

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Epiphany
Sunday, January 8, 2023

623-224-8839 ♦ www.crossofglory.org

1011 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



The twelve days of Christmas culminate with the celebration of the Epiphany of our Lord. We commemorate the day when magi from afar worshiped the Christ Child. Before that day, Jesus had been worshiped by individuals of Jewish descent: the shepherds, elderly Simeon, the prophetess Anna. But Scripture said the coming Savior would be God's gift to all nations. Epiphany proves that God keeps his promises, as he miraculously led foreigners to worship their Savior. Thus, Epiphany is sometimes called the Gentile Christmas. (The celebration of Epiphany likely precedes that of Christmas. Evidence of the Festival of Epiphany dates to Clement of Alexandria at the end of the second century.) Epiphany continues to play out to this very day. God worked through a special star to bring the magi into the presence of their Savior—for Christ's glory and the magi's blessing. Likewise, God has controlled time and space to bring you into the presence of your Savior—for Christ's glory and your blessing. Thus, the magi were only the first in a long line of Gentiles who would join Israel in worshiping Jesus as King. Indeed, a Savior is born for all the nations! Come, let us adore him!

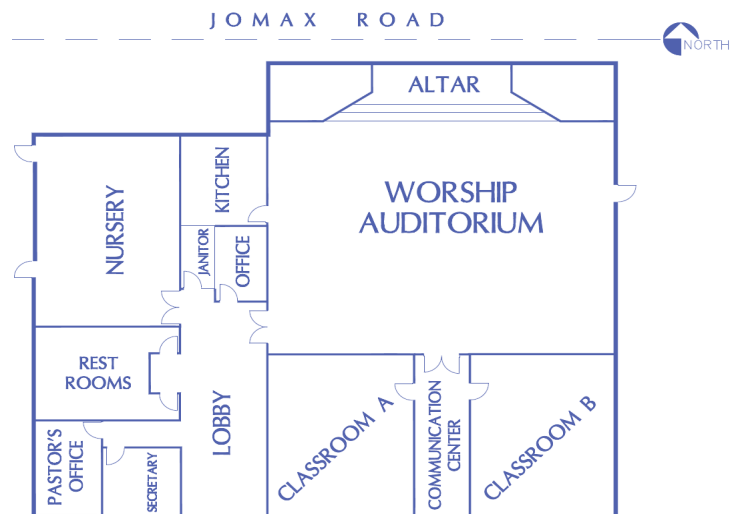
VISITOR INFORMATION

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

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!

Service of the Word

Opening Hymn: Rise Up and Shine

CWH 376



*Hymn of praise, prayer,
or reflection on the
season of the church
year.*

*We follow the advice of
the Apostle Paul to
“teach and admonish
one another with all
wisdom through
psalms, hymns, and
songs from the Spirit,
singing to God with
gratitude in your
hearts.”*

(Colossians 3:16)

1 Rise up and shine! Your light has come; God's
2 Fling wide your gates, both day and night; no
3 No more will you im - plore the sun to

glo - ry breaks like dawn. For though the earth be
more keep watch or guard. You will be called God's
shed by day its light, nor will you need the

cloaked in night and gloom shrouds ev - 'ry - one,
ho - ly hill, the cit - y of the Lord.
change - ful moon to glis - ten through the night.

yet o - ver you the Lord will rise, with
No sound of strife will plague your land, nor
Your glo - ry then will be your God, whose

glo - ry gleam - ing clear, till na - tions turn to
harm be - siege your ways; “Sal - va - tion” will you
light will nev - er cease. Rise up and shine! Your

seek your light and hum - bled kings draw near.
name your walls, and all your por - tals “Praise.”
light has come to give you joy and peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., b. 1944 Tune: English; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt.
Text: © 1990 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain



We call on the triune God as we begin the season of Epiphany, and celebrate Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the only Savior of the world.



"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

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.



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because Jesus is our victorious Savior.

Invocation and Acclamation of Praise for Epiphany

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In the name of the Father, who is the "Father of the heavenly lights," and of the Son, who is the "Light of the world," and of the Holy Spirit, who reveals that light to us through the gospel.

C: Amen.

M: Arise! Shine! Your light has come and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

C: The darkness of sin surrounds the earth. Nations upon nations are turning away from the Lord.

M: But you are honored to live in the Light of the Lord.

