



HOLY LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4210 South Chambers Road Aurora, CO 80014
office@holylovelutheran.org www.holylovelutheran.org
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September 15, 2019
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



HOLY LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4210 South Chambers Road
Aurora, CO 80014 (303) 693-1162
Pastor: Matthew Weber



September 15, 2019

PRELUDE

(8:30) HOW GREAT THOU ART
(11:00) THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION

PRAZE SONG
WESLEY/TORNQUIST

GATHERING

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we
2 Hark! The glad ce - les - tial hymn an - gel choirs a -
3 Lo, the ap - os - tol - ic train join your sa - cred
4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, ho - ly Son, Ho - ly Spir - it,



bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim,
bove are rais - ing; cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim,
name to hal - low; proph - ets swell the glad re - frain,
three we name you, though in es - sence on - ly one;



all in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your
in un - ceas - ing cho - rus prais - ing, fill the heav'ns with
and the white - robed mar - tyrs fol - low; and from morn to
un - di - vid - ed God we claim you and, a - dor - ing,



vast do - main, ev - er - last - ing is your reign.
sweet ac - cord: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord!"
set of sun through the church the song goes on.
bend the knee while we own the mys - ter - y.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900
Music: GROSSER GOTT, *Katholisches Gesangbuch*, Vienna, 1774

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE


Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

God of promise,
Abraham scoffed and Sarah laughed when they were told of your plans for them and their family. Yet you remained faithful and fulfilled your promise. Help us to trust in your promises for our lives, and to live according to your will.
Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

GENESIS 18:1-15; 21:1-7

after the reading:
Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL

MARK 10:23-27

before the reading:

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the Tenth chapter:
Glory to you, O Lord.

after the reading:

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

SERMON

PASTOR MATTHEW WEBER

Following the sermon, we pause for a few moments of silence, expecting that God's Holy Spirit will continue to speak to us.

HYMN OF THE DAY

IF YOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE YOU



1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite
Music: WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT, Georg Neumark
Text © 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.*

*On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

PRAYERS

Creator God, you call us to love and serve you with body, mind, and spirit through loving your creation and our sisters and brothers. Open our hearts in compassion and receive these petitions on behalf of the needs of the church and the world.

A brief silence.

after each petition:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy One, hear our prayers and make us faithful stewards of the fragile bounty of this earth so that we may be entrusted with the riches of heaven.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying "Peace be with you" or similar words.

SHARING OF LIFE AND MINISTRY

MEAL

OFFERING

(8:30) BLESSED BE THY NAME

(11:00) OFFER MY LIFE

**PRAZE SONG
ARR. WOLAVER**

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

ACCEPT O LORD, THE GIFTS WE BRING



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.



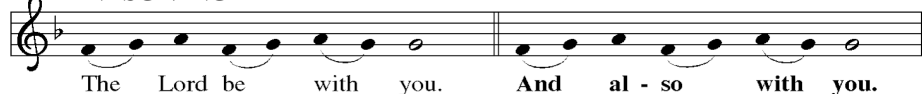
We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, b. 1957
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune
Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,
through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
ourselves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Chris, Our Savior and Lord.
Amen

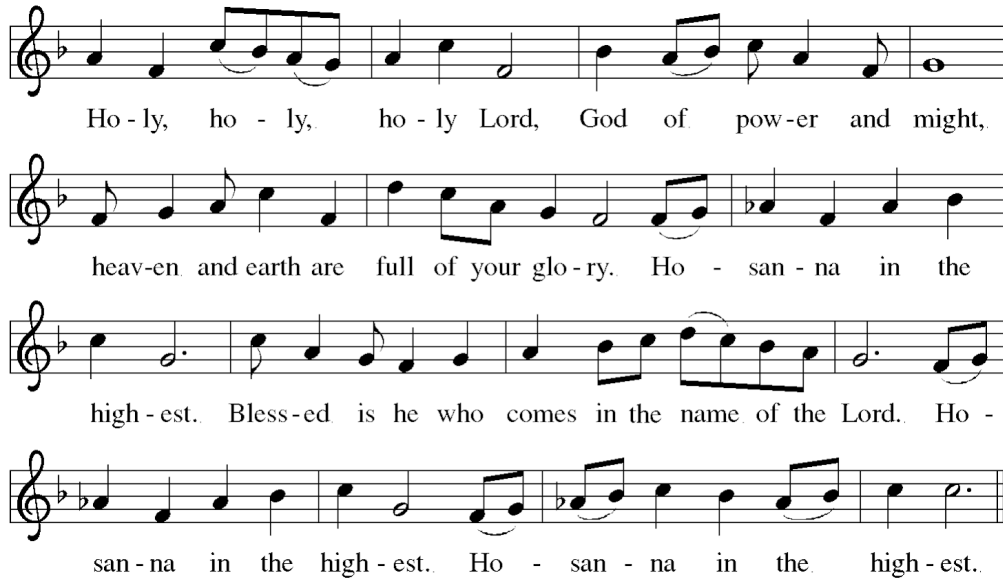
GREAT THANKSGIVING



PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.*

To you O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (8:30)

