

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY JANUARY 18, 2026

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

Weekly Update

1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170
www.HolyCrossHerndon.org



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday, January 18, 2026

VISITORS: It is a joy to have you with us this morning. If you are looking for a church family, we hope you will consider Holy Cross. For more information, you can fill out a visitor form in the narthex, speak to an usher, or scan the QR code to the right.



FAMILIES: Children are always welcome at our worship services! There's also a small play area in the Narthex where you can hear the broadcasted service.

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

OUR CONGREGATION

Juliana Roe Beck | Bonnie Burton | Terry & Linda Butler | Joy Caveney
Joel Flegal | Roy Geiger | Otto Jacobson | Reed Morgan | Mike Muller
Craig Reichow | Jeremy Shoop | Tuula Toney | Cherie Weatherhead

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Riley Morgan | Thomas Newcomb | Collin Reichow

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

Erin Barden (sister of Andrew Barden)
Randy and Shirley Beamer (friends of Pam Darby)
Debbie Bowman (niece of Betty Skelton)
Joy Brown (friend of Kate Flegal)
Symphony Calvillo & her two boys (friend of Kate Flegal)
Jane Campbell (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Don and Liz Gober (friends of Craig Reichow)
Jason Greenwalt (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Madilyn Gross (cousin of Desirae Peral)
Matt Kim (friend of John & Tammy Breene)
Georgia Kirby and Cain Mason (friends of Cherie Weatherhead)
Phyllis Krapf (wife of Dick Krapf)
Don Kress (friend of Helen and Gary Wolfe)
Dale, John, and Jeff MacPherson (friends of Jared Lem)
Sue Mason (sister of Pam Darby)
Sharon Massen & Dorie Miller (friends of Craig Reichow)
Lisa Nolf and Laizu (friends of Jared Lem)
Jim Pollock (godfather of Andrew Barden)
Anne Marie Berardi Rabinowitz (friend of Tonya Elliott)
Tracy Radican (daughter of former HCLC pastor, Pastor Harper)
Dylan Roe (nephew of Mark and Jo Roe)
John Smith (brother-in-law of Cheryl Smith)
Nancy Swancutt (sister of Lynn Russo)
Steven Swancutt (brother of Lynn Russo)
Dianna and Bill Tilton (friends of Jared & Nannette Lem)
Diana Todd (friend of the Russos)
Pastor Luis Velasquez (Lunch for the Soul)
Michelle White (friend and coworker of Kate Flegal)
Bernadette Stevenson Williams (friend of the Roe family)

THOSE IN MOURNING

Nan and Jared Lem's friends, the Tiltons, upon the passing of their granddaughter.

REJOICING IN BIRTH

Arthur and Scott, upon the birth of their son, Jacob (Cecilia Howard's brother and brother-in-law)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Supply Pastor:	Rev. Pam Mitcham
Director of Music and Liturgy:	Jeremy Shoop
Sound Technician:	Bob Thompson
Video Technician:	Sylvia Moran

Serving January 18th: Second Sunday after Epiphany

Assisting Minister:	Andy Krueger
Reader:	Helen Wolfe
Acolyte:	Gary Wolfe
Greeter:	Jared Lem

Serving January 25th: Third Sunday after Epiphany

Assisting Minister:	Diana Virgo
Reader:	Jo Roe
Acolyte:	TBD
Greeter:	Jo Roe

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: JAN 18 – JAN 25

SU 18	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Second Sunday after Epiphany
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee ~ FH
	12:00 pm	Council Meeting
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH
M 19	9:00 am	Inova Blood Drive ~ Parking Lot
	10:00 am	MLK Jr. Day of Service
TU 20	6:30 pm	Bldg. Use: Boy Scouts Troop 12
W 21	11:30 am	Lunch for the Soul ~ FH
	7:00 pm	ELL ~ Education Wing
TH 22	3:00 pm	Bldg. Use: 7 th Day Adventist ~ FH & Rm 202
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
	8:00 pm	Bell Rehearsal ~ Sanctuary
F 23	3:00 pm	Bldg. Use: 7 th Day Adventist ~ FH & Rm 202
SA 24	8:00 am	Bldg. Use: Herndon's Women AA ~ Rm 204
	11:00 am	Bldg. Use: Called2Be 7 th Day Adventist
SU 25	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Third Sunday after Epiphany
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee ~ FH
	11:30 am	Stephen Ministry Training
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH

*The Church office will be closed on
Monday, January 19th in observation of
Martin Luther King Jr. Day*

MARTIN LUTHER KING Day of Service

*Monday, January 19, 2026
10:00 AM*

MLK DAY OF SERVICE MONDAY, JAN 19 – 10:00 am

As we prepare to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., everyone is invited to participate in an **MLK Day of Service** dedicated to compassion, community, and outreach. We are grateful to once again partner with the **Herndon Woman's Club**, whose commitment to service closely aligns with our own mission. We will support both local and international groups through hand-on projects.

