

## Mission Statement

Embrace God's Word  
Know Christ's Peace  
Share the Spirit's Promise

Our Mission Statement is a reflection of who we are as part of the Body of Christ. It is a statement used to explain our purpose in simple and concise terms. It helps to identify us as Holy Cross and define us as God's people.

Accordingly, at Holy Cross we embrace God's Word. The Word of God shapes our lives together and how we interact with the world around us. Jesus prayed for His disciples "Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth" (John 17:17). The Word of God is critical to our identity because it is there we come face-to-face with Jesus; God's Word made flesh.

Therefore, we hold His Word in high esteem. Like Paul the Apostle said,

"All Scripture is <sup>1</sup>inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work." (2 Ti 3:16-17)

The Lord, Jesus Christ, the Light of the world, is at work in our lives. He is the Prince of Peace. Through His life, death and resurrection, we have peace with God. The Hebrew word for peace is *shalom*.

But it means more than simply a lack of conflict, *Shalom* refers to a state of affairs, completeness or wholeness. True peace can only be found in One Name. Jesus. He is our Salvation and Life. This was the very purpose for His coming. John, in his Gospel, said that it was love that brought Jesus to earth.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." (Jn 3:16)

This is truly Good News, and we believe it is worth sharing. People need to hear that in Jesus they can have peace with God. So, we take the Great Commission seriously. The last thing Jesus told His disciples before He ascended into heaven is recorded in the Gospel of Matthew. It has become known as the Great Commission. This is what Jesus told them:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matt 28:19-20)

Taking this message to the world is connected to the Great Commandment, to love God and love others. Therefore, sharing this Good News is at the heart and purpose of our ministry. God wants a personal relationship with all people. But this is only possible through faith in Jesus Christ. In Romans, Paul said,

“So, faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.” (Ro 10:17)  
It is for this reason that Jesus is at the heart of our message.

If you would like to know more about a life-giving relationship with God, please join us every Sunday morning at 10:00 AM MST at Holy Cross Lutheran Church ([www.holycrossbc.net](http://www.holycrossbc.net))

-The Pastor's Thoughts January 2024