



A celebration of our nation's independence
and the need for repentance

The Nation
Sunday, July 3, 2022



Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

623-224-8839
www.crossofglory.org

10111 W Jomax Road,
Peoria, AZ 85383

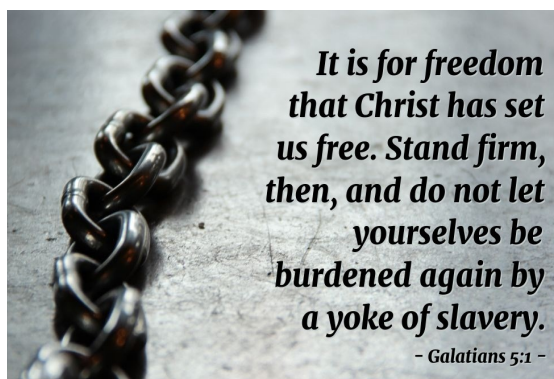
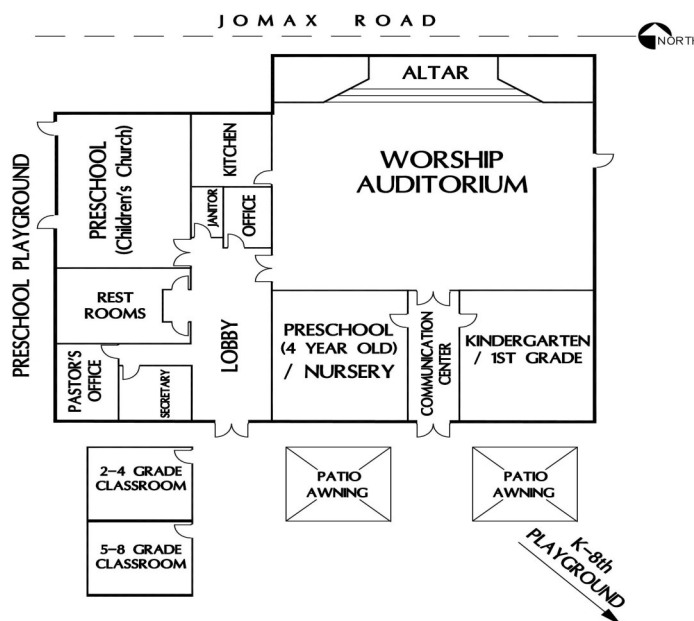
Sun. 9am Worship

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

Welcome to our Worship Center! God defines a church as people gathering around Word and Sacrament. As you join us in this gathering, we pray that Jesus' peace and power will fill you.

Families with children:

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult guardian.
- We invite children (**ages 3 to 4th grade**) to take part in our "**Children in Church**" program. Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. So, for the beginning and end of the service, we encourage parents to guide their children through the service. At the indicated time, children can come forward to hear a special children's message at the feet of the pastor. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!



In the United States, the Fourth of July is Independence Day—the day which marks the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Freedom is a blessing we hold dear and defend boldly. Our nation's armed forces are of one mind, that protecting our freedom is worth dying for. We are what our national anthem proudly proclaims: "the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

But are we really free? Whoever we are and wherever we live, are we free from what really matters? On our own we are not free; all people are very much slaves. We find ourselves to be slaves to sin, and on our own, we cannot break its shackles. We are slaves to our sinful nature and cannot live a day, an hour, even a minute without our sinful nature rearing its ugly head. Thoughts that pass through our heads, words that come flowing from our mouths, self-serving deeds that we scheme to carry out—they all show our true nature. They all show just how much we are slaves to sin. Thankfully, Jesus broke the shackles of sin and Satan. Jesus has forgiven those sinful thoughts of our minds, the devious actions from our hearts, the careless and hate-filled words that we speak. He forgives us because he lived up to God's sinless standard for us. Then Jesus willingly and lovingly allowed the punishment we deserved to be placed on him. On the cross, Jesus endured our death and hell. When he burst forth from Easter's tomb, he shattered the chains of sin and death. In Jesus, we have eternal life with God. That's something that no power on earth or scheme of man can ever take away. That's real freedom!

Extracted from www.WhatAboutJesus.com.

The Service

Pledge of Allegiance

(Spoken in Unison)

C: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America,
and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God,
indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Greeting

(Spoken Responsively)

M: We gather this day in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: We gather to worship and praise our Lord for the blessings we enjoy as American Christians.

