

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Epiphany 2
Sunday, January 15, 2023

623-224-8839 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



For centuries the priests of Israel offered sacrifices to God for sin. Over and over blood flowed, testifying that the penalty of sin was death. But over and over a substitute stood in the place of the sinner. Countless animals died under the priestly knife as generations of the faithful brought lamb after lamb to the temple. This week we see the Lamb that God himself was bringing to the temple. This was the Lamb that God himself would sacrifice. In the great act that would remove our condemnation, the Messiah took our sins, stood in our place, and died as the substitute for sinful mankind. This was the fulfillment of the entire sacrificial system. Every lamb and goat and bird pointed to God's Lamb who takes away our sin. The heart that sees his Savior willingly becoming the Lamb cannot help but take this news of salvation to the ends of the earth.

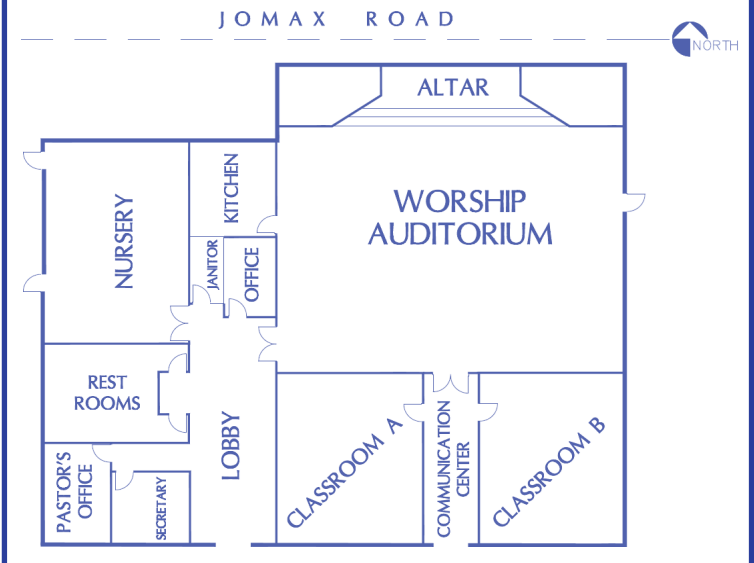
VISITOR INFORMATION

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!

The Service and Lord's Supper

Opening Hymn: Across the Lands

CWH 549



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 You're the Word of God the Fa - ther from be - fore the
2 Yet you left the gaze of an - gels, came to seek and
3 With a shout you rose vic - to - rious, wrest-ling vic - t'ry



world be - gan. Ev-'ry star and ev - 'ry plan-et has been
save the lost, and ex-changed the joy of heav-en for the
from the grave, and as - cend - ed in - to heav-en, lead-ing



fash - ioned by your hand. All cre - a - tion holds to -
an - guish of a cross. With a prayer you fed the
cap - tives in your way. Now you stand be - fore the



geth-er by the pow - er of your voice. Let the skies de -
hun-gry, with a word you calmed the sea, yet how si - lent-
Fa - ther, in - ter - ced - ing for your own; from each tribe and



clare your glo - ry, let the land and seas re - joice!
ly you suf - fered that the guilt - y may go free!
tongue and na - tion you are lead - ing sin - ners home!

Refrain



You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, you're the Lord of ev - 'ry



man, and your cry of love rings out a - cross the lands.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Tune: arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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



"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.



The title of this prayer is "Kyrie" in Greek meaning "O Lord". It is a cry to the Lord for help and strength.

Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Confession

(Spoken Responsively)

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**C: Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Glory to God in the Highest

Tune: MISSIONARY HYMN



1 To God on high be glo - ry and peace to all the earth,
2 O Lamb of God ex - alt - ed, you take all sin a - way;



for God has shown his fa - vor in Je - sus' ho - ly birth!
ex - tend to us your mer - cy and hear us as we pray.



Al - mighty God and Fa - ther, our hum - ble thanks we bring;
With God the Ho - ly Spir - it, at God the Fa - ther's throne,



we wor - ship you, we bless you, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
you reign, O Christ, for - ev - er, for you are Lord a - lone!

