



CROSSlink

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Worship Services:
Saturdays 5:30pm (Sanctuary)
Sundays 8:30am (Sanctuary)
Sunday 9:45 am Bible Study/Fish Club
Sundays 10:45 am (LOFT)

JUNE 2023

FROM PASTOR'S DESK

"The Athanasian Creed"

Pastor Zac Patterson

Creeds are very important for us Lutherans. They are statements of faith, confessing the truths of God's Word. You should be familiar with the Apostles' Creed, the creed found in *The Small Catechism*. You probably also know the Nicene Creed, an expansion of the Apostles' Creed written at the Council of Nicea in 325 AD. There is a third creed that we confess once a year on Holy Trinity Sunday and that is the much longer, not as well known, Athanasian Creed. This is a wonderfully thorough creed, so let's take a look at it. You can find the text on pages 319-320 in our hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*.

It starts off with this summary statement, "Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith. Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally. And the catholic faith is this, that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance." An important note to make is that "catholic" here doesn't mean Roman Catholic, but rather the belief that the entire Church throughout history has confessed, according to the whole of Scripture. This summary statement makes the point very clearly: it is only faith in this Triune God that brings salvation and in this we have no doubt. The creed then goes into a thorough explanation about the persons and substance of the Trinity, "For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another. But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal. Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit..." It then gives examples to make this point, the clearest example probably being found in line 15, "So the Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God; and yet there are not three Gods, but one God."

Each person of the Trinity is uncreated, infinite, eternal, almighty, etc. However, they are not three separate beings, but one united Being. Three persons, one God. The creed sums up that section by saying, "And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another; but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped. Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity."

The creed then moves into a confession of the two natures of Christ. The section starts, "But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man." It then goes on to further explain what that means, "He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age: perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity." He is both true God and true man, all found in the one person of Jesus Christ. That Jesus would be born, suffer, die, and rise for our salvation.

The creed then ends with this often-misunderstood statement, "And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire. This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved." On the surface, this may seem like works righteousness. However, Lutherans have properly seen this statement referring to the fruits of faith. As St. James says, "faith without works is dead". In God's eyes, the unbeliever can only do evil. Only faithful Christians, by faith, can do good in God's eyes. The "good" and "evil" are fruits that reflect either faith or unbelief. Therefore, this statement is really saying, "whoever has faith will enter eternal life, but whoever does not have faith will enter eternal fire."

This creed is a wonderfully thorough confession of the Trinity in Unity, the two natures of Christ, and what is required for salvation. That salvation is bestowed on the faithful who share in this confession. I look forward to confessing this creed with you on Holy Trinity Sunday.

JULIET'S BOOK CLUB

The JULIET'S Book Club meets the **first Monday of every month** at Panera Bread in Fox River Grove at 6:00pm. Please contact Kathy for more information.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS IS BACK!

Tuesday Morning Bible Class is back for the Summer! The class will start on May 23rd from 10-11 AM in the conference room by the offices. We will be going through the book of Acts. Everyone is welcome!

NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASS

This class is for new members, members who want a refresher on Luther's *Small Catechism*, or anyone who is interested in learning more about what we believe and confess here at Holy Cross. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Patterson (pastor@holycrosscary.org). This session currently meets every Saturday at 11-12:00 and runs from May 13-June 24. If you missed the first class and are still interested, contact Pastor Patterson.

KIDS FOR CHRIST THANK YOU!!

THANK YOU to everyone who helped provide supper for KFC students and staff during the school year that has just ended. Choir, Board of Elders, OWLS and Governing Board members, the two families have all been involved in preparing suppers. A special 'thank you' to students Autumn, Cora and Ascher who also provided kitchen help and serving assistance. KFC was a new program for our children that was led by Pastor Patterson and Director Chrissy Heiss that gave all of the helpers an opportunity to experience the delight in serving in Jesus' name.