Opening Hymn: Before You, Lord, We Bow

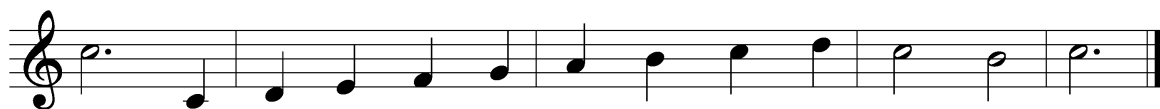
CWH 775 Vs. 1–3



1 Be - fore you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns a - bove and
2 The na - tion you have blessed may well your love de - clare, from
3 May ev - 'ry moun-tain height, each vale and for - est green, shine



rules the world be - low in bound-less pow'r and love. Our thanks we
foes and fears at rest, pro - tect - ed by your care. For this bright
in your Word's pure light and its rich fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry



bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise to you, our King!
day, for this fair land—gifts of your hand—our thanks we pay.
tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise a grate - ful song.

Confession and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The Lord our God has established us in a good land, where we lack nothing.

C: Let us praise the Lord our God for the good land he has given us!

M: Righteousness exalts a nation—but sin is a disgrace to any people!

C: We must confess our sin—especially this day. We confess our failures to work as responsible citizens for the good of our country and our community.

M: Through the merits of Christ, our gracious Father forgives our sin, and in his mercy, he empowers us to live as his children and as faithful citizens of our nation.

C: Let us exalt our nation with righteousness! Let us live as servants of God, showing proper respect for those in authority, and looking not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others.

M: Let us value and enjoy our freedom, but never use it as a cover-up for evil. May the Lord bless our nation with leaders who walk righteously and speak what is right.

C: When governing officials judge rich and poor alike, both the government and society will be secure. Justice gives a nation stability.

M: We Christians have an even higher allegiance—to the King whose kingdom is not of this world.

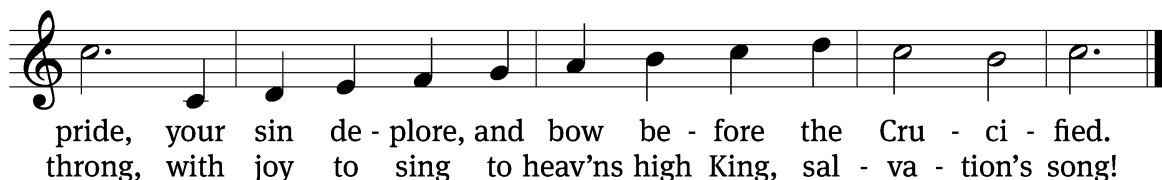
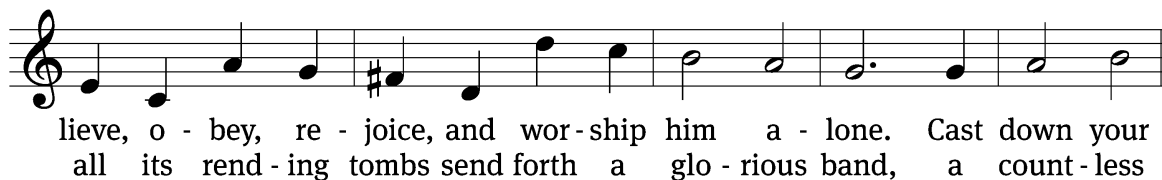
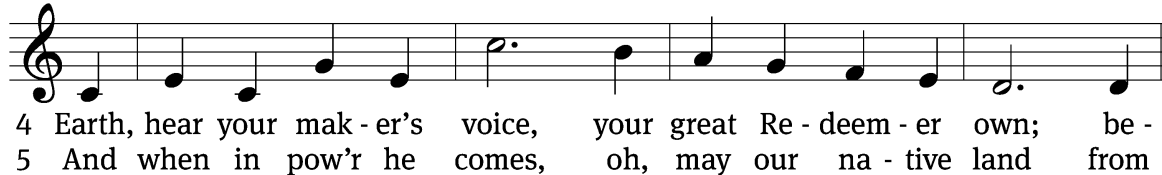
C: The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ, and he will reign forever and ever!

M: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!

