

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Epiphany 6
Sunday, February 12, 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 word “holy” comes from an Old English word, “halig” which means “whole” or “healthy.” We have a holy God. He wants us to live a holy life, one that is wholly dedicated to him, one that is spiritually and emotionally healthy for us. So, as Jesus continues his Sermon on the Mount, he makes a crucial point that not all his followers (including present day followers) understand well. Jesus came to free us from sin. He did not come to free us to sin. God commands that we live a holy life. He provides dire warnings to remind us just how holy he wants us to be. Today we face a rapid decline in public morals and private piety. Yet, Jesus calls his followers to be different. He urges personal purity. After examining our lives, we can only despair over our lack of holiness. So, the Verse of the Day reminds us to flee to Christ who loves us despite our failures and who sacrificed himself for unholy people. Secure in his grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit, each day we strive to live the holy lives to which we have been called.

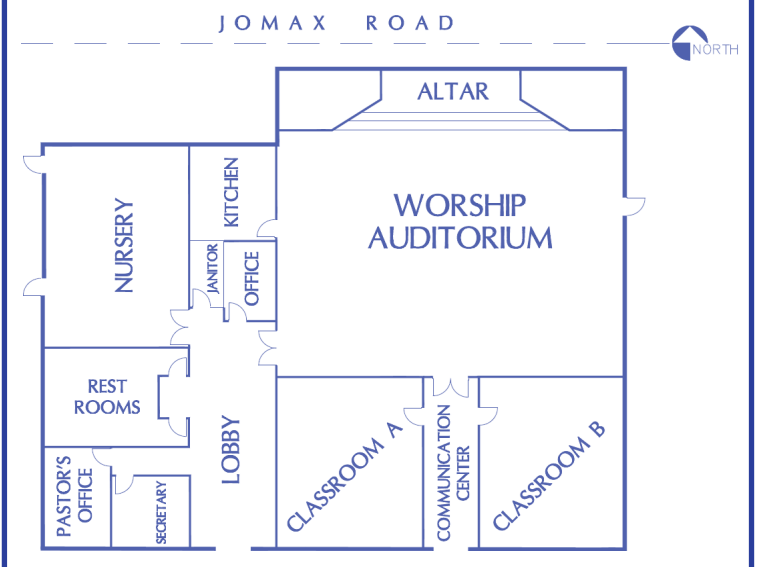
VISITOR INFORMATION

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: Before You I Kneel

CWH 735



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 Be - fore you I kneel, my Mas - ter and Mak - er, to of - fer the
2 Be - fore you I kneel and ask for your good-ness to cov - er the
3 Be - fore you we kneel, our Mas - ter and Mak - er; es - tab - lish the

work of my hands. For this is the day you've giv - en your
work of my hands, for pa - tience and peace to shape all my
work of our hands, and or - der our steps to seek first your

ser - vant; I will re - joice and be glad
la - bor; your grace for thorns in my path.
king - dom in ev - 'ry small and great task.

for the strength I have to live and breathe, for each
Flow with - in me like a liv - ing stream; wear a -
May we live the gos - pel of your grace, serve your

skill your grace has giv - en me, for the needs and op - por -
way the stones of pride and greed, till your ways are dwell - ing
pur - pose in our fleet - ing days, then our lives will bring e -

tu - ni - ties that will glo - ri - fy your great name.
deep in me and a har - vest of life is grown.
ter - nal praise and all glo - ry to your great name.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974
Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Jeff Taylor, b. XXXX; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974

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Greeting

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



The greeting used by
St. Paul perfectly sum -
marizes Christianity.



"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.

Confession of Sins and Absolution

(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 by Congregation)

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



O taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take



ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it



stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con -



tin - ues for - ev - er. O taste and see that the



Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Text: n/a

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer, b. 1949

Prayer of the Day

(Prayed by Minister)

M: Lord God, in mercy receive the prayers of your people. Grant them the wisdom to know the things that please you and the grace and power always to accomplish them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

First Reading

2 Samuel 11:1–17, 26–27

¹In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem.

²One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, ³and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. ⁵The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant."

⁶So David sent this word to Joab: "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent him to David. ⁷When Uriah came to him, David asked him how Joab was, how the soldiers were and how the war was going. ⁸Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet." So Uriah left the palace, and a gift from the king was sent after him. ⁹But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all his master's servants and did not go down to his house.

¹⁰David was told, "Uriah did not go home." So he asked Uriah, "Haven't you just come from a military campaign? Why didn't you go home?"

¹¹Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are staying in tents, and my commander Joab and my lord's men are camped in the open country. How could I go to my house to eat and drink and make love to my wife? As surely as you live, I will not do such a thing!"