VBS DONATIONS

Thank you all for being "Stellar" donors for our Vacation Bible School! Your donations help make learning about God a fun experience for these children. Thank you to Deb for making the awesome rockets!! **There is still time to volunteer and join in the fun!!** A Kona Ice Truck will come on the last night for delicious treats!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITY

A huge thank you to *Tania* and *Sandy* for your years of faithfully serving children through Sunday School. We are so thankful and grateful for your time and efforts!

As these ladies step down to offer others an opportunity to serve, please prayerfully consider taking on this commitment in the fall. The classes for this fall will follow a book (The Story Bible) that has a bible story allowing discussions and an activity suggestion, followed by a prayer. This is a great opportunity to make a difference in children's lives leading them to a lifelong relationship with Christ.

DINE TO DONATE

Every **Sunday**, at the Crystal Lake Texas Roadhouse, 10% of your food bill will be donated back to Holy Cross when you bring in your church bulletin, flyer, or mention our church name. Call ahead seating 815-356-7427!

EVENT OPPORTUNITY

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom He has chosen as His heritage! the Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man." Psalm 33:12-13. This is the theme of an exciting event coming June 22-25, sponsored by our Northern Illinois District and South Wisconsin District in Milwaukee.

Thousands of women, men and children invite you to join them for an inspiring opening worship service on Thursday evening and tour displays by scores of organizations and missions of our Synod and see how millions of dollars collected by saving small change are granted to fund missions at home and abroad.

All this is the National Lutheran Women in Mission biannual convention and everyone is invited to come for a day or the entire 4 day event. There is a walk to support the MITE fund, a golf outing and more. Check out the NID/LWML website and see how you can join in the celebration of God's love for the people whom he has chosen as His heritage!

OWLS

OWLS will meet on Thursday, June 1, at noon in the lower LOFT. Ken will host and provide a dessert and devotion. There will be cards, dominoes, group games and lively conversation as we spend an afternoon with friends. Come and join in! You may bring magazines and books you no longer want and trade them or donate them to AbleLight Thrift Shop in Crystal Lake to support Bethesda Lutheran Home that serves disabled persons.

(OWLS will not meet on June 15.)

OWLS have tickets for the Wednesday June 21 afternoon Cougars baseball game. Just a few tickets remain from Pat. Your ticket can include reserved parking right outside the gates. Pat reserved seats in the top rows of a shaded area. Wear your Holy Cross T-shirt if you have one.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Romans 12: 6-8

We have different gifts, according to the Grace given to each of us. If your gift is serving, then serve.

Holy Cross has another HUGE need for assistance in the area of Information Technology! For many years we have taken a "band-aid" approach to purchasing and maintaining our computers, phone systems, copiers and other technology-related systems. To help solve this problem, we would like to create a NEW Information Technology Committee with the purpose of developing and maintaining a proactive plan for technology-related hardware and software integration and support. Recommendations relative to equipment purchases, maintenance programs and overall visioning of the program would fall in this area.

Our goal is to have a minimum of five (or more) Information Technology Committee members. We have three members (Thank You!) who have stepped up, each has a different knowledge of IT. **We would like two more members to help on this committee.**

This represents a WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY for our members with gifts in this field to serve and to share Time and Talents. It is also a great chance to meet, work and have fellowship with, good people with common interests. We have a great need for help so..... please give this your prayerful consideration!

If you would like to learn more, please contact Ellen Gezella, Office Administrator at our church office (847)639-1702.

FISH CLUB

Starting up again September 10, please join us- 3 to 8 years old- every Sunday from 9:35am - 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall! We're sure the kids will grow in their relationship with Jesus and meet a few new friends along the way. **Enjoy your Summer!!**

KIDS FOR CHRIST

Kids for Christ meets from 5-6:30pm. Dinner is be provided. KFC is for all kids grades 1-8. This includes Confirmation instruction for grades 7-8. **We will start up again in the Fall.**

NEWS FROM HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

- We have 23 students enrolled for the 23-24 school year!
- We welcome the following staff to our team: Andrea (teacher), Amy (school assistant), and Sara (before and after school care assistant)
- Holy Cross Lutheran School was the recipient of a \$500 grant from the Daughters of the American Revolution Stars and Stripes Forever: The Enduring Legacy of the American Revolution. The money will be used to fund an elective on the American Revolution, along with patriotic music and art.