C: Whatever we do, then, whether in word or deed, let us do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

M: As citizens of heaven and citizens of our country, let us lift our voices in song, praying that those in our country come to know the Christ, their Savior.

Congregation Sings:



Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779–1843, alt.
Tune: John Darwall, 1731–1789
Text and tune: Public domain

The Word

Prayer of the Day

M: Lord, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the earth. Help us elect trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve you faithfully in our generation to the honor of your holy name; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading

Daniel 9:4–6, 15–19

⁴I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed:

“Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁵we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. ⁶We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land.

¹⁵“Now, Lord our God, who brought your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand and who made for yourself a name that endures to this day, we have sinned, we have done wrong. ¹⁶Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath from Jerusalem, your city, your holy hill. Our sins and the iniquities of our ancestors have made Jerusalem and your people an object of scorn to all those around us.

¹⁷“Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary. ¹⁸Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. ¹⁹Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name.”

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 148

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Praise the Lord from the heavens,

C: Praise him in the heights above.

M: Praise him, all his angels,

C: Praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

M: Praise him, sun and moon,

C: Praise him, all you shining stars

M: Praise the Lord from the earth,

C: Lightning and hail, stormy winds that do his bidding,

M: You mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,
C: Wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,
M: Kings of the earth and all rulers on earth,
C: Young men and maidens, old men and children.
M: Let them praise the name of the Lord,
C: For his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

The Children's Sermon

(Children may come forward to the altar)

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:9-17

⁹But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

¹¹Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹²Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.


¹³Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

Sermon Hymn: God of Grace and God of Glory

CWH 770



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient Church's sto - ry,
sail his ways. From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom,
 free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,



grant us cour - age for the fac - ing of this
 grant us cour - age for the liv - ing of these
 grant us cour - age lest we miss your king - dom's
 grant us cour - age, serv - ing you whom we a -



A celebration of our nation's
 and the need for repe



hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969, abr., alt.
 Tune: John Hughes, 1873–1932
 Text and tune: Public domain

⁸The lion has roared— who will not fear?
The Sovereign LORD has spoken—who can but prophesy? (Amos 3:8)

Sermon notes:

God's Three Complaints Against Israel

1. _____

“Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, and to you who feel _____ on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come” (Amos 6:1).

Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life

- “Secularization” = the process of _____ religious and moral influence from society.
- 1950's = _____ % no religious affiliation
- 1970's = _____ % no religious affiliation
- Today = _____ % no religious affiliation

Three Main Areas of Secularization

1. _____ immorality and perversion
 2. _____ of human life
 3. _____ on traditional marriage and family
2. _____ sins – fraud, scams, exorbitant interest rates, bribes, extortion, corruption in the courts, crooked judges, crooked lawyers, crooked politicians.

“_____ the measure, _____ the price and _____ with dishonest scales” (Amos 8:5).

3. Superficial _____

“I hate, I _____ your religious feasts; I cannot _____ your assemblies. Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Away with the noise of your songs? I will not listen to the music of your harps” (Amos 5:21).

“The days are coming,” declares the Sovereign Lord, “when I will send a _____ through the land—not a famine of food or a thirst for water, but a famine of hearing the _____ of the Lord” (Amos 8:11-12).

What Did God Do With the Nation of Israel?

1. _____ them – Amos, Hosea, Nahum, Obadiah

“Surely the Sovereign Lord does nothing without _____ his plan to his

servants *the prophets*" (Amos 3:7).

2. Sent natural _____ – famine, drought, pestilence, plagues, earthquake
3. Sent Assyria to _____ them in 722 bc.

"For I know how many are your offenses and how great your sins Seek good, not evil, that you may live. Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you just as you say he is. . . Hate evil, love good; maintain justice in the courts. Perhaps the Lord God Almighty will have _____ on the remnant of Joseph" (Amos 5:12).

"In that day I will _____ David's fallen tent," (Amos 9:11).