- **Towels for Personal Care Kits**

Holy Cross is collecting donations of small, lightweight towels for Personal Care Kits to support people in need. Towels should measure between 20" x 40" and 27" x 52" (dark colors preferred). Donations may be placed in the bin in the Narthex, or you may purchase a towel from our Amazon list to be shipped directly to the church: <https://a.co/9LjTMvT>



- **Old Crayons and Socks**

The Herndon Woman's Club is looking for donations of old crayons and old socks (without holes) as part of the projects they are organizing on our MLK Day of Service. If you have old crayons or those pesky socks without a partner (no anklets please), please bring them to church any Sunday or contact: Helen Wolfe (hkswolfe@gmail.com) or Cheryl Smith (cismith1@verizon.net). Thank you!

- **Inova Blood Drive**



Holy Cross Lutheran Church Blood Drive

Monday, January 19, 2026

9 a.m. – 1 p.m.



1090 Sterling Rd., Herndon, VA
The Inova Blood Donor Services Bloodmobile will be in the parking lot.

In honor of National Blood Donor Month,
donors will receive a specialty sweatshirt.



Book your appointment today!

Visit <https://bit.ly/HCLC0119>

Call 1.866.256.6372, use code 5087

SAVE THE DATE

LINK MOBILE FOOD PANTRY
FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST



LINK MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Holy Cross is hosting a LINK Food Distribution Event to support 300 families in the Herndon area on Saturday, January 31st. Lots of help is needed with unloading and packing the food on Friday, January 30th. Additional help is needed on Saturday with directing traffic, moving food bags from inside the church to the front walk, and loading bags into clients' automobiles. To sign up to help, go here: <https://tinyurl.com/LINK-Mobile-Food>.

Time slots include:

Friday, 1/30 | 9 am-12 pm, 3-5 pm, 7-9 pm

Saturday, 1/31 | 7:30-11 am



Sometimes prayer can seem challenging. Sometimes we think we are praying "wrong." But prayer is just a conversation with God. Join the Adult Sunday School class in looking at several stories about Jesus that can help us pray. We meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 in the conference room. All are welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAKE SURE SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER HAPPENS!

Mardi Gras is very early this year! Your help is needed to assure this fun event continues. We need folks to help plan and run the Pancake Supper and Mardi Gras celebration on **Tuesday, February 17**. Our Boy Scout Troop 12 really looks forward to this evening, and we want to ensure it continues. The Royal Flush has again agreed to appear! Contact Beverly Siecker at bsiecker1@verizon.net if you can help with this fun evening.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Welcomes ALL!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church joyfully affirms and celebrates that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all who are seeking God's boundless love and sustaining grace into full community with us at Holy Cross. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down barriers and systems that divide God's children working to be a space committed to racial equality for God's people and to building a community where all are recognized as part of Christ's new creation.



We welcome you, and you are safe with us...
 Whatever your race, ethnicity, or heritage;
 Whatever your relationship status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression;
 Whatever your socio-economic status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your age and life circumstance;
 Whatever your physical and mental ability.
 You are a beloved child of God, you are valued, and you are welcome here.

What to Expect in Worship

Worship services can be intimidating for newcomers. While we try to make worship as accessible as possible for everyone, we know that some aspects can be confusing. Feel free to ask an usher or someone near you for help if you have any questions today. We are happy to help and want all voices to be included in praise to God.

Our worship style is traditional at Holy Cross. A full liturgy is used to focus our praise and prayers to God. Notes are included in the side gutter of the bulletin to explain why we use the various liturgical elements. Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Holy Cross. The table (altar) is not our table, but Christ's table. Just as Christ welcomes all, all are welcome to receive communion at Holy Cross. Pastor will give instructions on how we celebrate communion at that part of the service. Written instructions are also included at that point in the bulletin.

