

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Advent 3**  
***Sunday, December 11, 2022***

623-224-8839 [www.crossofglory.org](http://www.crossofglory.org)

10111 W Jomax Road

Peoria, AZ 85383

***Sunday 9am Worship***

Rev. John Ehlers, Pastor

Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

# WELCOME to our worship center

Blessed to be a member of



*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.*

Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

## ABOUT US

*The continuing purpose of this congregation, as a gathering of Christians, is to spread to all people in God's world the glory of the cross of Christ, by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.*

### Today's Worship Focus



## Come, Lord Jesus!

This time of year it is so easy to get caught up in the beautiful trappings of Christmas and forget why this birth had to take place. Mankind fell into sin. Sin brings an awful burden. Hatred and oppression. Suffering and pain. Guilt and shame. The devastation of death. These are all natural consequences of sin. And what can we do about any of it? Nothing of substance. We can numb ourselves to pain, but we cannot avoid it. We can fill our life with distractions in an attempt to forget about our guilt. But our conscience is always nagging. And death...no one avoids that.

Man can do nothing to shake off the burden of sin. Therefore, the Church prays that God would come in power to remove that burden for us. Since the Garden, there has been only one plan to do that: God would take on flesh and blood. To do what mankind could not do—remove all the burdens of sin—God became man. When you look into the manger, what do you see? A baby? Yes. But, more. That is Immanuel, “God-with-us.” The Son of God became Mary’s son, so that he could do for us what we could not do for ourselves.

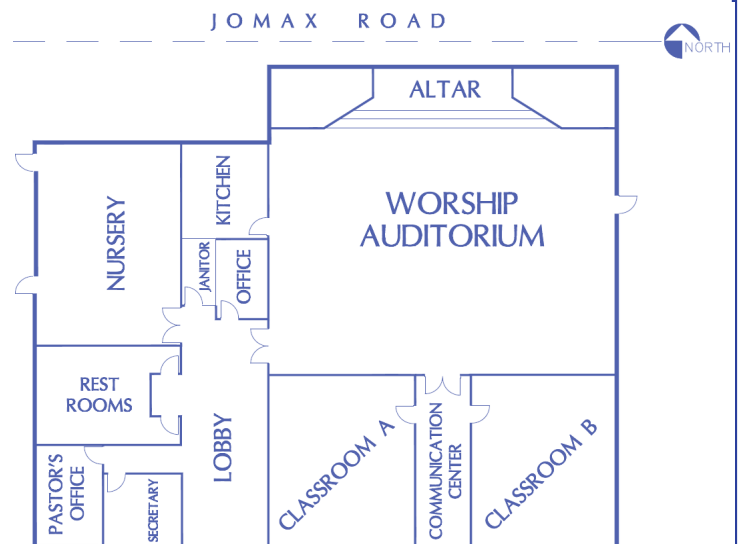
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**New to Cross of Glory?** We are so glad you joined us today! We invite you to stay after the service to chat and join us for coffee time followed by Bible study.

Would you like to learn more about us? We’d love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

- Using the **friendship register** at the end of each row to connect with us today.
- Emailing us at [church.secretary@crossofglory.org](mailto:church.secretary@crossofglory.org)

## CHURCH MAP



## FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult directly across the lobby.
- **Children in Church Program:** Worship is a family affair, something that children best learn from their parents. We encourage parents to guide their children through the service. We invite children to come forward for the Children’s Message during the service. Let’s work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!

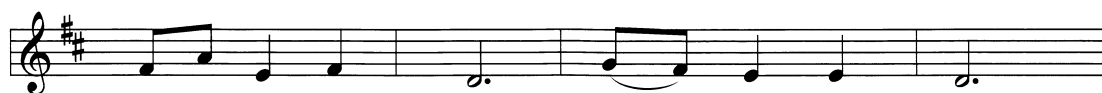
## Advent: Lead Us to Your Light

### Advent Gathering Rite

*Choir sings refrain, Congregation repeats:*



Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark - ness.



Lead us to your light. Come, Je - sus, come.