Nicene Creed

(Spoken in Unison)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Song of the Season: How Deep the Father's Love for Us

CWH 523

Soloist sings Vs. 1 & 2 and Congregation joins for Vs. 3

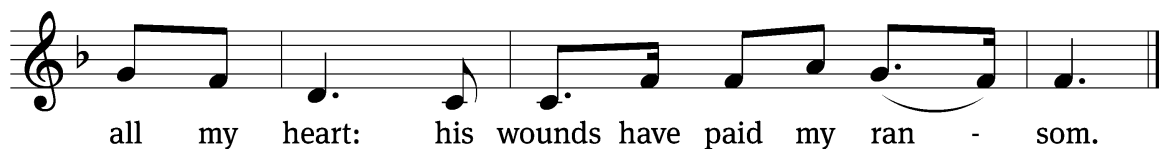
*How deep the Father's love for us,
how vast beyond all measure,
that he should give his only Son
to make a wretch his treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss.
The Father turns his face away
as wounds which mar the Chosen One
bring many sons to glory.*

*Behold the Man upon a cross,
my sin upon his shoulders.
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held him there
until it was accomplished;
his dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.*

Congregation Sings:



3 I will not boast in an - y - thing: no gifts, no pow'r, no
wis - dom. But I will boast in Je - sus Christ: his
death and res - ur - rec - tion. Why should I gain from his re - ward?
I can - not give an an - swer. But this I know with



Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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Offering and Offering Prayer

(Prayed by Minister)

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

C: We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.

M: You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

C: For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.

M: Look with favor upon our nation and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

C: Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.

M: Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

C: Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

M: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

C: Lead the citizens of our land to honor the useful foundations of society.

M: Care for those who are sick or have been injured. Calm those who are disappointed and depressed. Provide guidance to those who care for people in trouble or in need.

C: Lead us to provide help when we can and to pray at all times.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

~Silent prayer~

M: To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

C: Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen.

The Sacrament

Preface

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

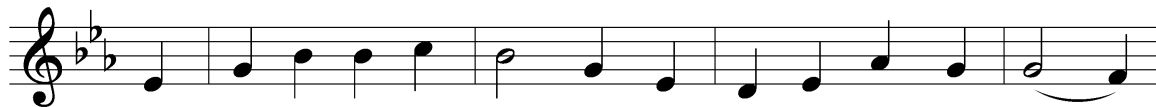
M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Tune: MISSIONARY HYMN



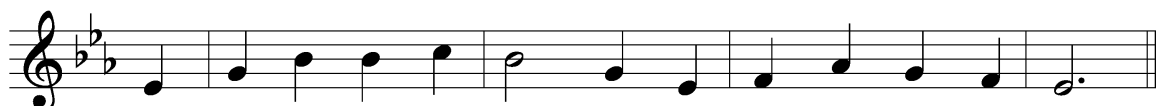
1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

(Prayed in Unison)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

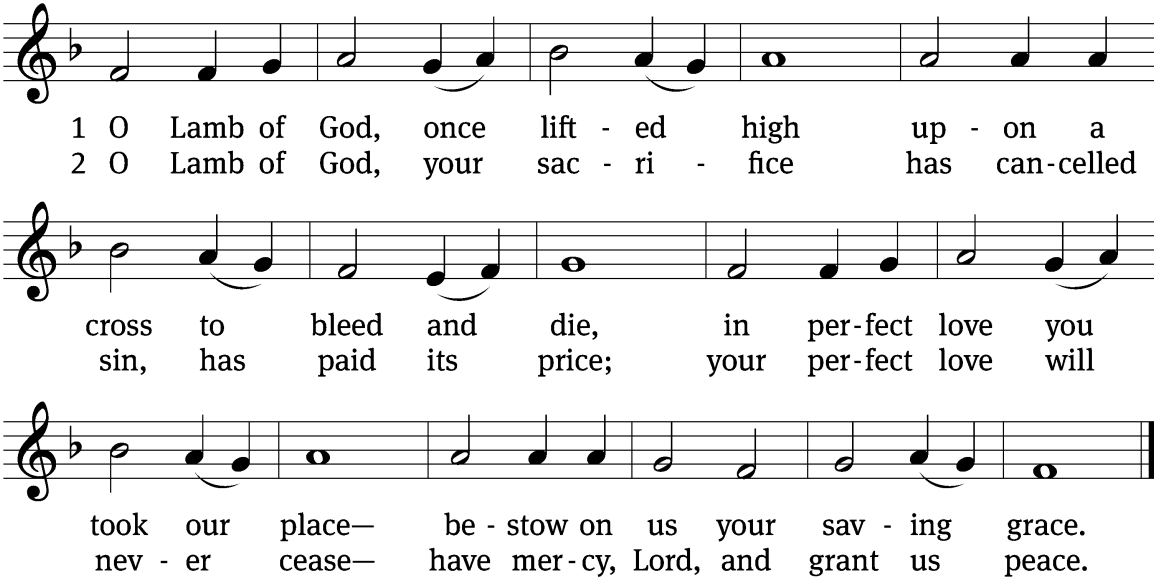
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Tune: HAMBURG



1 O Lamb of God, once lift - ed high up - on a
 2 O Lamb of God, your sac - ri - fice has can-celled

cross to bleed and die, in per-fect love you
 sin, has paid its price; your per-fect love will

took our place— be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.
 nev - er cease— have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace.