Throughout the year we emphasize each liturgical season differently to mark the passage of time. Liturgical texts change to reflect aspects of that season, some elements are removed or added to reflect the mood of that season, and colors used to decorate the chancel are changed to provide visual reminders of the current season.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Transforming the world & ourselves, together in community, fellowship, and faith.

Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 18, 2026 ~ 10:00 AM

The standard Sundays of the year (ordinary time) week by week present the meaning and presence of Christ and describe the Christian life. On this Sunday, John's presentation of Jesus' baptism enhances the one proclaimed from Matthew last week with more titles indicating Christ's identity.



WE GATHER



GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Here I Am, Lord

by Janet Linker

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Mighty God, lover of justice,
 Assembly: **you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.**

Daniel L. Schutte wrote this hymn for a diaconal ordination in 1979 at Oakland Cathedral. It plays off Isaiah 6:9, "Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'" Each stanza of Schutte's hymn has the congregation singing in the first-person point of view as God. While the first-person point of view continues into the refrain, "I" now refers to the singer and not God. To lessen any confusion Schutte suggested that a choir or soloist sing the stanzas and the congregation join in on the refrain. However, now that the hymn is a standard in the Lutheran church this practice is less and less observed. Either way it is presented, "Here I Am, Lord" is an inspiring way to gather for worship on the same Sunday when we hear about Christ's disciples beginning to follow him.

Pastor:

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.

Assembly:

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

(ELW #574)

Here I Am, Lord



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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KYRIE

(Setting 12)



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE

(Setting 12)



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

The prayer of the day echoes a prayer by Anselm, the twelfth-century theologian and archbishop of Canterbury. Its description of the life of the baptized complements the gospel reading: by God's grace, Andrew and Simon are found by Christ.

The second Servant Song is appointed for this day to develop further the meaning of Jesus Christ and the significance of baptism for the Christians. The church has seen in the Servant Songs descriptions of Jesus Christ, who himself is the light of the nations, and has applied this passage also to baptism, as God calls the baptized to be servants to bring light to the world.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: Amen.

Please sit.



LISTENING WITH CHILDREN'S EARS

FIRST READING

Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

Reader: A reading from the prophet Isaiah:

- ¹ Listen to me, O coastlands;
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born;
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
- ² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
- ³ And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
- ⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD
and my reward with my God."
- ⁵ And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,

and that Israel might be gathered to him,
 for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
 and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says,
 “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
 to raise up the tribes of Jacob
 and to restore the survivors of Israel;
 I will give you as a light to the nations,
 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷ Thus says the LORD,
 the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
 to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
 the slave of rulers,
 “Kings shall see and stand up;
 princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
 because of the LORD, who is faithful,
 the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life.
 Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: A reading from Paul's first letter to the
 Corinthians:

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you ⁷ so that

Over the course of the three years in the weeks between Epiphany and Lent, the lectionary appoints semicontinuous readings from 1 Corinthians, chosen because this seminal letter of Paul describes the communal life expected among believers and calls them to lives of love. Today's selection speaks of the church as called to be saints who call upon Jesus' name, one way that Christians have described baptism.

you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Setting 12)



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

As is often the case, John's gospel presents a more developed Christology than do the synoptic gospels. John's account of Jesus' baptism develops the meaning of the baptism by providing more Christological titles. Christ is the sacrificial lamb, the teacher from God, and the one anointed to save the world.

GOSPEL

John 1:29-42

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

Pastor: The Gospel according to John the first chapter.

Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹ [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him." ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