C: His glory and grace are shining on us.

M: The Lord is present.

C: Look! We are standing on holy ground!

M: Let us reflect the light of God's love

C: so that others may live in his light!

Confession of Sins and Announcement of Forgiveness

(Spoken Responsively)

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

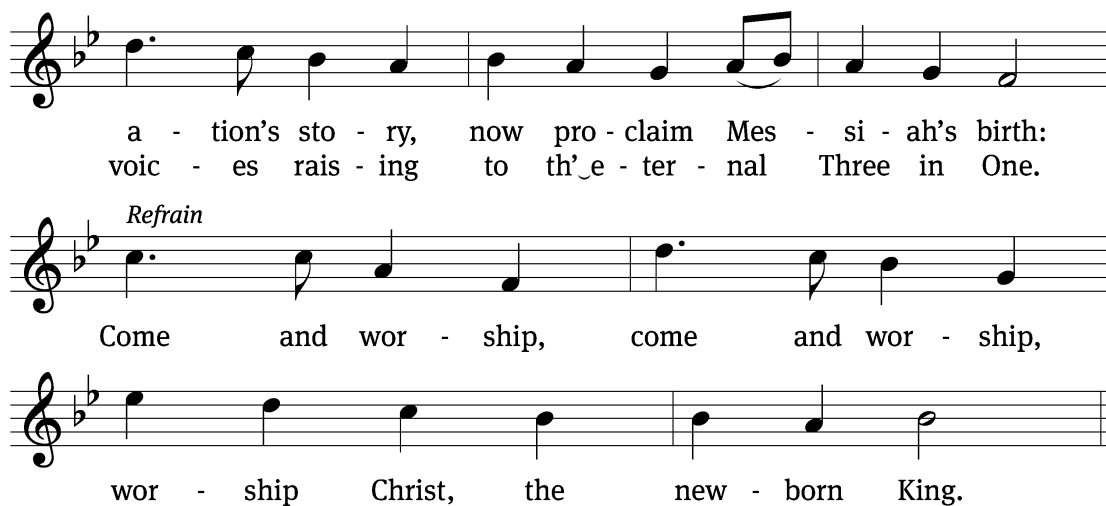
C: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

(Spoken by Minister; Sung response (CWH 347) by Congregation)

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your
5 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the
flight o'er all the earth; once you sang cre -
Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your



Text (st. 1): James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.; (st. 4): Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, alt.
Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879 Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

(Prayed by Minister)

M: Lord God, by the leading of a star, you once made known to the nations your one and only Son. Guide us, also, who know him now by faith to come at last to the perfect joy of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you 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.

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

- ¹“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.
- ²See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
- ³Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
- ⁴“Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.
- ⁵Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy;
the wealth on the seas will be brought to you,
to you the riches of the nations will come.
- ⁶Herds of camels will cover your land,
young camels of Midian and Ephah.



The prophet foretold that one born king of the Jews would draw kings from distant nations to the light of his glory.



The Book of Psalms was the Old Testament hymnbook, prayer and liturgy book. It was used by worshipers at the temple. Many of the Psalms are the basis for our hymns and part of our liturgy is taken from the Psalms. The word "Psalm" comes from the Greek and means "a song sung to the accompaniment of a stringed instrument."

And all from Sheba will come,
bearing gold and incense
and proclaiming the praise of the LORD.

Psalm

Psalm 72E

1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
3 Kings shall bow down be - fore him and gold and in - cense bring;

Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing.

He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend,

to take a - way trans-gres-sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
his king-dom still in-creas-ing, a king-dom with - out end.

Text: James Montgomery Tune: Leonhart Schröter Text and tune: Public domain

The Children's Sermon

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



A verse from the holy scriptures is usually spoken in preparation for the reading of the Gospel which is read as the second reading or as part of the sermon.

The sung response is taken from John 20:31.

Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. Alleluia. (Matthew 2:2)

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Gospel

Matthew 2:1-12

¹After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ²and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

³When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

⁶" 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. ⁸He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

⁹After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



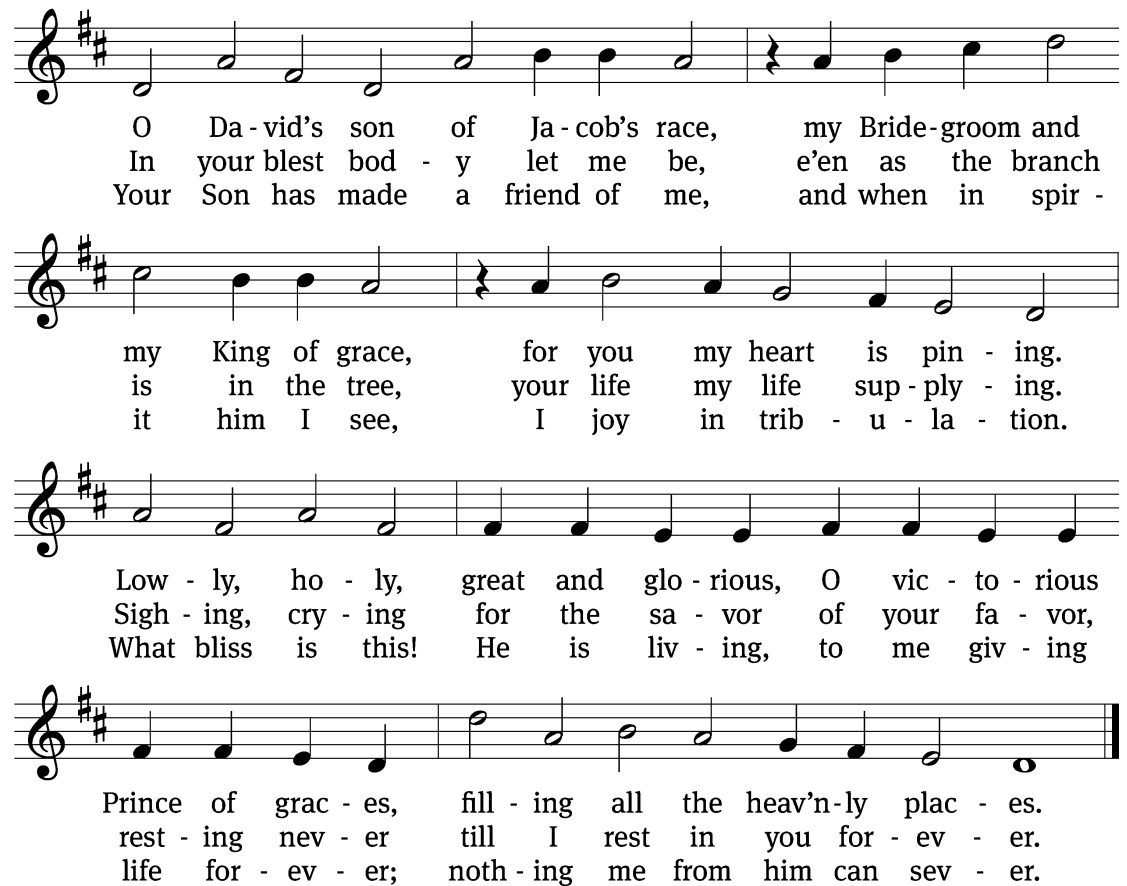
*Magi from the east
were the first in a long
line of Gentiles who
would join Israel in
worshiping Jesus as
King.*

Sermon Hymn: How Lovely Shines the Morning Star

CWH 370



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



O Da-vid's son of Ja-cob's race, my Bride-groom and
In your blest bod - y let me be, e'en as the branch
Your Son has made a friend of me, and when in spir -
my King of grace, for you my heart is pin - ing.
is in the tree, your life my life sup - ply - ing.
it him I see, I joy in trib - u - la - tion.
Low - ly, ho - ly, great and glo - rious, O vic - to - rious
Sigh - ing, cry - ing for the sa - vor of your fa - vor,
What bliss is this! He is liv - ing, to me giv - ing
Prince of grac - es, fill - ing all the heav'n-ly plac - es.
rest - ing nev - er till I rest in you for - ev - er.
life for - ev - er; noth - ing me from him can sev - er.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, abr., adapt
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
Text and tune: Public domain



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).

Sermon

A Savior is Born For All Nations

Ephesians 3:2–12

²Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, ³that is, the mystery made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. ⁴In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

⁷I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. ⁸Although I am less than the least of all the Lord's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. ¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord. ¹²In him and through faith in him we may approach God with freedom and confidence.