CONGREGATION & PRAZE SONG

Our Fa-ther who art in hea- ven hal- lo- wed be
Thy name. Thy king-dom come Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heav'n. Give us this day
our dai- ly bread, and for give us our tres- pass-
es as we for-give those who tres - pass a
gainst us; and lead us not in- to temp- ta
tion but de- li- ver us from all e- vil for
Thine is the king - dom and the po-wer and the
glo- ry for e- ver. A- men we pray for-e- ver and e-
ver to all the world we pray A-men. A-
men we pray for- e- - ver we pray A- men,
men.

LORD'S PRAYER (11:00)

Lord, remember us in your mercy, and teach us to pray:

*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 THE TABLE

Come to the banquet,
for all is now ready.
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

Christ is the Host at this feast; all are welcome at the table of God's grace. The chalice contains wine; red wine and white grape juice are provided in the trays. After you receive the bread, you may either dip (intinct) the bread in the chalice and receive the bread and wine together; or, you may eat the bread, and drink either from the chalice or from a small glass in the tray. Please let the server know if you require a gluten-free wafer.

*Do this in
rememberance
of me.*

— THE GOSPEL OF LUKE 22:19



HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

O JESUS, JOY OF LOVING HEARTS



1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091–1153; tr. Ray Palmer, 1808–1887, alt.
 Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

BLESSED ASSURANCE



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long:



this is my sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908

O LIVING BREAD FROM HEAVEN



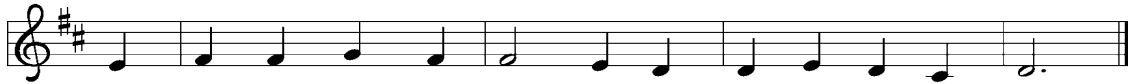
1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;



O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

THE BLESSING

after all have returned to their places:

Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We give you thanks, Almighty God,
that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him,
and abound in thanksgiving;
and the blessing of the holy Trinity, one God,
be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

PRAISE AND THANKS AND ADORATION



1 Praise and thanks and ad - o - ra - tion, Son of God, to you we give,
2 Hold me ev - er in your keep - ing, com - fort me in pain and strife;



for you chose to serve cre - a - tion, died that sin - ers all might live.
through my laugh - ter and my weep - ing, lift me to a no - bler life.



Dear Lord Je - sus, guide my way; faith - ful let me day by day
Draw my fer - vent love to you; con - stant hope and faith re - new



fol - low where your steps are lead - ing, find ad - ven - ture, joys ex - ceed - ing!
in your birth, your life and pas - sion, in your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseumes de David*, Geneva, 1551
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

(8:30) LEANING IN THE EVERLASTING ARMS
(11:00) TO GOD BE THE GLORY

PRAZE SONG
BOCK/LARSON

*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*



Our thoughts and prayers are with:

Pastor Matthew and his family & doctors, Rita Hinze (Dorothea Madry's mother), family & friends of Traci Aspaas (Kelly Gaer's sister), family & friends of Renate Schmidt (Dorothea Madry's aunt), Sharyl Hass (Michelle Kneipper's mother), Jean Roenfeldt, Jim Cobb (friend of Vicki & Cal Hosman), Ron Sadecky (Cindy Hermanson's step father) George Cray (Bob Apmann's cousin), Rodney Loken (Lori Rieger's Uncle) Dale Puckett (future son-in-law of Phyllis Runia), Tony Ester (friend of Karen Then), Joe Fjell (Beth Whitney's brother), Christa Stone (Katherine Allen's mother), Ryan Rickard (Laverne Rickard's son), Dave Jensen (Marcia Monson's brother), Dale Fjell (cousin of Beth Whitney), Maggie Condie, Brittney (Steve Knuth's niece), Jim Wood, Milly (Terri Altman's mother), Johnna Tavera (Shane Allen's sister), Sue Last, Audrey Hallett, Gary Mindt (Lori Rieger's uncle), Paulette Traver (Hal & Sherry Traver's sister-in-law), Vicki Hosman, Miguel Martinez, Rick Thorstad, Agnes Spino, Liam Sinclair, Butch Abbott, Jon Zimmer, Ben Nelson, Phyllis Mueller, Shirley Kutowy, Julie Christianson, Brenda Allen, Jenny L. Staggs, Zach & Sydney Brinkmann, Dewy Hertz., Mike, Norma Jean, Paul Jr.