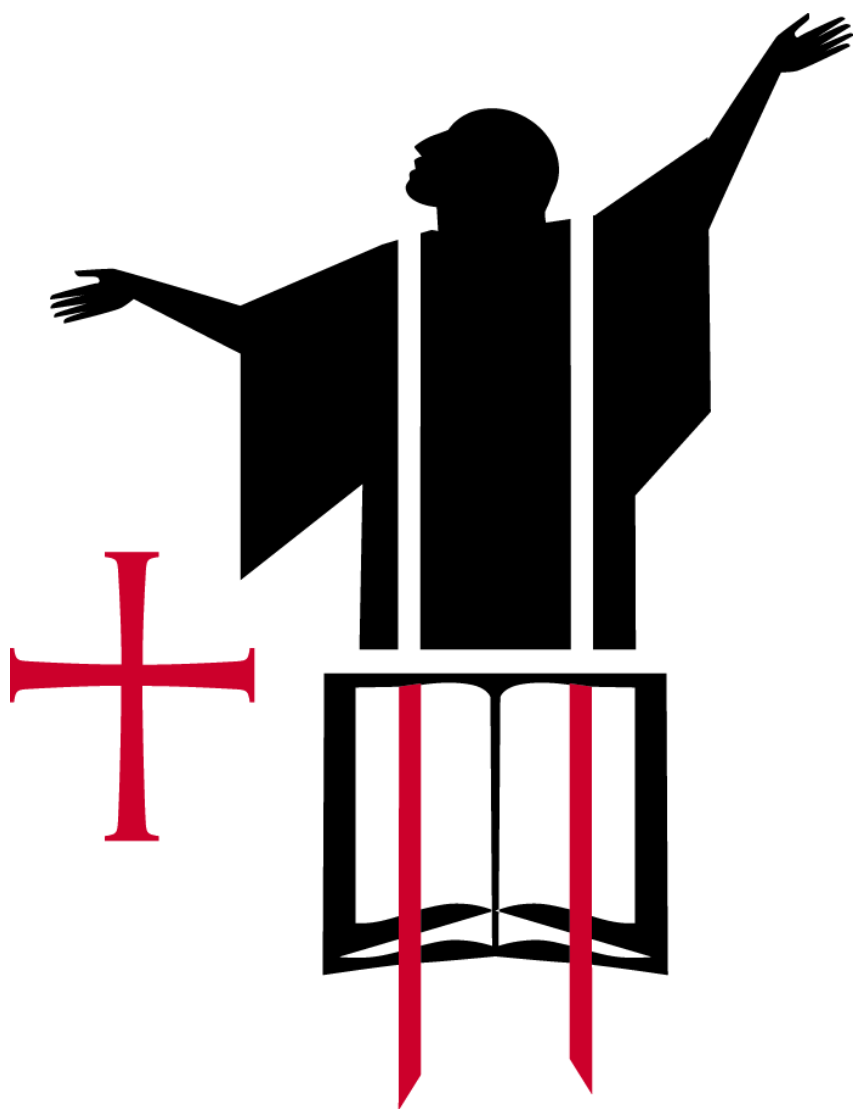
³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to

him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?”³⁹ He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon.⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother.⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed).⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.
 Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.



Today we begin the Sundays after Epiphany time when we start to hear many references to Jesus as both the light of the world and the Lamb of God. “O Day Full of Grace” is a great way to start this “ordinary time” for many reasons. The first stanza begins the hymn by asking God to bring God’s light from the horizon into our hearts so that we can celebrate God’s Epiphany and keep God’s name on our hearts. Stanza two and three reveal Christ as the Lamb of God just as John’s words in today’s Gospel reading did. Hymnologist John Dale says the following about this hymn, “This is a festival hymn in which the birth and the cross of our Lord greet each other. His resurrection and eternal power are felt like a breath of light thru the whole hymn.”

HYMN OF THE DAY: Stanzas 1, 2 & 5

(ELW #627)

O Day Full of Grace

1 O day full of grace that now we see ap - pear - ing on
 2 O day full of grace, O bless - ed time, our Lord on the
 3 For Christ bore our sins, and not his own, when he on the
 4 God came to us then at Pen - te - cost, the Spir - it new
 5 When we on that fi - nal jour - ney go that Christ is for

earth's ho - ri - zon, bring light from our God that we may
 earth ar - riv - ing; then came to the world that light sub -
 cross was hang - ing; and then he a - rose and moved the
 life re - veal - ing, that we might no more in death be
 us pre - par - ing, we'll gath - er in song, our hearts a -

be a - bun - dant in joy this sea - son. God, shine for us
 lime, great joy for us all re - triev - ing; for Je - sus all
 stone, that we, un - to him be - long - ing, might join with an -
 lost, its pow'r o - ver us dis - pel - ling. This flame will the
 glow, all joy of the heav - ens shar - ing, and there we will

now in this dark place; your name on our hearts em - bla - zon.
 mor - tals did em - brace, all shame and des - pair re - mov - ing.
 gel - ic hosts to raise our voic - es in end - less sing - ing.
 mark of sin ef - face and bring to us all true heal - ing.
 join God's end - less praise, with an - gels and saints a - dor - ing.