Apostles' Creed

(Spoken in Unison)



I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

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

The Apostles' Creed, developed over hundreds of years in the early Christian church, is a brief and simple statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. Christians used it to tell others what they believed and also to confess their faith with one another as they met for worship.

Song of the Season: Arise, Your Light Is Come

CWH 387

Soloist sings Vs. 1-2; Congregation sings Vs. 3-4

*Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.*

*Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty, good tidings to the poor.*



Congregation Sings:

3 A - rise, your light is come! All you in sor - row born,
4 A - rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song!

bind up the bro - ken-heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
Rise up like ea - gles on the wing; God's pow'r will make us strong.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Tune: William H. Walter, 1825-1893 Text: © 1992 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain

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.



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

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 Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death.

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn.

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

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

~Silent prayer~

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

(Prayed in Unison)



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

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.

Closing Prayer

(Prayed by Minister)

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)



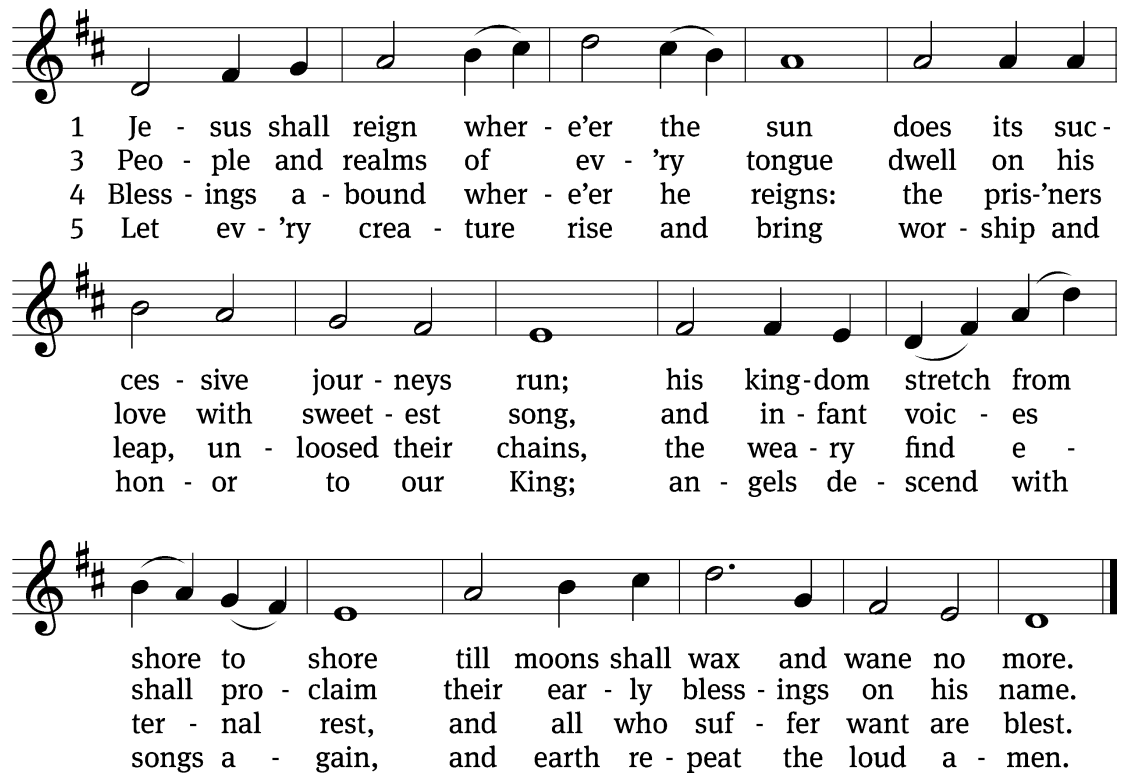
*The Aaronic Blessing is
the blessing that Aaron
and his sons were to
speak over the people
of Israel, recorded in
Numbers 6:23–27. The
pastor offers the same
blessing to the congre-
gation as they are
about to conclude their
worship.*

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
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.