¹²Then David said to him, "Stay here one more day, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. ¹³At David's invitation, he ate and drank with him, and David made him drunk. But in the evening Uriah went out to sleep on his mat among his master's servants; he did not go home.

¹⁴In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. ¹⁵In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

¹⁶So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. ¹⁷When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died.



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



King David committed adultery first in his heart, then in the flesh. David's example illustrates the danger of unrepentant sin. It is the antithesis of a holy life.

²⁶When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the LORD.

Choir

Take My Life and Let it Be

The Children's Sermon

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

Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. Alleluia.

Congregation sings:

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.

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

Gospel

Matthew 5:21-37

²¹"You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' ²²But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,' is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

²³"Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

²⁵"Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison.

²⁶Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.



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.



What a high bar Jesus sets! He calls us to be holy in our relationships with our brothers, our adversaries, our bodies, our spouse, and our God.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, makes her the victim of adultery, and anyone who marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but fulfill to the Lord the vows you have made.’ ³⁴But I tell you, do not swear an oath at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. ³⁷All you need to say is simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

Sermon Hymn: May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

CWH 697



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

1 May we your pre - cepts, Lord, ful - fill and do on
 2 So may we join your name to bless, your grace a -
 3 Spir - it of life, of love, and peace, u - nite our

earth our Fa - ther's will as an - gels do a - bove;
 dore, your pow'r con - fess, to flee from sin and strife.
 hearts, our joy in - crease, your gra-cious help sup - ply.

still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, with all your
 One is our call - ing, one our name, the end of
 To each of us the bless - ing give in Chris - tian

chil-dren, and o - bey the law of Chris - tian love.
 all our hopes the same: a glo-rious crown of life.
 fel - low - ship to live, in joy - ful hope to die.

Text: Edward Osler, 1789–1863, alt.
 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872
 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).



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.

Sermon

The Savior's Sermon: Live a Holy Life

1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

¹As for other matters, brothers and sisters, we instructed you how to live in order to please God, as in fact you are living. Now we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus to do this more and more. ²For you know what instructions we gave you by the authority of the Lord Jesus.

³It is God's will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality; ⁴that each of you should learn to control your own body in a way that is holy and honorable, ⁵not in passionate lust like the pagans, who do not know God; ⁶and that in this matter no one should wrong or take advantage of a brother or sister. The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before. ⁷For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. ⁸Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

⁹Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. ¹⁰And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more, ¹¹and to make it your ambition to lead a quiet life: You should mind your own business and work with your hands, just as we told you, ¹²so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody.

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.**



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.



1 Christ, your foot - prints through the des - ert led to Jor - dan's
 2 Christ, you heard the stir - ring sum - mons as by Jor - dan's
 3 Son of God, the road from Jor - dan led at last to
 4 God, in Bap - tism you have made us one with Christ, our



flow - ing stream; there you heard the her - ald cry - ing
 bank you stood; bathed, though sin - less, with your peo - ple
 Cal - v'ry's hill. There up - on the cross for - sak - en,
 ris - en Lord, freed us, claimed us, cleansed, for - giv - en



Is - rael's old, pro - phet - ic dream: "He is com - ing! He is
 in the riv - er's cleans - ing flood. High a - bove, the heav - ens
 you ful - filled the Fa - ther's will. Lamb of God, we see you
 thro' the wa - ter and the Word. Help us hear your ur - gent



com - ing! He will cleanse the earth with flame! Sin - ners,
 o - pened; came the Spir - it as a dove; spoke a
 dy - ing, sin - less, yet for sin - ners slain. But where
 sum - mons, call - ing us to serve you now. Send us



plunge be - neath the wa - ters! Wash a - way your guilt and shame!"
 voice be - yond all hear - ing: "See my Son, the One I love!"
 death rose up to tri - umph, you be - gan your glo - rious reign!
 forth, your sons and daugh - ters, with the cross up - on our brow.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: Amanda Husberg, 1940–2021
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The Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)



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)



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

The Lord's Prayer

(Prayed in Unison)

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

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.



*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 congrega-
tion as they are
about to conclude their
worship.*

Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)

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.