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921–2001, alt.
 Music: DEN SIGNEDE DAG, Christoph E. F. Weyse, 1774–1842
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

	Assisting Minister:	As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.
<i>We pray for the greater church.</i>	Assisting Minister:	Gracious God, gather the church into one great fellowship. Equip your people to work together for justice and peace, following the example of Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, whose birth we remember this week. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for creation.</i>	Assisting Minister:	Creating God, sustain the web of life on this planet. Protect wild places, endangered species, and vulnerable habitats. Come to the aid of those affected by natural disasters. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for justice.</i>	Assisting Minister:	Just God, you desire respect and equality for everyone. Raise up prophets who speak truth to the nations. Embolden leaders and those in authority to advocate for people in need. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for those in need.</i>	Assisting Minister:	Healing God, you lift up those who are bowed down by trouble, oppression, or illness, including those we name before you now (<i>the assembly offers names</i>). Bring an end to social injustice and inequities of every kind, so that all people may have abundant life. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.
<i>We pray for this community.</i>	Assisting Minister:	Abiding God, you are present with Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Keep us mindful of our mission and guide the discernment of our Call Team during this time of transition. Merciful God,
	Assembly:	receive our prayer.

We pray for the saints.

The sharing of THE PEACE is an ancient ritual that puts us right with our neighbors before we offer our gifts to God.

Assisting Minister: Faithful God, you promise to be with us always.
We remember with gratitude the faithful departed who now rest in you. Strengthen us to the end, that we may see you face to face.
Merciful God,
Assembly: receive our prayer.

Pastor: Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior.

Assembly: Amen.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Assembly: And also with you.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Jesus Calls Us
Sanctuary Choir

arr. K. Lee Scott

OFFERTORY

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise God a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: Amen.



WE COME TO GOD'S TABLE



GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

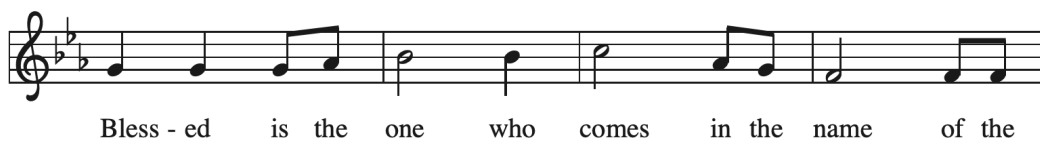
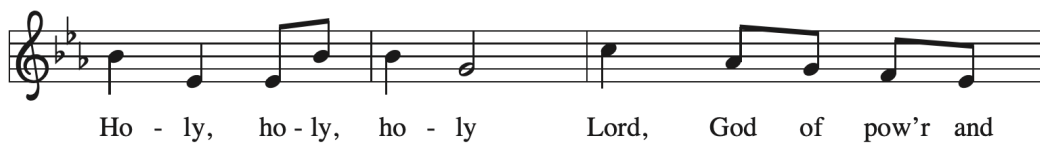
Assembly: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

Pastor: It is our duty and delight.... and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

(Setting 12)





EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Pastor: Jesus was always the guest.

In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna, he was always the guest.

At the meal tables of the wealthy where he pled the case of the poor, he was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest.

But here, at this table, he is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished.

This is the table where we who are broken are made whole. So, come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

On the night in which he was betrayed, and as they were sitting at a meal, Jesus gave thanks, took a piece of bread and broke it. He gave it to the disciples saying, "This is my body. It is broken for you. Do this to remember me.

Later, after they had eaten, he took a cup of wine, gave thanks and said, "This cup is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Drink this all of you, to remember me."

So now we do as Jesus did. We take this bread and wine, the produce of the earth and fruit of human labor. In these, Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole.

We ask, merciful God, that you send, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, call us from the folly of this world, until in wisdom, we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

All this we ask through your son, Jesus Christ. By him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Assembly: **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Come to the table; taste and see.