*Choir: Lord, we await your coming to our world;  
bring us the gift of salvation.*

#### **Congregation: Refrain**

*Choir: Lord, you are hope and healing for our world;  
come, now, and bring us your good news.*

#### **Congregation: Refrain**

### Invocation

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

### Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*

**M:** The Lord Jesus comes to us and offers his grace and love. It is good for us to repent of our sins and to plead for his mercy.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom.

Lord, have mercy.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

**M:** You come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. Christ, have mercy.

**C: Christ, have mercy.**

**M:** You will come in glory with salvation for your people. Lord, have mercy.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**



God's people long to gather together for strength from him and for mutual encouragement. The beginning of this worship service helps us prepare to celebrate Jesus' first coming, humbly born in a stable and second coming on judgment day returning as King of kings and Lord of lords.

He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. (Revelation 22:20)



We call upon God to be present with us. We worship the triune God, remembering our Baptism in His name.



The title of this prayer is "Kyrie" in Greek meaning "O Lord". It is a cry to the Lord for help and strength. We use this prayer to plead God's mercy and repent of our sins.



Christ said to his disciples, "If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven". The pastor speaks for God and announces God's forgiveness to those who made confession.

M: May almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

C: Amen.

## Absolution

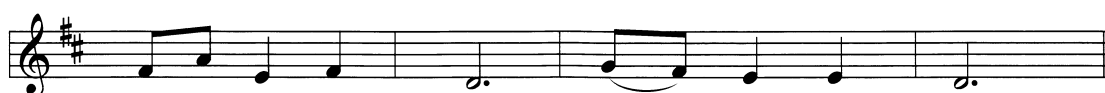
M: The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, he forgives us our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## Congregation Sings:



Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark - ness.



Lead us to your light. Come, Je - sus, come.

Choir: Come, O come, O come, Emmanuel;

*Come with us on earth here to dwell.*

## Congregation: Refrain

Choir: Rouse us from sleep, wake us from our slumber;

*banish the darkness of night.*

## Congregation: Refrain

Choir: Child of the light and love beyond all telling,

*fill our hearts with wonder and praise.*

## Congregation: Refrain

## Prayer of the Day

M: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins, and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



The main thoughts of the day are collected or summarized in this short prayer.



After thousands of years of God's promises, St. Paul sees them all fulfilled in Christ. Jesus is Immanuel, true God and true man.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— <sup>2</sup>the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup>regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup>and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>5</sup>Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake. <sup>6</sup>And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup>To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

### Advent Candle Lighting: My Soul in Stillness Waits

CWH 325



The Advent wreath reminds believers that our God grants new and everlasting life in Jesus. The wreath, a symbol of the victor, also reminds us of the crown of life that Jesus has won for us. The four candles in an Advent wreath emphasize the four week period of penitence and preparation during Advent, as we eagerly await the coming of the Light of the world to bring new life and hope.

*Refrain*

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with - in us,

and in your ad - vent draw us all to you, our hope re -

born in dy - ing and in ris - ing. *Refrain*

M: We light three Advent candles now. The Shepherds' Candle kindles bright.

**C: Dispelling darkness, Jesus comes and warms us with his holy light.**

M: We see the shepherds on the hill who heard the angels' "Gloria,"

**C: Who ran to find the holy Child and knelt in gratitude and awe.**

M: The shepherds were not slow to trust the angels' unexpected word,

**C: Nor were those shepherds shy to share the miracle they'd seen and heard.**

M: Let's wrap ourselves in shepherds' cloaks and search for that most holy Boy.

**C: Let's kneel and worship, pray and praise, and share with all the world this joy.**



For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; tru-ly my hope is in you.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Tune: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Text and tune: © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

## The Children's Sermon

(All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)



In faith, Joseph accepted that within the womb of his bride-to-be was Immanuel—the very Son of God, the promised Savior from sin.

## Gospel

Matthew 1:18–25

<sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup>But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

<sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup>But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.



This hymn follows the theme of the readings and sets the stage for the sermon.

