



# Fifth Grade

Learning with a  
Higher Purpose

## Holy Cross Lutheran School

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### About the Teacher: Mrs. Keri Ankersen



Welcome to 5th grade! I am excited for a fun and engaging school year.

I earned a Bachelor of Science in Middle-Level Education from Concordia University, Nebraska. Previously, I have taught in Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, and Nebraska. I have experience in all primary grades (K-8) and fifth grade has always been my favorite!

I am married with three beautiful daughters. My husband, Ryan, is a pastor here at Holy Cross. Our daughters, Abbe, Eliana, and Millie all attend Holy Cross Day school.

My favorite Bible verse is 1 John 3:1: "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are!" My favorite worship songs are "Mighty To Save" and "Goodness of God." My favorite hymn is "Praise To The Lord, The Almighty."

In the classroom, I am passionate about teaching students where they are. Every classroom is a unique community of learners. I strive to make learning fun and engaging so students value learning new things for the rest of their lives. I have high expectations for learning and behavior. Students will participate in class discussions, collaborate with classmates, and fine-tune their abilities to work independently. My classroom will be a safe, caring community where students feel loved and valued.

### SUMMARY OF OUR EDUCATIONAL GOALS

#### In relationship to God

- ◊ The student will grow in the grace and knowledge of the Triune God,
- ◊ The student will be taught to live a Christian life through the power of the Holy Spirit, and be taught about the assurance of eternal salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, and
- ◊ The student will gain knowledge of the Bible and its contents.

#### In relationship to self, others, and community

- ◊ The student will develop a positive self-image, and
- ◊ The student will develop knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for living a productive Christian life as a responsible member of his/her church, community, and world.

#### In relationship to intellectual development

- ◊ The student will develop academic talents and skills to the fullest extent of his/her ability,
- ◊ The student will develop positive attitudes toward learning, and
- ◊ The student shall be exposed to cultural activities, fine arts, and various types of music through classroom study, exhibits, direct participation, and field trips.

### Fifth Grade Curriculum Overview

#### Biblical Studies

In our fifth grade we use the Enduring Faith Curriculum from Concordia Publishing. This curriculum is based on the following principles: God's Word gives life, we are children of God, we are called to love, create disciples for life, and faith is important at home. We learn these principles as we go through important stories from Genesis to Revelation.

#### Language Arts

Our Language Arts program is primarily novel based. As a class, we read several novels, including several Chronicles of Narnia books. Using the novels as our base, we develop our reading comprehension skills, deepen our vocabulary, and improve our spelling. In addition, to the novels, we do several writing pieces in fifth grade as well as grammar and usage lessons.

#### Mathematics

Students continue to apply their computational skills to large whole numbers but now apply the skills to decimal and fractional numbers as well. Knowledge of fractions is broadened by determining greater and smaller fractions and by writing fractions of equivalent value. Skills in measuring angles and comparing geometric shapes are also expanded. Students investigate the different forms of graphs and how the data in graphs can be used to visualize quantities and measurements. As an introduction to solving equations, students learn how to determine percent, ratio, and use probability. The text used is *Savvas Envision Mathematics*.

#### Social Studies

The fifth grade program is a study of American history and geography. Students trace the development of our country from the earliest inhabitants of America to the explorers and up to the founding of our nation. The text used is *US History: Making a Nation* from McGraw Hill.

#### Science

This program emphasizes the process of investigating and reaching conclusions after utilizing a process of stating a hypothesis, observing outcomes, and collecting data. Fifth graders center their investigations on topics from life, physical and earth sciences, as well as health and safety. The text used is *Interactive Science* by Pearson.