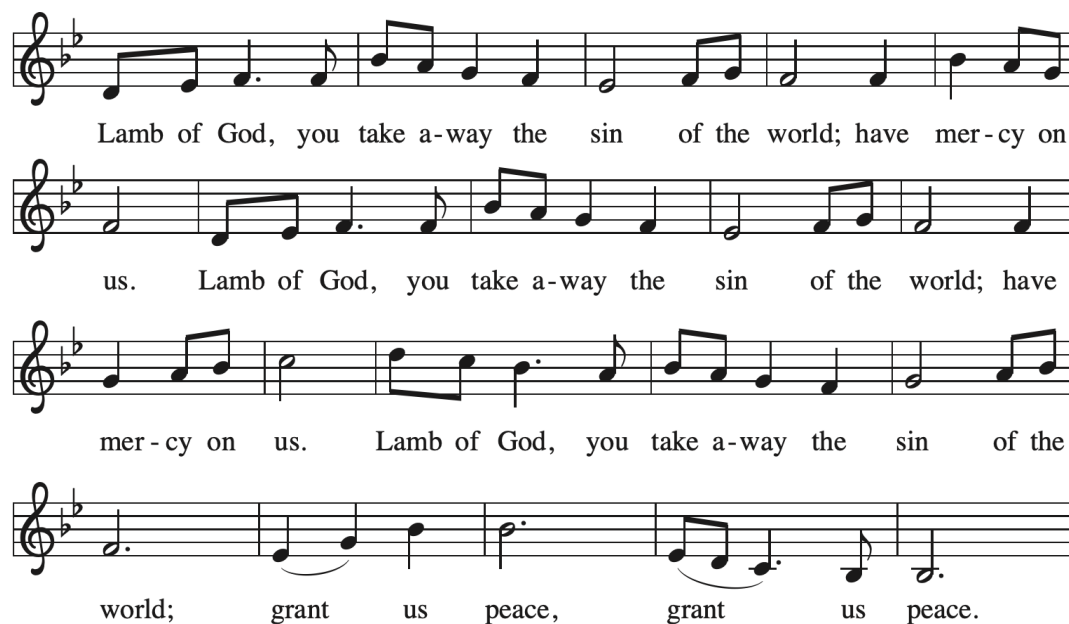
Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

DISTRIBUTION

*This is Christ's table of welcome. Jesus invites **all** who are hungry and thirsty for unconditional love and acceptance to come to God's banquet. The ushers will direct you forward at the appropriate time. Communion will be by station. Red wine and white grape juice are available in individual cups. Bread served is Gluten Free. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than communion, cross your arms over your chest. Return to your seat by the side aisle.*

AGNUS DEI

(Setting 12)

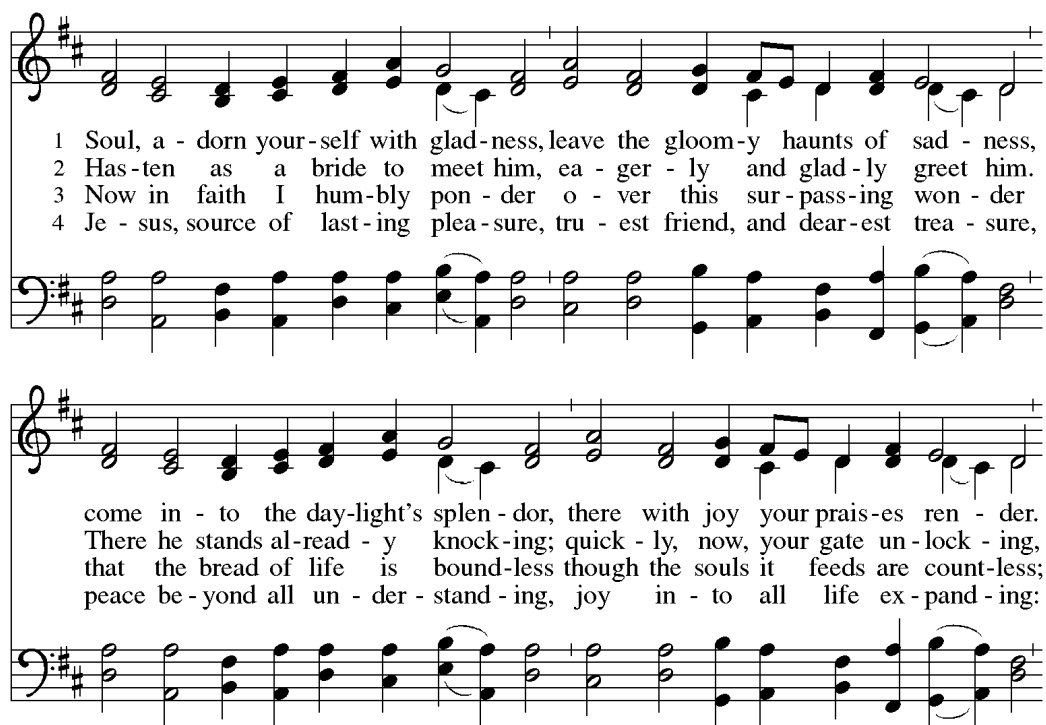


Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Originally titled "Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness," this hymn text was written by mayor Johann Franck, an occupation not normally known for writing hymn texts! Johann Crüger first included this text with his original tune in the Geistliche Kirchen-Melodien collection in 1649. The hymn celebrates the joy of communion. The famous hymnologist, Julian, said, "It is an exhortation to the soul to arise and draw near