Text: Michael D. Schultz

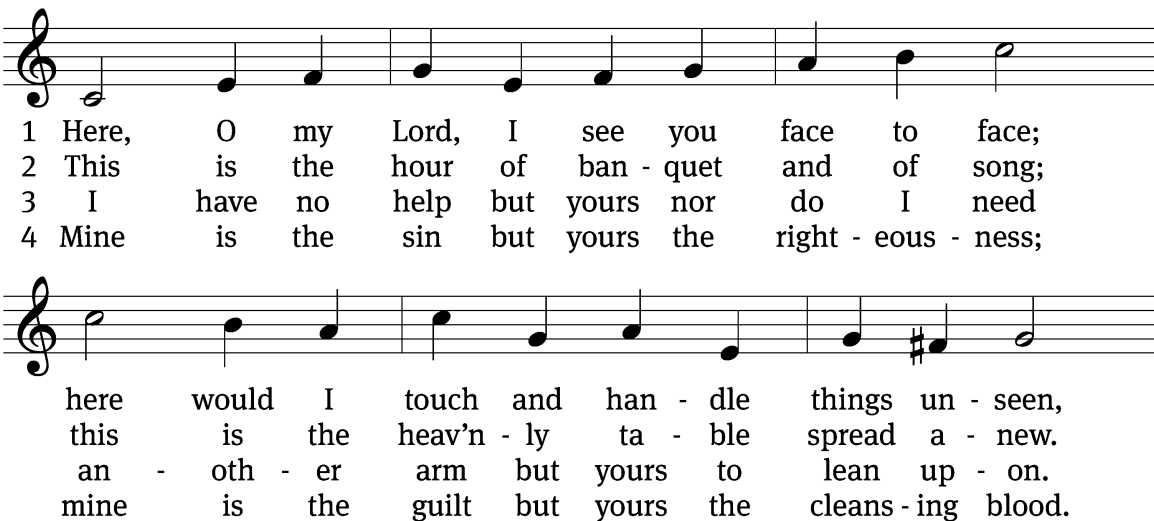
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Distribution

We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together at the Lord's Table. It is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God's Word. Those who have established that connection as members of sister WELS or ELS congregations may register at sanctuary entrance podium. Thank you for honoring our practice.

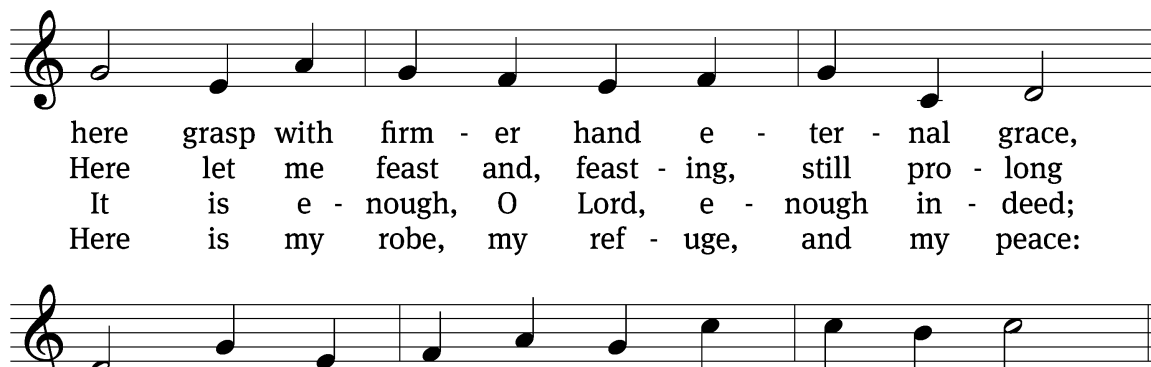
Distribution Hymn: Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