Pray for our Military:

Ryan Winter (Eric & Cindy Hermanson's Son in-Law), Joshua Specht & Jeremiah Specht (Steve & Leanne Alfrey's Sons), Shayne Braunlich (former student of Beth Whitney), Aaron Clabaugh (Diana Stigleman's nephew), Stephen Terrell, Heath Terrell, Trevor Toft, Jason Anderson, Chase Pofahl, Tyler Pofahl, Lara Pitt, Alicia Phelps, Trevor Koch, Josh Moyer, Jesse Newell, Shirley Kidroy





If you are a guest this morning, WELCOME!

Please sign the "Friendship Pad" as it is passed to you.
As you join us in worship, our hope is that you will find renewed strength in God.
**If you would like to be added to the weekly
e-mail list to find out what's going on at Holy Love, e-mail the office at:
office@holylovelutheran.org**

Welcome Back, Pastor Matthew!

Pastor Matthew will lead our services today! We are very thankful that his recovery, while it seems like a long time, has been relatively short for the severity of his accident and that he can return to us on a limited basis this fall. This month's issue of the Mission Bell includes a letter from Pastor Matthew outlining his plan for return and other general information. Please make sure to check it out by either downloading a copy off or our website of picking up a copy on the welcome stand in the Narthex.

Holy Love Calendar

<p>Today at Holy Love Lutheran Church</p> <p>8:30 & 11 am Worship Service</p> <p>9:30 am Fellowship</p> <p>10 am Sunday School</p>		<p><i>A Full Calendar can be viewed on our website at www.holylovelutheran.org</i></p>	<p>This Week's Mowing Team:</p>  <p>Team 3</p>	<p>This Week at Holy Love Lutheran Church</p> <p>Mon, Sept 16 5:30 pm Praze Song 6:30 pm NA Meeting</p> <p>Tues, Sept 17 7 pm Church Council</p> <p>Wed, Sept 18 6 pm NA Meeting & Support 7 pm Chancel Choir</p> <p>Thurs, Sept 19 6 pm Theology Pub 7 pm Holy Knit Wits</p> <p>Fri, Sept 20 7 am Men's Breakfast @ Village Inn 6 pm NA Meeting</p>
Today's Worship Assistants	Organist	Pam Engle	 <p>Please take a careful look at our prayer list. If there is anyone on the list who should not be there, please let Lori know. The deadline for items to appear in the bulletin and the E-News is Tuesday. The deadline for the Prayer Chain is Thursday. Thank you.</p> <p>Please send your submissions to: office@holylovelutheran.org or complete a prayer request card found in the pew and place in the offering plate or on Lori's desk.</p> <p><i>If you are in need of Pastoral care during Pastor Matthew's recovery, please contact Pastor Jim Engel at Pastorjim2000@yahoo.com.</i></p>	
	Music	Praze Song		
	Assisting Minister	Beth Newsom		
	Acolyte			
	Lector	Kathy David		
	Greeters			
	Ushers	Dave Yoder Emily Yoder Clay Smith Hal Travor Eric Hermonson		
	Communion Assistant	Debbie Anderson		
	Altar Guild	Debbie Anderson Kris Collette		
Fellowship Hosts	Fellowship			

*Altar Flowers this morning are provided by:
 Alan and Amy Schmuck in memory of Darlene Chase
 and
 Nicole Weber in honor of Pastor Matthew's return*

Theology Pub



Join us at September 19th at Lubo's Pizza in Aurora (15352 E. Ida Dr.) from 6-7:30 pm for our monthly theology pub.

This month, Pastor Harry Laubach will be leading a discussion on the evolution of Satan.



RALLY SUNDAY

Join us on the patio at 10 am as we kick off our Sunday School Season with a fun half hour of crafts, praise and getting to know one another. *Parents if your child has never attended Sunday School this is a great way to introduce them to the program.*



Confirmation Classes at Holy Love Lutheran Church 2019/2020 Ready, Set, NEW TESTAMENT! Sunday, September 22nd, 12:00 PM

- * Parents and Students attend beginning for orientation and lunch
- * Students stay until 2:30 for class time
- * Grades 6-8, (if you are older than 8th grade, we can customize a program that fits for you this year too.)

Contact Amy Schmuck for more info at: youth@holylovelutheran.org

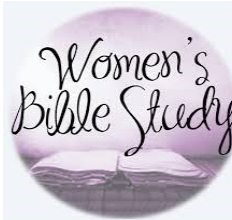
Coming Soon...

FALL FEST

**Holy Love's Annual
Fall Cleanup Day:**

October 19th, 2019

Stay Tuned for more
Information!



*Our next study
date is
September 25th*

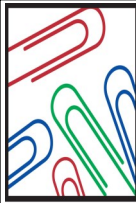
Women of Holy Love are invited to join our bible study and enjoy fellowship, treats and lessons from the Bible.. We will meet in the youth room from 9:15-11:00 am. Studies are found in the ELCA Gather Magazine. Extra copies will be provided.