Text: Michael D. Schultz

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

The Word

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped, and believed to the ends of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



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



*The Servant of the Lord
would suffer, but in
that suffering God
would display his splen-
dor to the entire world.*

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1–6

¹Listen to me, you islands;
hear this, you distant nations:
Before I was born the LORD called me;
from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.
²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me into a polished arrow
and concealed me in his quiver.
³He said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."
⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing at all.
Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand,
and my reward is with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says—
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant
to bring Jacob back to him
and gather Israel to himself,
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD
and my God has been my strength—
⁶he says:
"It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."



*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."*

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 40
(Spoken Responsively)

M: I waited patiently for the LORD;
C: he turned to me and heard my cry.
M: Do not withhold your mercy from me, O LORD;
C: may your love and your truth always protect me.
M: For troubles without number surround me;
C: my sins have overtaken me, and I cannot see,
M: They are more than the hairs of my head,
C: and my heart fails within me.
M: Be pleased, O LORD, to save me;

C: O LORD, come quickly to help me.

M: I waited patiently for the Lord;

C: he turned to me and heard my cry.

M: He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

C: Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.

M: Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust,

C: who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.

M: Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders you have done.

C: The things you planned for us no one can recount to you;

M: were I to speak and tell of them,

C: they would be too many to declare.

The Children's Sermon

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

Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Response sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Alleluia.

Congregation Sings:



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



Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the



mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ.



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



A verse from the Holy Scriptures is usually spoken to capture the theme of the service.

The sung response is taken from Romans 10:17



As the last and greatest of the prophets, John the Baptist succinctly summarizes God's plan of salvation by pointing to Jesus and calling him the Lamb of God.

Gospel

John 1:29-41

²⁹The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel."

³²Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. ³³And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One."

³⁵The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!"

³⁷When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. ³⁸Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?"

They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?"

³⁹"Come," he replied, "and you will see."

So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

⁴⁰Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. ⁴¹The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ).



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

Hymn of the Day: The Church's One Foundation

CWH 855



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
3 The Church shall nev - er per - ish. Her dear Lord, to de - fend,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
to guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, is with her to the end.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
Tho' there be those that hate her and strive to see her fail,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
a - gainst both foe and trai - tor she ev - er shall pre - vail.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, abr., alt.
Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

What You Believe Really Matters!

Matthew 16:13–20

¹³When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

¹⁵“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.



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 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.



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.

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.



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 pastor and people get ready to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation as how to celebrate the meal.

Song of the Season: Arise, Your Light Is Come

CWH 387



1 A - rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey;
2 A - rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris - on door;
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!



show forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
pro - claim the cap-tive's lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
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

Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

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:



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.

Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Sung by Congregation)

Tune: WEBB



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.

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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

**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.**



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

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.



*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.*




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.

O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

(Sung by Congregation)

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.

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Distribution of Sacrament

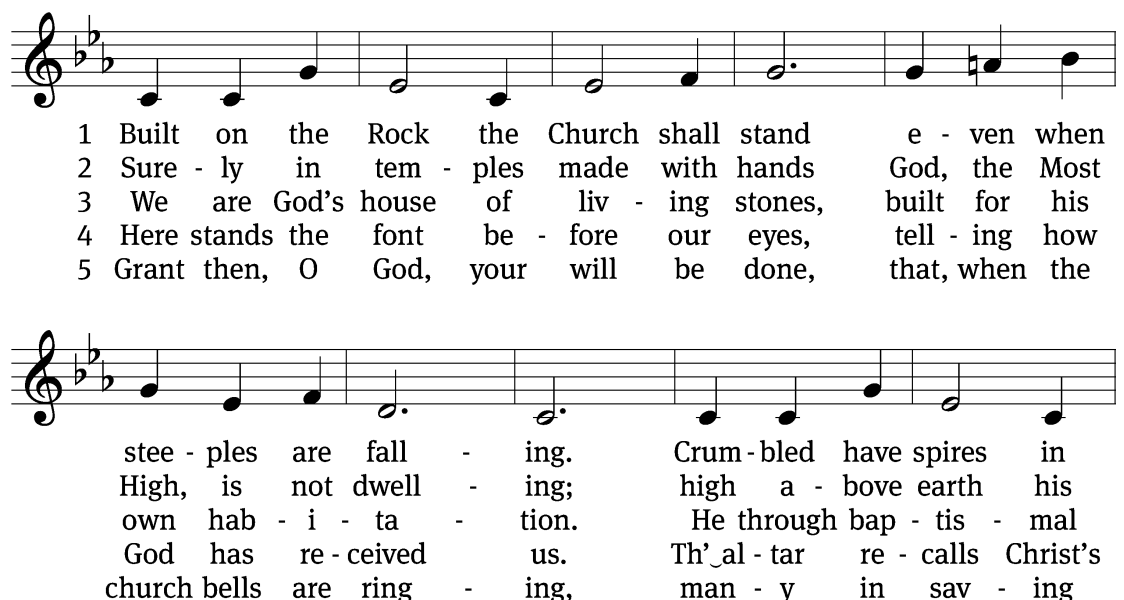
We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together 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.