## Hymn of the Day: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

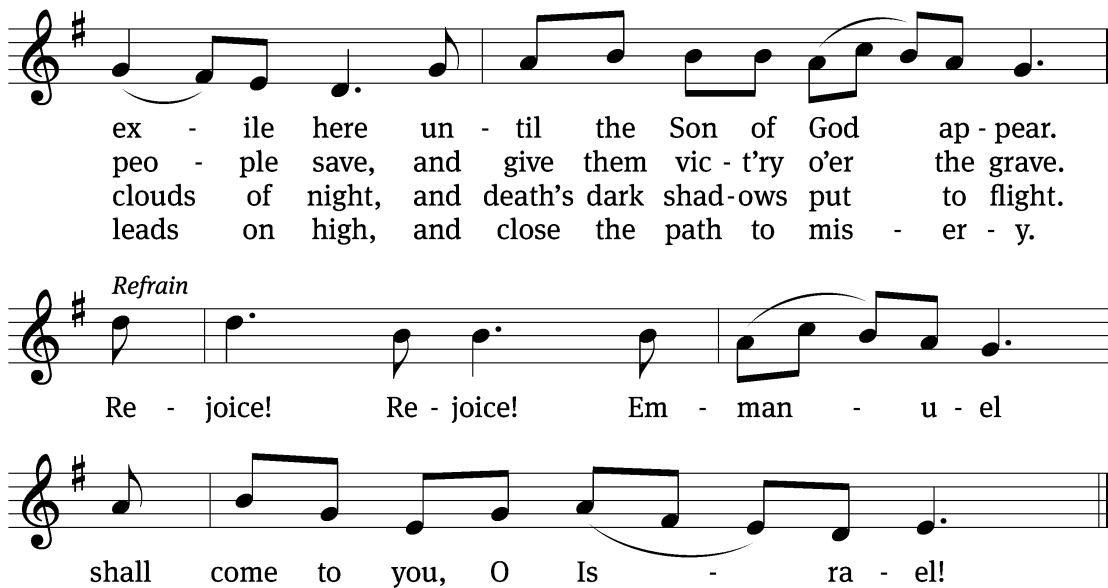
CWH 327



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
2 O come, O Root of Jes - se, free your own from  
3 O come, O Day-spring from on high, and cheer us  
4 O come, O Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen



cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your  
by your draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y  
wide our heav'n - ly home; make safe the way that



Text: Latin, c. 12th cent., Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, Köln, 1710; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.  
Tune: French, 15th cent., alt. Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### Come, Lord Jesus! As Immanuel

Isaiah 7:10–14

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>“Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

<sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

<sup>13</sup>Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.



In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).

## The Nicene Creed

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** The world claims everything evolved by accident. But what do Christians believe?

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

**M:** The world claims Jesus was only a noble and novel man. But what do Christians believe?

**C:** 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



After hearing the word of God, the worshiper responds with this confession of faith.

The Nicene Creed was written in 325 A.D. to address false ideas about the divinity of Jesus Christ. That explains why the second article of the Nicene Creed is longer than its counterpart in the Apostles' Creed.



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.

M: The world claims all people have an inborn, godly spirit. What do Christians believe?

C: 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.



This is a hymn selected for the current church season that is generally new to our congregation, usually introduced first by a soloist, and repeated for several weeks to assist the congregation in learning the hymn.

## Song of the Season: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

CWH 322



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in



set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and  
all the earth thou art, dear de - sire of  
child and yet a king, born to reign in  
all our hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf -



sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.  
ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Tune: Southern Harmony, New Haven, 1835, ed. William Walker  
Text and tune: Public domain



The gifts of God's people are a response to God's blessings.

## Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)



The apostle Paul encouraged young Pastor Timothy: "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people".  
(1 Timothy 2:1)

## The Sacrament

### Preface

(Spoken Responsively)

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.