CWH 660



1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
 2 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
 3 I have no help but yours nor do I need
 4 Mine is the sin but yours the right - eous - ness;

here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,
 this is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread a - new.
 an - oth - er arm but yours to lean up - on.
 mine is the guilt but yours the cleans - ing blood.



here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
 Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 It is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;
 Here is my robe, my ref - uge, and my peace:

and all my wea - ri - ness up - on you lean.
 the brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with you.
 my strength is in your might, your might a - lone.
 your blood, your right - eous - ness, O Lord, my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
 the feast, though not the love, is past and gone.
 The bread and wine remove, but you are here,
 nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, abr., alt. Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595–1662
 Text and tune: Public domain

Closing Prayer

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Acknowledgments

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Positions Available

Full-time Kindergarten Aid

Two part-time to Full-time Preschool Aids

Part-time Music Teacher

Part-time School Marketing Coordinator - job description available

Please contact Liz at cog.secretary@crossofglory.org for the application and job description.

Volunteers Needed

We need more counters in to rotation to count offerings on Sunday mornings right after church.

Please contact John Kull at (858) 395-5666 or financialsecretary@crossofglory.org

Meditations

We have extra Meditations located on the table in the back of church. Please help yourself. These are leftover from Vistancia.

Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Ehlers will be on vacation from June 16-July 6. Pastor Piepenbrink and Pastor Sprain will handle any emergencies. Please call the office if you need anything.

Life Coaching Group

Topic: Cornerstone
2nd & 4th Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Mountain Vista Club

1st & 3rd Mondays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Cave Creek

Course description: There are an enormous number of challenges that can occur in life from seemingly tiny to soul-crushingly overwhelming. The CORNERSTONE resilience system is designed to provide a specific set of steps to follow to put into perspective those things that seem unmanageable. Through six one-hour sessions, participants will learn and practice skills and benefit from the ideas of others in their quest to be more resilient and “bounce back” in difficulty.

Golden Agers Breakfast

The next Golden Agers breakfast will be held on Thursday, July 14, at 9:30. The location is Brothers Family Restaurant, 8466 W Peoria Ave, Peoria, AZ 85345. Please email Judy Sasse if you plan to attend. sasseja43aol.com.

Worship at New River

We are going to continue worship at the Kiwanis Park in New River. We will worship using remote access and/or prerecorded sermons. We will be asking the mission board to discuss making New River a mission start-up. If you are interested in joining us, the address is 48606 N 17th Ave, New River, Az. When using navigation, Google maps is the best choice, Apple may get you lost. Our service time is 9:30 a.m.

THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY

July 3, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/Communion (Jomax)
July 3, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)
July 3, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (New River)

LOOKING AHEAD

July 10, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Jomax)
July 10, 9:00 a.m.	Worship Service (Live Stream Jomax)
July 10, 9:30 a.m.	Worship Service (New River)
July 14, 9:30 a.m.	Golden Agers Breakfast

Rental Opportunities

Please keep an eye out for affordable rentals (apartments, casitas, condos, extra rooms, etc.). We have two young men searching for options for housing. One of them is our new teacher, Michael Radue, and the other is for Pastor Ehlers' nephew, Tim Hampson.

Singles Retreat

WELS/ELS Singles Retreat Nov 11-13, 2022 at Camp Phillip

Did you know that November 11 is International Singles Day? We invite you to join us at the 2022 WELS/ELS Singles Retreat on November 11-13 at Camp Phillip, Wisconsin for a weekend of fun and fellowship. For more information about the event and to register check out our webpage: [2022 Singles Retreat](#)

Jomax Worship Volunteers	July 3rd	July 10th	July 17th
Counters	Joel Ditter Susie Cornell	Nick Nicholai Stacey Cornell	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa
Communion Setup	Dawn Ellis	-	Shannon Gullerud
Ushers	John Kull Kim Moline Dean Ellis	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger Kade Ehinger
Sunday Refreshments	Naber	Paula Considine	Stacey Aguilar Sharon Wilson
A/V	Kelly Simpson Isaac Patterson	Titus Patterson Pedro Contreras	Kelly Simpson Isaac Patterson



We have a custom Cross of Glory link that will make donating your tax dollars a little easier this year! For more information on how to donate or how the tax credit works, get in touch with Elizabeth Simkauskas or donate at <https://pages.acsto.org/school/cross-of-glory>.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

For members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers and ask God to give strength, comfort and courage to them and their families.