If you have questions, please contact Peggy Apmann at 303-693-1802 or rgammg@yahoo.com

Friends & Family Day - Sept. 21, 11am-1pm

A fundraising event for Aurora Warms the Night will feature a cultural food fest and a live martial arts play. Admission passes are just \$5/each including a food punch card and activities.

Located at 4510 S. Reservoir Rd., Aurora, CO . Contact Lori Rieger for more information at 303-653-2995 or l.rieger@atafma.com



Office Hours

The Holy Love church office is open
Mon - Thurs: 9am - 2pm

Contact Information

Church Office Phone - 303.693.1162
www.holylovelutheran.org
www.facebook.com/holylovelutheran

Office Administrator: Lori Rieger
email - office@holylovelutheran.org

Preschool & Kindergarten 303.693.8519

Pr. Matthew

email - pastor@holylovelutheran.org
cell phone (call or text) - 720.301.9411
facebook message - facebook.com/hikerrev

*Holy Love Evangelical Lutheran Church
is committed to proclaiming
and living the Good News of
God's love in Jesus Christ as we
gather for worship and study,
and scatter for witness and
service to our neighbors.*

Interim Faith Formation Director:

Amy Schmuck
Cell phone - 720.682.4768
email - youth@holylovelutheran.org



**Hearing Loop installed.
Switch hearing aid to T-coil.**



Worship Assistants Sign up Online

You can sign up on our website under the "Worship" or "Youth and Family" tabs. If you have questions, or need help, please see Debbie Anderson .



Sunday Flowers

*The flower charts for 2019
are posted on the kiosk in
the Narthex.*

Please consider providing 1 or 2 bouquets for a Sunday morning. Add your name and possibly a short note about why you are providing flowers, place a check made out to Holy Love Lutheran Church for \$35 per bouquet and "flowers for (date)" on the memo line, in the offering plate or on the desk in the office. Bring the bouquet(s) home after church that Sunday or deliver to a shut-in, etc.

Social Media Disclaimer

As our world is constantly changing, so too does the way we communicate with one another. Many people rely on social and electronic mediums for information and to stay connected. We want to see what's going on, not just hear or read. With that said, please know that pictures of Holy Love's functions may be posted on social media or on our website. Should you wish not to be shown in these posts, please provide a signed and dated letter to be kept on file in the office, stating your desire not to be shown in our publications. Thank you.

Do You Get Holy Love's Weekly Email?

If not, you can easily sign up right now!

Text
HOLYLOVE
to **22828** to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the oaks of Mamre while he sat at the entrance of his tent in the day's heat. He looked up and suddenly saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from his tent entrance to greet them and bowed deeply. He said, "Sirs, if you would be so kind, don't just pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought so you may wash your feet and refresh yourselves under the tree. Let me offer you a little bread so you will feel stronger, and after that you may leave your servant and go on your way—since you have visited your servant."

They responded, "Fine. Do just as you have said."

So Abraham hurried to Sarah at his tent and said, "Hurry! Knead three seahs of the finest flour and make some baked goods!" Abraham ran to the cattle, took a healthy young calf, and gave it to a young servant, who prepared it quickly. Then Abraham took butter, milk, and the calf that had been prepared, put the food in front of them, and stood under the tree near them as they ate.

They said to him, "Where's your wife Sarah?" And he said, "Right here in the tent."

Then one of the men said, "I will definitely return to you about this time next year. Then your wife Sarah will have a son!"

Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were both very old. Sarah was no longer menstruating. So Sarah laughed to herself, thinking, "I'm no longer able to have children and my husband's old."

The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Me give birth? At my age?' Is

anything too difficult for the Lord? When I return to you about this time next year, Sarah will have a son."

Sarah lied and said, "I didn't laugh," because she was frightened.

But he said, "No, you laughed."

The Lord was attentive to Sarah just as he had said, and the Lord carried out just what he had promised her. She became pregnant and gave birth to a son for Abraham when he was old, at the very time God had told him. Abraham named his son—the one Sarah bore him—Isaac. Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old just as God had commanded him. Abraham was 100 years old when his son Isaac was born. Sarah said, "God has given me laughter. Everyone who hears about it will laugh with me." She said, "Who could have told Abraham that Sarah would nurse sons? But now I've given birth to a son when he was old!"

Mark 10:23-27

Looking around, Jesus said to his disciples, "It will be very hard for the wealthy to enter God's kingdom!" His words startled the disciples, so Jesus told them again, "Children, it's difficult to enter God's kingdom! It's easier for a camel to squeeze through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter God's kingdom."

They were shocked even more and said to each other, "Then who can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them carefully and said, "It's impossible with human beings, but not with God. All things are possible for God."

Next Week's Readings:

Genesis 32:9-13, 22-30

Mark 14:32-36