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex -
 3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus; his death from the
 4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; since he's ris - en



am - ple pure, flee the world which would de - ceive us and to
 sec - ond death, from our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us, quick - ens
 from the dead, death and grave must soon re - lease us. Je - sus,



sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his foot - steps tread - ing,
 us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti - fy, while liv - ing,
 thou art now our head. We are tru - ly thine own mem - bers,



bod - y here, yet soul a - bove, full of faith and
 flesh and blood and die to sin, and the grave that
 where thou liv - est, there live we; take and own us



hope and love, let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 shuts us in shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, faith - ful Friend, as thy dear breth - ren. Je - sus,



Lord, a - bide with me; Sav - ior, lead; I fol - low thee.
 here I die to thee, there to live e - ter - nal - ly.
 here I live to thee, al - so there e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.; Sigmund von Birken, 1626–1681
 Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.
 Text and tune: Public domain

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Worship Volunteers	February 12th	February 19th	February 26th
Counters	Nick Nicholai Norm Voigt	Bill Brooks Harry Novack	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell
Cleaners	Patterson	Koutia Piepenbrink	Gullerud
Communion Setup		Andrea	
Ushers	Aaron Gullerud Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer Michael Ryan	Cody Hall Joel Ditter	Pedro Contreras Tanner Plizuweit Michael Radue Guy Robertson
Sunday Refreshments	Rene Koutia	Angela Hall Stacey Aguilar	Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson
A/V	Rene Koutia Gus Koutia	Kelly Simpson Aaron Gullerud	Stacy Cornell Pedro Contreras

Weekly QR Code



Call Meeting

As part of our incremental growth plan that was approved by the voters on January 29th, 2023, we will be having a call meeting to extend a call for a new teacher. This meeting will take place on February 12th, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.



The next **BIG school event** is upon us! Family, Fun, and Fundraising!

Let's join together as a family in the "Backyard" of COG. Play games with your kids and other families. Eat some backyard BBQ. And help raise funds for a new **PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUND**.

We need your **HELP**.

1. Use the link in the weekly newsletter for a letter to ask local businesses, places that you shop, to donate services or items for the silent auction. Make a basket or donation yourself - involve the kids. Use the idea sheet in the weekly newsletter. It will provide you some guidance.
1. Support your child's classroom basket. The class that makes the most money gets a reward chosen by the teacher (pajama/stuffy day, taco lunch, etc.)

All proceeds will go towards the construction of a new preschool playground to complete the new early childhood building.

ACSTO Information

Even though ESA scholarships have passed legislation, some COG families still benefit from the state tax credit program. We encourage you to continue to make use of this program by designating your state tax to Cross of Glory Lutheran School. Some of our graduates will be headed to Arizona Lutheran Academy and will be using the tax credit program rather than ESA. So please continue, or begin, to support our member students and our school through Arizona Christian State Tuition Organization (ACSTO).

ACSTO's Tax Advisor Resource Kits are now available! Not all tax preparers are familiar with the tax credit opportunities available to individual taxpayers in Arizona, so be sure to share this great resource with YOUR tax professional as you prepare your 2022 taxes. To request a Tax Advisor Resource Kit, email social@acsto.org or call ACSTO at 480.820.0403.

ALA Gala Information

Arizona Lutheran Academy is hosting its 12th annual Gala on April 1, 2023. The goal is to support ALA students by raising funds for new lights for our stage. Would your group be willing to join together and give a gift of \$300 as a Bronze sponsor or perhaps donate a basket or item for the auction? The information and links are found in the weekly news.

Choir Update

Please mark your calendars. During the Lenten season, choir will meet directly following the service.

Thank You



A big thank you to all who helped at our church workday!

Thank you to everyone who came and helped to beautify our campus at the church workday on Saturday, January 28! We couldn't have done it without you!



HIS FINAL STEPS

The overall theme for the 2023 Lenten sermons is “His Final Steps.” The series ponders the significance of the people and places on Jesus’ resolute final steps to the cross and three days later, his first steps from the tomb. We will start our journey on February 22nd with the Ash Wednesday service. Please use the QR code for the Soup Supper sign up Genius’.



25th Anniversary Dinners Volunteers Needed

Our celebration is fast approaching! We rejoice that 151 members and friends have already signed up to attend the dinner. To ensure that the event runs smoothly, we will need some volunteers from the congregation at the following times:

1. Immediately after the Sunday morning worship service to move supplies to the tent, cover/decorate the tables, etc. --- **4 volunteers**
2. Before the anniversary service (about 2:30) to prepare coffee and punch, move drink dispensers and coolers to the tent, receive food delivery, etc. --- **4 volunteers**
3. Immediately after the anniversary service to move cakes to the tent, prepare chafing dishes for hot food, replace/replenish food pans, replenish supplies, manage the beverage table, cut cake, etc. --- **5 volunteers**
4. Clean-up after the event--- **the more the merrier!**

A volunteer sign-up sheet will be available on the counter near the church office on Sunday. Diana Piepenbrink will be there to answer any questions. Thank you for your help!

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.

Susan Cornell, for healing from the side effects of shingles.

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.