OFFERING ENVELOPE "WISH LIST" ITEMS:

Every amount helps towards our needs. Thank you!

Church Landscaping – Replace dead bushes, plants – Estimated costs \$500.00.

Playground Mulch- Estimated Costs \$700.00 (12-14 yds, delivered and spread).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

September 10 - **Church Picnic & Rally Day!!!** Food, Fellowship, & FUN!!

November 17 & 18- **Vendor Fair !!!** Sign up as a vendor, volunteer, or come to shop!! Contact Kathy or Diane for more information.

Thrivent Action Team Ideas—each Thrivent member can sponsor two Action Teams of up to \$250 per year. For questions, please contact Chrissy Heiss at the school office.

Use this wording. The gift card always has to be used as "seed money", not to buy any permanent fixtures, etc. I can do the leg work once the funding comes through. All of these things can take place before the year ends, which is the deadline for the Actions Teams. You can spread these out throughout the year. Most important right now are the ones for VBS. Typically applying 6 weeks before the event is the timeline given by Thrivent.

1. **Craft Making VBS June 19, 2023** . Some friends and I would like to help our VBS group make crafts to take home and share with others. . This will be done in collaboration with some of our school

parents and children from the neighborhood. We will assemble the crafts, and send them home to be given as gifts to family members. Seed money will be used for buying craft supplies and refreshments for the volunteers. 25 volunteers. 3 hours

2. **Promoting our Lutheran School June 23, 2023** . Some friends and I would like to promote enrollment for our Lutheran School. We would like to distribute flyers in our local neighborhood and VBS students by offering Kona Ice as a treat. The seed money will pay for the costs of printing flyers and refreshments for the volunteers and for those in attendance. 10 volunteers, 2 hours
3. **First-Time Visitor Gifts July 1, 2023**. Our fellowship team would like to provide gifts to first time visitors to our church. We will gather to assemble gift bags with a special cup and packet of lemonade. Seed money will be used to buy gift bags, imprinted mugs, and lemonade packets. 3 volunteers 2 hours
4. **Devotional Materials November 19, 2023**. Some friends and I would like to distribute devotional materials to children and families that attend the Holy Cross Vendor Fair. We would like to give a devotional book, craft, and worship information flyer to all who attend. Our volunteers will gather to assemble the materials and will also volunteer to distribute them on the day of the fair. Seed money will be used for purchasing devotional materials, craft materials, and paper for printing information. 5 volunteers 8 hours
5. **Snack Needs Awareness August 2, 2023**. As a part of our school opening, some friends and I would like to raise awareness for the needs of our school's snack supply. We will gather to assemble a packet with a special shopping bag, and an informational flyer. Bags will be distributed to our congregation for their shopping list that includes many needed snack supplies for Holy Cross Lutheran School. Seed money will be used to buy the printed bags and to print the flyers. 6 volunteers 3 hours
6. **Curriculum Fundraiser November 6, 2023**. Some fellow educators and I would like to raise money for curriculum for Holy Cross Lutheran School. We will be selling cookie dough through Mrs. Fields. We will gather to plan our marketing strategy to promote sales. Seed money will be used to print flyers, pay for social media advertising, and to provide refreshments for the volunteers. 4 volunteers 5 hours
7. **Advent Devotional Materials November 27, 2023**. Our congregational education board would like to raise awareness of the Advent season by providing devotional materials to families who attend our worship services. Our team will meet to assemble the items in gift bags that will be distributed to each family who attends our various worship services. Seed money will be used to buy gift bags and Advent devotional materials. 4 volunteers 2 hours
8. **Advent Hands-On Materials November 13, 2023**. The leadership of our congregation would like to provide Advent hands-on materials for the children who participate in our Fish Club. We will gather to assemble Advent jars with service, prayer, and Bible verses inside. Children from our congregation and the neighborhood attend Fish Club. Seed money will be used to buy jars and paper to make the Advent jars. 8 volunteers 4 hours
9. **Advent Party December 9, 2023**. Our Kids for Christ team would like to invite children from our congregation and the neighborhood to an Advent party. Devotional materials for the Christmas season will be distributed along with a meal and special treats being served. Seed money will be used to buy devotional materials for Christmas and food for the meal. 10 volunteers, 5 hours
10. **Christmas Eve Busy Bags December 24, 2023**. Our usher team would like to provide special busy bags to our church members and visitor's children on Christmas Eve. We will include a small snack, toy, crayons, and coloring book in the packet. We will gather to assemble packets and distribute them at our two church services on Christmas Eve. Seed money will be used for snacks, bags, toys, crayons, and coloring books. 12 volunteers. 5 hours.