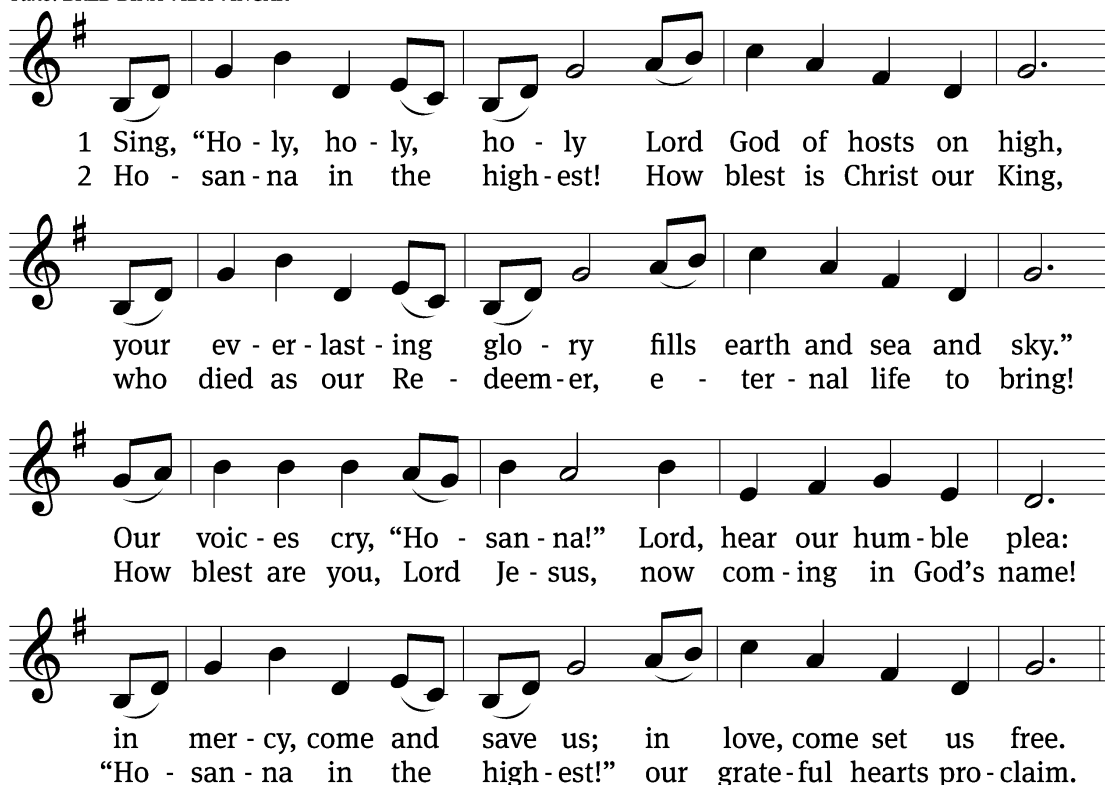
C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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 Sanctus

(Sung by Congregation)

Tune: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR



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.



*Sanctus* is a Latin word meaning "Holy". The *Sanctus* contains words from Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3) and the crowd's response on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem (Matthew 21:9). We join them in spirit by singing their words as we anticipate Christ's coming in the sacrament.

## 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.**



*We speak to God as  
our Father as Jesus  
taught us. (Matthew 6)*

## Lord's Prayer

**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.**



*The pastor speaks the  
words which Jesus  
spoke when he institut-  
ed the Supper with his  
disciples in the Upper  
Room. With these  
words the bread and  
wine are consecrated,  
that is, set apart for  
God's use in this special  
meal.*