Closing Hymn: Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

CWH 380



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris-'ners
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring wor - ship and
 ces - sive jour - neys run; his king-dom stretch from
 love with sweet - est song, and in - fant voic - es
 leap, un - loosed their chains, the wea - ry find e -
 hon - or to our King; an - gels de - scend with
 shore to shore till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
 songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
 Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, 1710–1793
 Text and tune: Public domain

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Worship Volunteers	January 8th	January 15th	January 22nd
Counters	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Norm Voigt	Bill Brooks Harry Novack
Cleaners	Gullerud	Plitzuweit/Peterson Aguilar	Kelly Grams
Communion Setup		Shannon	
Ushers	Pedro Contreras Sabrina Ebel Tanner Plitzuweit Michael Radue	Len Collyard Nick Nicholai Steve Seamann Sharon Wilson	John Kull Kim Moline Dean Ellis
Sunday Refreshments	Tracy Ditter Nicole Brown	Leslie Contreras Linda Stern	Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann
A/V	Rene Koutia Gus Koutia	Stacy Cornell Aaron Gullerud	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras

2023 offering envelopes-on hold

The offering envelopes for 2023 have been delayed. We expect to get delivery in early January. They will be placed in mailboxes as soon as they come in. You can always give securely using the QR code.

Member Announcements

If you'd like to post an announcement or upcoming event in the newsletter, please email it to our church secretary at church.secretary@crossofglory.org.

Weekly QR Code

Please check your email or use this QR Code for all other announcements



WinGS Events

Happy New Year, friends!

I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year! Just wanted to touch base with you on some upcoming events for our group:

1. The 25th Anniversary celebration is approaching quickly on Sunday, March 5th. Part of how WinGS can help with the celebration is with the meal that day. We will be having an ***anniversary meal organizational meeting this Sunday, January 8th, immediately following the church service*** with Pastor and Diana Piepenbrink. We will be discussing the food itself along with getting volunteers to help set up and clean up after the meal. Please plan on attending this quick meeting after church this upcoming Sunday if you are interested in helping!
2. have been looking at the St. Mary's foodbank volunteer opportunities in late January through February. I'm looking at Saturday, Feb. 18 or Feb. 25. Both have 8AM-10AM shifts available. Everyone, please email me back at karinwedeking@hotmail.com ASAP if either of these dates works, so we can get signed up soon. Dates fill up quickly.

As always, please reach out with any questions or ideas!

RV's needed

Greetings from ALA!

One of ALA's feeder schools, Peridot - Our Savior's Lutheran School, is once again building on their campus through WELS Kingdom Workers. The volunteers helping with the building project are in need of a place to sleep for a few months as they work on the project in Peridot. **The school is in search of 3 RV's that they can rent** from families like yours to house the volunteers. You would be paid up to \$100/week for the use of your RV. The project is expected to be completed sometime in early April. Could you help out? The volunteers are scheduled to arrive in Peridot on January 17.

Questions? Please contact **Principal Benjamin Pagel** at [928-246-9350](tel:928-246-9350) from Peridot - Our Savior's for more information.

2023 Men of His Word Conference

The second annual Men of His Word Conference will be held at the Desert Willow Conference Center in Phoenix, Arizona, on Saturday, January 21, 2023. The theme of the one-day conference is "Man up! In a man-down world." The day will include an inspirational keynote speaker, as well as smaller breakout discussion groups on different topics. All Cross of Glory men are encouraged to attend and invite a friend for this encouraging day. You can get more information and register by visiting this website <https://www.menofhisword.org/2023-phoenix.html> or scanning the QR code below



Referees Needed

Our school is looking for 2 referees for 9 basketball games total. You will be compensated \$20 per game. Please contact Michael Radue at mike.radue@crossofglory.org or call (262) 226-9756. .

Directory Updates

If you get a call from 602-448-7301, that is Velta Larson calling to update our church directory. Please answer her call so we can have the latest and most updated information for our members.

Choir Update

Happy New Year! I listened to the Christmas Eve service and I was amazed at how well we sounded on the recording - thank you all for sharing your time and talents!

I am hoping we can sing on Jan. 22 so to do that we will need a full practice on Jan.11 and thus will spend most of our time on this piece on the 11th.

Request: We have a couple festival pieces planned for the 25th anniversary service and for both we really need more voices – if you or someone you know is not able to commit to the full choir schedule, but would be able to sing for this service, we would be grateful for their voice. We will practice these 2 songs **Jan. 25th – Mar. 1.** We can place these 2 songs at the beginning or ending of the practice depending on what works for these singers. Just let me know who is interested in doing this so I have enough music.

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 in May.

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.