New Position Opening at Holy Cross Lutheran Church

We need your help to fill the following position in the church office:

POSITION: Part Time Financial Administrator/Bookkeeper

REPORTING TO: Financial Coordinator/Senior Pastor/ Governing Board

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide financial administrative and basic accounting support for the Financial Coordinator and Senior Pastor.
- Making all journal entries into QuickBooks, entering all bank deposits and ensuring the integrity of the QuickBooks accounts
- Performing bank reconciliations for church accounts
- Performing month end closing of the books and generating required monthly financial reports
- Assist in the accounting and reporting of memorials and designated funds
- Work with the designated external payroll service company to ensure all required data is submitted and accounts accurate
- Provide all documentation of payables for Treasurer signature.
- Assist in the yearly budgeting process directed by the Financial Coordinator
- Provide any additional financial reports as required by the Financial Coordinator, Treasurer, Senior Pastor or Governing Board
- Attend appropriate church meetings as require

EXPERIENCE REQUIRED:

- Ideal candidate would have experience in basic accounting, accounts receivable and accounts payable bookkeeping as well as the ability to work with word processing and other software, including MS Microsoft Office Products and QuickBooks.
- Ability to learn and use church management software—Servant Keeper (church software to track giving)

HOURS AND COMPENSATION

The position is part-time and will require 10 hours per week with a pay rate of \$18 per hour.

Please contact Ellen at the church office if you are interested and/or know of others outside the church who may be interested.

The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in.

From this time forth and forevermore.

Psalm 121: 7-8

What's Happening This Month:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE 2023				1	2	3
				12:00pm OWLS- lower LOFT		11-12 New member class 5:30pm Worship
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30am Worship (Sanct) 9:45am Bible Study 10:45am Worship (LOFT)	6:00pm Juliet's At FRG Panera	10-11am Bible Study		10:00pm Prayer Shawl		11-12 New Member class 5:30pm Worship 7:00pm Taize
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am Worship (Sanct) 9:45am Bible Study 10:45am Worship (LOFT)		10-11am Bible Study 3:45pm School Board Mtg. 6:30pm Elder's 7:00pm Cultured Purls		No OWLS mtg.		11-12 New Member class 5:30pm Worship
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am Worship (Sanct) 9:45am Bible Study 10:45am Worship (LOFT) FATHER'S DAY	VBS 5-7:30PM	10-11am Bible Study 6:30pm Gov. Board VBS 5-7:30PM	Kane County Cougars Game 11:30am start VBS 5-7:30PM	10:00am Prayer Shawl @ Panera VBS 5-7:30PM	Closing night Kona Ice Truck VBS 5-7:30PM	11-12 New Member class 5:30pm Worship
25	26	27	28	29	30	
8:30am Worship (Sanct) 9:45am Bible Study 10:45am Worship (LOFT)	1-year Anniversary. Of Pastor's Installation! So Thankful!!!	10-11am Bible Study				