000.00 Attendance m-t-d 98/Week Average

Month To Date Offerings ~\$32,454.25 Expenses ~\$26,800.00 Attendance y-t-d 98/week Average

EVENTS



All Sign Up Sheets are Next to Office

Check the table just outside the church office to sign up for future events at Holy Cross!

Happy Hearts - March 11, 2024

Kathy's 126

Downtown Flushing



Ladies Lunchly - March 13th
At Liberty Restaurant at noon
All Women are invited.

What are Plarn Mats?

They are crocheted bed mats using plastic bags to be given away to the homeless. Denys Zucker is leading a class on Tuesday February 6th at 7pm on how to make them. Bring a #10 crochet hook (some will be available) There are instruction sheets by the office if you want to get started cutting bags before class.



The Plarning group will start meeting on the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm.

The next meeting is March 5th at 7pm



Easter Egg Hunt At
HC Sunday School.
Sunday, March 17,
10:15 Friends Wel-
come!

Watch for more information on the
Congregational meeting on April 7th
12:30-1:30.

Public service announcement: if the weather is bad and services are canceled, we will post on Channel 5, Facebook, our App and by text message.



Thank you for all who are bringing in their plastic shopping bags. They are being turned into Plarn (Plastic Yarn) and crocheted into mats for the homeless. Keep bringing in your bags, the box is outside the office.

Check Out the Holy Cross App!

To access the weekly Crosstalk, monthly newsletter, and stay up to date on upcoming events here at Holy Cross, download the Holy Cross App @thecross! Additionally, you can access this information via our website, holycrosslutheran.com



Special Easter Happenings

March 17th Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt @ 10:15

Palm Sunday-March 24th @ 9 & 11:15am

Maundy Thursday-March 28 @ 7pm

Good Friday-March 29 @7pm

Easter Sunday-March 31 @9 & 11:15 am

Breakfast Served from 9:30 - 10:45

Holy Cross Pavilion

The Ministry Team would like to get input on the possibility of building a pavilion on our property. We have been having more outdoor events and a more permanent structure would help with the logistics of these events. If you have thoughts on this project, please express them to any member of the ministry team.

David Cole

Ministry Member names and phone numbers are listed in the front of the new directory.



Picture for attention only.

Serve by Reading! (in worship)

Can you read clearly out loud? Would you be willing to serve the Lord and your brothers and sisters in Christ on Sunday morning as a scripture reader at early or late service?

We're looking for people who would be willing to serve as readers for the Old & New Testament Readings at both early and late service each week. We're looking for both men and women to be readers. The goal is to have enough people for each service willing to be readers such that you read maybe once a month at early service or once every other month at late service or something similar.

The only requirements are that you be willing to speak into a microphone and speak clearly. Are you concerned about words (usually Old Testament names) that you don't know how to pronounce? Not a problem! Pastor Zucker will help you with that before worship when it's your turn to read.

If you are interested in serving as a reader or have a question, please speak with Marcos Machado or Pastor Zucker.

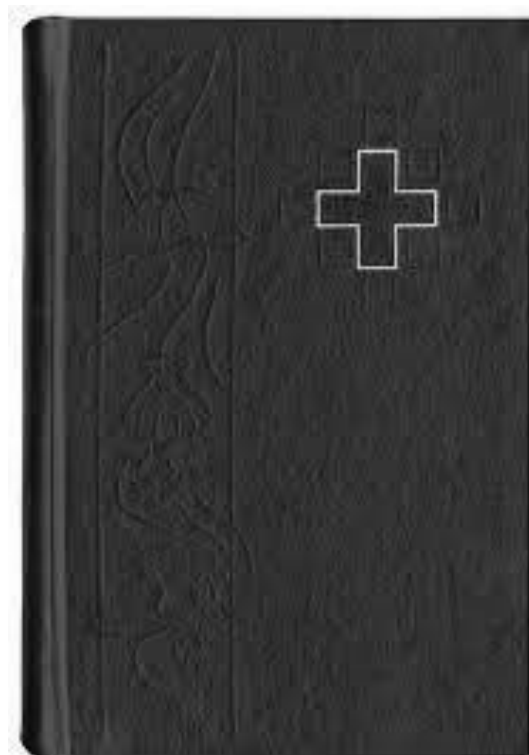
Would you like a hymnal?

Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! Psalm 96:1

Several people have asked about and shown interest in having a hymnal to use for singing at early service at Holy Cross. For them, having the music in addition to the words helps their singing. For others, it just seems right to have a hymnal in their hand when singing a hymn like "I Know That My Redeemer Lives." Either way, this request is easily accomplished!

Understand that we're still going to be using the screen like we always have, this would be an addition.

The Lutheran Service Book is the hymnal of our church. Individual hymnals cost \$30 each. We're asking people who are interested to sponsor one or more hymnals by giving money to cover the costs. For example, you might decide you'd like to buy two hymnals and give \$60 or you might give a fixed amount of \$10, \$50, or \$200 (or some other amount of your choosing) towards the purchase of hymnals. Any contribution is appreciated and welcome!



Special Envelopes will be available on the table as you enter or leave the sanctuary. Please fill out the envelope and write hymnal on the memo line of your check.