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(ELW 488)

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness


1 Soul, a - dorn your-self with glad-ness, leave the gloom-y haunts of sad - ness,
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and glad - ly greet him.
3 Now in faith I hum-bly pon - der o - ver this sur-pass-ing won - der,
4 Je - sus, source of last-ing plea-sure, tru - est friend, and dear-est trea - sure,
come in - to the day-light's splen - dor, there with joy your prais-es ren - der.
There he stands al-read - y knock-ing; quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing,
that the bread of life is bound-less though the souls it feeds are count-less;
peace be - yond all un - der - stand - ing, joy in - to all life ex - pand - ing;

to partake of the heavenly food and to meditate on the wonders of heavenly love.”

The rhythm of this hymn is a traditional dance rhythm from the Baroque period. J.S. Bach commented on the use of this hymn during the offering to allow the parishioners the opportunity to dance forward in celebration of communion.

Bless the one whose grace un - bound-ed this a - maz - ing ban-quet found-ed;
o - pen wide the fast-closed por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal:
with the choic-est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en.
hum - bly now, I bow be - fore you, love in - car - nate, I a - dore you;

Christ, though heav'n-ly, high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
"Come, and leave your loved one nev - er; dwell with-in my heart for - ev - er."
Oh, most glo - rious con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.
wor - thi - ly let me re - ceive you, and, so fa - vored, nev - er leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

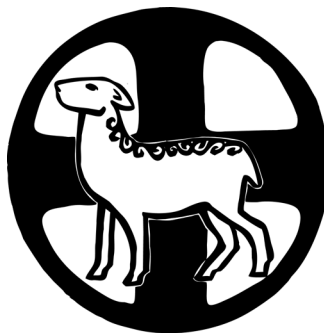
(ELW 341)

Now Behold the Lamb

1 Now be - hold the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God, who
2 Ho - ly is the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Why
3 Thank you for the Lamb, the pre - cious Lamb of God. Be -

bore all my sin, that I may live a - gain: the pre-cious Lamb of God.
you love me so, Lord, I shall nev - er know; the pre-cious Lamb of God.
cause of your grace I can fin - ish the race; the pre-cious Lamb of God.

Text: Kirk Franklin, b. 1970
Music: NOW BEHOLD THE LAMB, Kirk Franklin
Text and music © 1996 Lilly Mack Music. Used by permission.



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(ACS 976)

Come and See

What are you look - ing for? Come,

see, come and see. What are you

look - ing for? Come and see. Come and see.

Text: Robert A. Hobby, b. 1962, from John 1:38-39

Music: COME AND SEE, Robert A. Hobby

Text and music © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus
Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Radiant God, we have seen your
glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the
sacrament of his body and blood you have
drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table
with delight, that our lives may reflect the
beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we
have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord.

Assembly: Amen.



WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE



At the end of the 19th century a group of African American men commissioned James W. Johnson to write a hymn text that would honor Abraham Lincoln and his Emancipation Proclamation. It was first performed by a group of school children in Jacksonville, Florida at an assembly honoring Lincoln. Sung powerfully across generations, it gives voice to lament and to the promise of liberation, echoing Psalm 98's call to "sing to the Lord a new song."

This weekend we mark the life and witness of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., whose birthday is observed in the liturgical calendar as a commemoration of a "renewer of society," one whose life bore witness to the Gospel's call for justice, peace, and beloved community.

Across the ELCA this week, congregations and ministries remember Dr. King not

SENDING HYMN: Stanzas 1 & 3

(ELW 668)

Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - 'ry voice and sing till earth and heav - en ring,
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - t'ning rod,
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty.
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - t'ning skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.

only with special worship services and prayer, but also through intentional engagement with racial healing and reconciliation. The ELCA observes the National Day of Racial Healing (January 20) with storytelling and reflection aimed at listening to diverse voices and deepening our commitment to dismantling racism in the church and society.

In this spirit, " Lift Every Voice and Sing" sends us forth. Not as a seasonal token, but as a sacramental song that embodies our baptismal calling to strive for justice and peace. As we go into the world, may its words and music inspire us to work with courage and compassion for a community where all God's children are honored, included, and freed to flourish.