## 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."

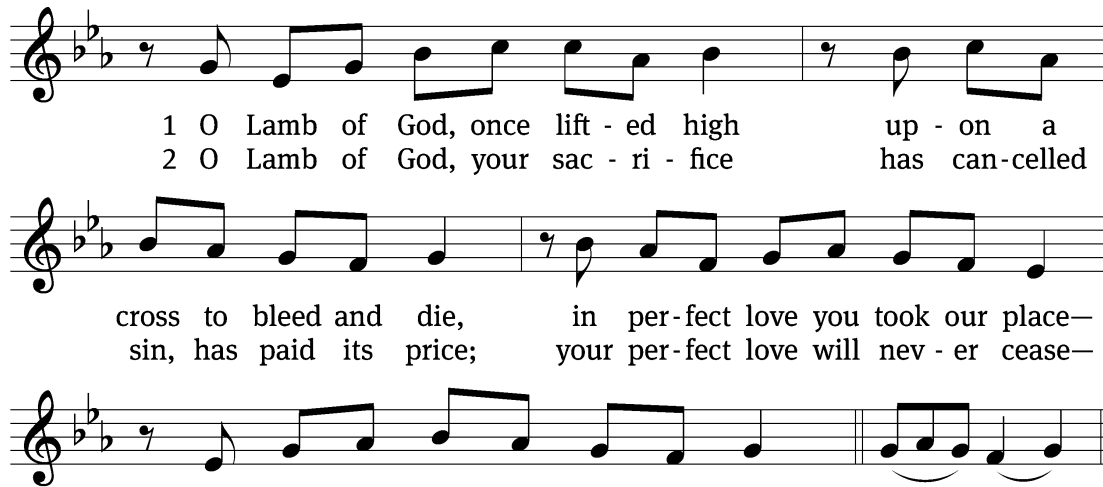
M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## O Christ, Lamb of God Agnus Dei

(Sung by Congregation)

Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM



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 took our place—  
sin, has paid its price; your per - fect love will nev - er cease—

be - stow on us your sav - ing grace.  
have mer - cy, Lord, and grant us peace. A - men.

Text: Michael D. Schultz Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716



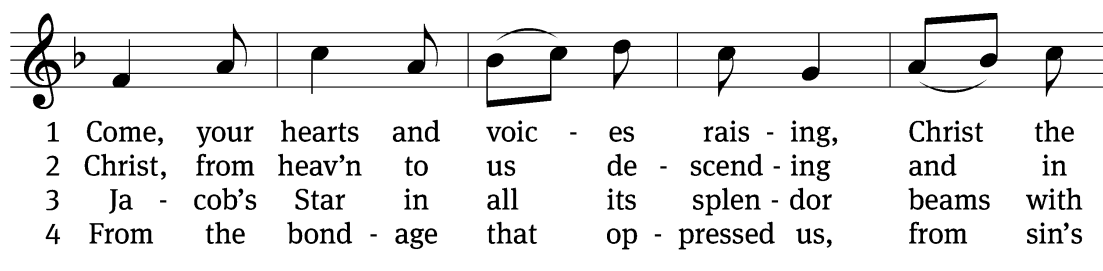
*Agnus Dei is a Latin phrase meaning "Lamb of God". John the Baptist spoke these words as he pointed to Jesus coming toward him (John 1:29). As Christ comes to us in the Holy Supper, we recognize him as the Lamb of God sacrificed for us to free us from the bondage of sin and death.*

## Distribution of Sacrament

*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 the sanctuary entrance podium. Thank you for honoring our practice.*

## Distribution Hymn: Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

CWH 362




1 Come, your hearts and voic - es rais - ing, Christ the  
2 Christ, from heav'n to us de - scend - ing and in  
3 Ja - cob's Star in all its splen - dor beams with  
4 From the bond - age that op - pressed us, from sin's

Lord with glad - ness prais - ing; loud - ly sing his  
love our race be - friend - ing, in our need his  
com - fort sweet and ten - der, forc - ing Sa - tan  
fet - ters that pos - sessed us, from the grief that



*This is a hymn sung by the congregation during the distribution of the Lord's Supper.*



love a - maz - ing, wor - thy folk of Christ - en - dom.  
 help ex - tend - ing, saved us from the wi - ly foe.  
 to sur - ren - der, break - ing all the pow'rs of hell.  
 sore dis - tressed us, we, the cap - tives, now are free.

Oh, the joy beyond expressing  
 when by faith we grasp this blessing,  
 when, O Christ, we come addressing  
 thanks to you and highest praise!