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


Distribution Hymn: Built on the Rock

CWH 856



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand e - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, built for his
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, tell - ing how
 5 Grant then, O God, your will be done, that, when the

stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; high a - bove earth his
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. Th'al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, all earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns heirs of his won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice and what the sac - ra - ment gives
 faith may come where Christ his mes - sage is bring -

ing, call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet he who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two his name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know my own; my own know me.

but a - bove all the soul dis - tressed,
 choos - es to live with us in love,
 yet he would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, my face shall see.

long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 with all his grace and his fa - vor.
 and ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.; Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.
 Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887 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.*



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 congregation as they are about to conclude their worship.

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.

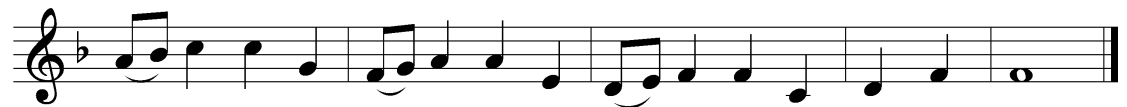
C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: Father Welcomes

CWH 684



Fa - ther wel - comes all his chil - dren to his fam - 'ly through his Son.



Fa - ther giv - ing his sal - va - tion, life for - ev - er has been won.



1 Lit - tle chil - dren, come to me, for my king - dom is of these.
2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, in his prom - ise, be as - sured:
3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; let us dai - ly rise with him,



Life and _ love I have to give, mer - cy _ for your sin.
those who are bap - tized and be - lieve shall be _ born a - gain.
walk in the love of Christ our Lord, live in the peace of God.

Text: Robin Mann, b. 1949 Tune: Robin Mann, b. 1949
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Personal Prayers for Communion

Before Communing

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communing

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Worship Volunteers	January 15th	January 22nd	January 29th
Counters	Nick Nicholai Norm Voigt	Bill Brooks Harry Novak	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell
Cleaners	Plitzuweit/Peterson Aguilar	Kelly Grams	Ehlers Piepenbrink
Communion Setup	Shannon		
Ushers	Len Collyard Nick Nicholai Steve Semmann Sharon Wilson	John Kull Kim Moline Dean Ellis	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson
Sunday Refreshments	Leslie Contreras Linda Stern	Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann	Paula Considine
A/V	Stacy Cornell Aaron Gullerud	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras	Shannon Gullerud Rene Koutia

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

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.

-Rene Koutia (koutia@cox.net)

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. .

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



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. Please let me know if you are interested in helping!
2. I 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!

Karin

712-660-0386

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.

What does this Church-School teach?

Do you need a refresher course? Well, you are in luck because Pastor Ehlers is holding a special two-hour class just for you. The “Bible Overview” class is scheduled for Saturday, January 28th starting at 9:00am. This class covers the foundational teachings that our church and school teach, and explains the WELS. We want to be absolutely transparent about who we are and what we teach.

Please use or share the attached QR code to sign up for this free class



What does this Church-School teach [2]?

If you had to take the same exam that the confirmands do at their examination, could you pass with at least a 75% mark? Maybe its time for a refresher course. u

As a follow up to the “Bible Overview” class we are offering in January, Cross of Glory is also hosting a “**CoG 101** (Christ our Life)” class scheduled to start on Monday, February 13th at 6:30pm and run for **6 weeks**. In this class you will dig deeper into God’s Word and learn what we believe about God (the Apostle’s Creed), and about the **Sacraments** (Baptism and Holy Communion), This class can also be used as a review or refresher of what we teach.

Please use or share the attached QR code to sign up for these classes.



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.