



Trans Day of Visibility

TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

GATHERING: The Spirit Calls Us Together

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Temple Talk

Anna Helzer—RIC

Transgender Day of Visibility Prayer -

Call to Worship

Gathering Song

"Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!"

ELW 377

Greeting

Song

"Blessing, Honor, Glory"

Prayer of the Day

Special Music

"Fireworks"

MS/HS Bell Choir

WORD: We Hear God in Scripture & Preaching

Children's Message

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19... I love the LORD because he has heard my voice and my supplications. ² Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. ³ The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. ⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD, "O LORD, I pray, save my life!" ¹² What shall I return to the LORD for all his bounty to me? ¹³ I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD; ¹⁴ I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people. ¹⁵ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones. ¹⁶ O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds. ¹⁷ I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the LORD. ¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all his people, ¹⁹ in the courts of the house of the LORD, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

1 Peter 1:17-25... If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. ²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. ²⁴ For "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, ²⁵ but the word of the Lord endures forever." That word is the good news that was announced to you.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 24:13-35... Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵

While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them,¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.¹⁷ And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad.¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?”¹⁹ He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place.²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning,²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.”²⁵ Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?”²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on.²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?”³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together.³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!”³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message Pastor Heather Grell

Hymn of the Day

“Open Our Eyes, Lord”

Prayers

Sharing God’s Peace

MEAL: God Feeds us with the Presence of Jesus

Offering

Special Music

Offertory

“More Precious Than Silver”

Words of Institution

“Remember Me”

Lord’s Prayer

Communion

Communion Song

“Build a Longer Table”

Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

SENDING: Being Loved, God Sends Us to Love

Blessing

Sending Song

“Go Out With Joy”

Dismissal

Postlude

Announcements

- ⇒ **Food Pantry** Our next food pantry is Saturday, May 2 from 8 to 10am. [CLICK HERE](#) to help. Every item donated is very much appreciated. This week our specific focus will be soup and crackers.
- ⇒ **Altar Flowers** are available for purchase for \$47. Please [click here](#) to sign up or contact the church office.
- ⇒ **Lunch Bunch** will be held on Wednesday, April 22 at Romeo's located at 2395 N. 90th St. at 11:30. You are welcome to join us. Please call Linda Kohrs (402)690-3342 if you would like to come!
- ⇒ **Recycling Forum** Why do we recycle at Holy Cross and why does it seem so complicated? Join us on April 26th for an Adult Forum on recycling and composting. Sustainability Consultant Samantha Nieman from Hillside Solutions will give us an update on changes to our recycling system and guide us through a hands-on exercise in sorting trash into the color-coded receptacles. Grounded in the biblical mandate from Genesis 2:15, Hillside Solutions has received awards from Earth Day Omaha, Green Bellevue, the Nebraska Recycling Council, and was named the 2025 Organics Diversion Program of the Year from the US Composting Council. Samantha will help us feel confident that we are helping to "take care of God's Earth"
- ⇒ **Giving through Venmo** You can support the ministries of Holy Cross via Venmo. Find us on Venmo @HolyCrossLutheran.

Calendar for Upcoming Week

Sunday, April 19

9:30 am Worship
10:40 am Sunday School/Adult Forum
10:50 am MS/HS Ensemble
11:00 am MS/HS Bell Choir
11:00 am RIC Team Meeting
3:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 48012 Meeting

Monday, April 20

6:30 pm Boy Scouts
9:00 pm CMA Meeting

Tuesday, April 21

6:30 pm Council Meeting
7:30 pm AA Meeting

Wednesday, April 22

11:30am Lunch Bunch
12:30 pm Tai Chi Class
6:00 pm Confirmation/Uke Choir
6:30 pm Youth Worship
7:00 pm Radical Ringers/Youth Group

Thursday, April 23

6:30 pm Carolan Bell Choir
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, April 24

1:00 pm Knitting in the Narthex
6:45pm AA—Good Orderly Direction

Saturday, April 25

Newsletter Articles Due

Sunday, April 26

9:30 am Children's Worship
10:40 am Sunday School/Adult Forum
10:50 am MS/HS Ensemble
11:00 am MS/HS Bell Choir
11:30 am Stewardship Meeting

Prayer Requests from our Church Community

Member Concerns: Mike McDonald; Julie Leahy; Norm Firkins; Donna McCoy; Connie Mertz.

Friends and Relatives: Meg Trowbridge, friend of Nicole Szymczak; Bobbi Valandra, sister of Jason Valandra; Arthur Oberwetter, father of Julie Leahy; Georgia Jennings, niece of Walter Roberts; Gordon Blake, father of Alisa Krueger; Paisley & Porter Rodriguez, friends of Eric Gitt; Kim Jones, sister-in-law of Trisha Ryan; Jim O'Grady, uncle of Pastor Heather Grell; Scott Matheson, brother in law of Julie Noteman; Joshua Perilo, son of Sharon Perilo; Savannah Barb, cousin of Emma & Geno Roberts; Sonrisa Lewis, friend of the Harvey family; Ken Gross, cousin of Julie Noteman; Josh Moreau, friend of Wendy Brenner's family; Nancy Bartell, sister-in-law of Peg Schneider; Michael Schadendorf, grandfather of Edith and Tanya Valandra; Dave Huggins, friend of Jim & Peg Schneider; Mya Calendar, daughter of Trisha Ryan; Opal Calendar, foster granddaughter of Trisha Ryan; Kelsey Schneider, daughter of Jim & Peg Schneider; Theresa Ramelb, friend of Jacque Petersen; Shari Jensen, friend of Ed Krueger; Linda Anderson, Barb Kay's sister; Aaron McDonald and Family and Caregivers, McDonald's grandson.

Grieving: The family and friends of Anna Mae Carlson.