Karen Jurado, as she recovers from her recent hospitalization from low sodium levels.

Gerry Ehlers, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and is undergoing treatments. The cancer is spreading, and he is beginning intense treatments on May 10 for three months.

Pat Powell, as she recovers from back issues.

For the family of Gus Koutia in Lebanon, as they face a food shortage due to the interruption of imports from Ukraine.

MILITARY

E4 Specialist Alice Henderson, granddaughter of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at San Antonio, TX Ft. Sam Houston Army base in Medical Institute of Surgery Research: Burn Unit.

E6 Specialist Staff Sgt. Austin Seignious, grandson-to-be of Larry and Faye Kennedy, at El Paso, TX Ft. Bliss Army Base.

Major JD Larson, son of John & Chi Larson, based at Kirkland AFB in New Mexico.

Sara (Dan) McArdle, daughter of Martha (Scott) Wofford, Air Force Pilot, based in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Sgt. Blake Andrew Nelsen, son of Rick & Karyn Nelsen and brother of Seri & Lilli, USMC.

Ben Weyer, serving in the military, Currently deployed to the Persian Gulf. Please pray that our Heavenly Father keeps him safe in his journey.



Want to do some good while you shop on Amazon? With [Amazon Smile](https://smile.amazon.com), you can support charity easily and automatically.

Just point your browser (or modify your Amazon bookmark) to smile.amazon.com, then choose Cross of Glory Lutheran Church to support.

Then just shop like normal. So long as you're doing it via that web address, Amazon will donate 0.5% of all eligible purchases. All prices and products are the same as they would be if you bought them without using Smile.

Offerings

We have now returned to collecting offerings during the service. Offerings can also be made online by visiting crossofglory.org in your browser, clicking on the menu on the upper right corner (3 horizontal lines) and selecting “**Giving**” from the menu. You can also scan the QR code with your phone’s camera. This will take you directly to the offering page. In addition, you may also mail your offerings to Cross of Glory at 10111 W Jomax Rd, Peoria, AZ 85383.



Personal Prayers for Communion

Before Communing

Lord Jesus, you have invited me to come and receive your holy Sacrament. I believe that in the bread and wine you give me your true body and blood to eat and drink. Forgive my sins and nourish my faith through this precious meal. I long for the comfort that comes with your promises; I yearn for the assurance of your faithful love. Bless me now as I receive you by faith.

After Communing

Thank you, dear Savior, for nourishing my faith with the Sacrament of your body and blood. Lift my heart with your forgiveness, renew my confidence in your grace, empower my love for others, and lead me to long for the eternal banquet of heaven.



Cross of Glory was planted by the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) in March 1998 so that with the Gospel of Jesus she can strengthen the faith of her members and reach out into the community with the free gift of salvation. First worship services began at Easter 1999; the dedication of our Ministry Center at Easter, 2005. Our synod's name reflects that her founders began in the state of Wisconsin. As a WELS church we still hold to the teachings of the Bible restored in the Reformation era. We are...

- a Christ-preaching church. We preach that Jesus is true God, the Son of God who became man, so that through his perfect life and innocent death, He is the prophesied “Lamb of God” who has taken away the sin of the world.
- a Bible-believing church. We teach that the Bible is the verbally inspired, inerrant Word of God, the only authority for Christian faith and life. We aim to teach God's Word in all its truth and simplicity.
- an evangelical church. We trust the Bible’s claim that God saves people through the power of the Gospel in the Word and Sacraments. The Gospel is the Good News (the Evangel) about Jesus’ saving work. The WELS has congregations throughout the USA and around the world to share the Evangel, the Bible’s primary message, with all people.
- a people-caring church. That we’re all sinners equally saved by Jesus’ substitutionary work strips away human judgments and egos. This truth also empowers us to live Jesus’ love for all people by offering friendship, support, and Biblical counseling. Our church family cares about other people-- including you.

Our Preschool & Elementary School exists to help parents in their God-given duty of teaching the Faith to their children: an important aspect of our Church’s plan to grow a comprehensive womb-to-tomb ministry that serves souls for eternity.