CHURCH COUNCIL INSTALLATION

Assisting Minister: A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. *(1 Corinthians 12:4-7)*

The following people have been elected by the congregation to positions of leadership:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Cara Papenheim | <i>(President)</i> |
| Mark Roe | <i>(Vice President)</i> |
| Bob Thompson | <i>(Treasurer)</i> |
| Jo Roe | <i>(Secretary)</i> |
| | |
| Suzanne Baggett | <i>(Christian Education)</i> |
| Tammy Breene | <i>(Evangelism)</i> |
| Tanya Elliott | <i>(Outreach)</i> |
| Roy Geiger | <i>(Stewardship)</i> |
| Cecilia Howard | <i>(Youth)</i> |
| Virginia Muller | <i>(Personnel)</i> |
| Craig Reichow | <i>(Property)</i> |
| Beverly Siecker | <i>(Fellowship)</i> |
| Pat Swanson | <i>(Worship and Music)</i> |
| | |
| Anne Geiger | <i>(Trustee)</i> |

Pastor: You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church.

You are to seek to involve all members of this congregation so that the mission of Christ is carried out in this congregation, in the wider church, in this community, and in the whole world.

You are to be faithful in your specific area of serving, that the Spirit who empowers you may be glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, fostering peace, harmony, and mutual understanding in this congregation.

On behalf of your siblings in Christ, I ask you: Will you accept and faithfully carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected?

Respondents: *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

Pastor: People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

Assembly: **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Pastor: I now declare you installed as officers and council members of this congregation.

Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

Assembly: **Amen**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise
✠ bless you now and forever.

Assembly: **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Lift Every Voice and Sing

arr. Wayne Wold

As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain from applauding during worship and after the postlude.

THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS

Confession of Peter

Sunday, January 18, 2026

Today the church remembers the apostle Peter's great acknowledgement of Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God." This festival serves as a fitting beginning to the week in which we particularly pray that all Christians might be united in faith and witness.

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156

Monday, January 19, 2026

When Erik, King of Sweden, determined to invade Finland for the purpose of converting the people there to Christianity, Henry went with him. Henry is recognized as the patron saint of Finland.

Agnes, martyr, died around 304

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Agnes was a girl of about thirteen living in Rome. The details of her martyrdom are not clear, but she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result, most likely by the sword. The church has honored her as one of the chief martyrs of her time.

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FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

[Baptistry of the Lateran, in *Springtime of the Liturgy*, ed. Lucien Deiss, trans. Matthew J. O'Connell (Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1979), 264.]

Inscription on the baptistry of the Church of St. John Lateran in Rome:

Here a people of godly race are born for heaven;
the Spirit gives them life in the fertile waters;
Mother church, in these waves, bears her children
like virginal fruit she has conceived by the Holy Spirit.
Here is to be found the source of life, which washes the whole
universe,
which gushed from the wound of Christ.
Sinner, plunge into the sacred fountain to wash away your sin.

In a seventeenth-century painting, John the Baptist points Jesus out to Andrew. In accordance with tradition, John the Baptist is shown with a staff, as befits life in the wild.



Assistance system (induction loop) in the Sanctuary for those with hearing impairments. Please ask an usher for instructions.

STAFF

Phone: (703) 437-1883

Website: www.HolyCrossHerndon.org

Facebook: www.Facebook.com/HCLCHerndon

Instagram: www.Instagram.com/HolyCrossELCA

YouTube: www.YouTube.com/c/HolyCrossLutheranChurchHerndonVA

Email: Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org

Jeremy Shoop, Director of Music and Liturgy

(585) 748-2848

MusicDir@HolyCrossHerndon.org

Marie Edwards Nelson, Church Administrator

(703) 437-1883

Sarah Schulmeyer, Church Administrator

Admin@HolyCrossHerndon.org

Marie Edwards Nelson, Bookkeeper

Bookkeeper@HolyCrossHerndon.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sam Carter, President

(703) 431-7457

President@HolyCrossHerndon.org

Cara Papenheim, Vice President

(571) 481-6281

VicePresident@HolyCrossHerndon.org

Jo Roe, Secretary

(703) 477-3509

Secretary@HolyCrossHerndon.org

Bob Thompson, Treasurer

(703) 795-3662

Treasurer@HolyCrossHerndon.org