Gracious Child, in mercy hear us,  
 from your lowly manger cheer us,  
 gently lead us and be near us  
 till we join th'angelic choir.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr. Tune: German, 14th cent.  
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## Distribution Hymn: Now Sing We, Now Rejoice

CWH 363



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, now raise to heav'n our voice;  
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to thee.  
 3 Now through his Son doth shine the Fa - ther's grace di - vine.  
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground,



he from whom joy stream - eth poor in a man - ger lies;  
 Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;  
 Death was reign - ing o'er us through sin and van - i - ty  
 where the an - gels sing - ing with all his saints u - nite,



not so bright - ly beam - eth the sun in yon - der skies.  
 thro' thy grace and mer - it, blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
 till he o - pened for us a bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
 sweet - est prais - es bring - ing in heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!  
 draw me un - to thee! Draw me un - to thee!  
 May we praise him there! May we praise him there!  
 Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

Text: tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806–1874, alt.; Latin and German, 14th cent.  
 Tune: German, 14th cent., alt. Text and tune: Public domain

## Thanksgiving and Proclamation

(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.**

*We offer our thanks  
and express our faith  
in what God has  
done for us and has  
promised to do for  
us in the future.*

## 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.

**C: Amen.**



*The Aaronic Blessing is  
the blessing that Aaron  
and his sons were to  
speak over the people  
of Israel, recorded in  
Numbers 6:23–27. The  
pastor offers the same  
blessing to the congre-  
gation as they are  
about to conclude their  
worship.*

## Closing Hymn: Peace Came to Earth

CWH 330

1 Peace came to earth at last that cho-sen night when an - gels  
3 You show the Fa - ther none has ev - er seen, in flesh and  
4 How else could I have known you, O my God! How else could

clove the sky with song and light and God em - bod - ied  
blood you bore our griefs and pain, in bread and wine you  
I have loved you, O my God! How else could I em -

love and sheathed his might— Who could but gasp: Im - man - u - el!  
vis - it us a - gain— Who could but see: Im - man - u - el!  
brace you, O my God! Who could but pray: Im - man - u - el!

Who could but sing: Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but thrill: Im - man - u - el!  
Who could but praise: Im - man - u - el!

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: arr. Mark Kellner, 1959–2015, alt.; Richard Jeffrey, b. 1952

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<b>Worship Volunteers</b>	<b>December 11th</b>	<b>December 18th</b>	<b>December 24th</b>
<b>Counters</b>	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Norm Voigt	
<b>Cleaners</b>	Ehlers/Martins Sterns	Coates Simkauskas	
<b>Communion Setup</b>		Andrea	
<b>Ushers</b>	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger Kade Ehinger Bill Brooks	Aaron Gullerud Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer
<b>Sunday Refreshments</b>	Mary Berggren Shannon Gullerud	Stacy Cornell Diana Piepenbrink	
<b>A/V</b>	Stacey Cornell Issac Peterson	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras	

## Christmas Service Schedule

December 17: 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. PreK Christmas Programs

December 18: 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Day School Christmas Services

December 24: 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

December 25: 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service (live-streamed)

## Christmas Luncheon

It's time to celebrate! Friends and family of Cross of Glory Church and School, please join us as we celebrate our Savior's birth. We will have an opportunity to gather together and get to know one another at 11:30 a.m. on December 18 after the children's Christmas service. Let's enjoy some food (provided by evangelism committee) and lawn games together. This is a great opportunity for our church and school family to spend time together. All are invited! Please bring friends and family. Looking forward to seeing you there! Please RSVP using this QR code.



## Member Announcements

If you'd like to post an announcement in the newsletter, please send it to our secretary at [secretary.church@crossofglory.org](mailto:secretary.church@crossofglory.org).

## Weekly QR Code

Please use this QR Code for all other announcements



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.



# 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.*

**Velta Larson**, as she regains her strength

**Gerry Ehlers**, the brother of Pastor Ehlers, who was diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and is undergoing treatments. The cancer is spreading, and he began 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.



**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.