

Lifting High  
the  
**Cross of Glory**  
for 25 YEARS

# Cross of Glory

## Celebrating 25 Years of Grace

*Sunday, March 5, 2023 4pm Worship Service*

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

1011 W Jomax Road  
Peoria, AZ 85383

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

# WELCOME to our worship center



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

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

Whether you have spent these 25 years serving at Cross of Glory or you are visiting today for the first time, we all have the joyous opportunity to celebrate the story of God's grace. We are certainly grateful for the members and called workers who have served and sacrificed to build this ministry, but we know the source of all the blessings we celebrate today lay firmly in the almighty hand of our faithful God.

Through the years, we were often ill-equipped to do the work we needed to do, we sinned against God and our neighbor, some of us strayed, and at certain moments in the last couple decades, the future looked grim. Through it all, in his grace, our faithful God provided each of us who worshiped and served at Cross of Glory the faith, the strength to persevere and the ability to accomplish the work of his church. Today we humbly and joyfully thank God for choosing us to serve in bringing the good news of Jesus —and lifting high the cross—in Peoria, AZ.

As we embark on the next 25 years at Cross of Glory, we pray that our congregation continues to focus on the extraordinary opportunity God has given to us serve him, to grow in faith, live in grace, and share his glory with our community and the world.

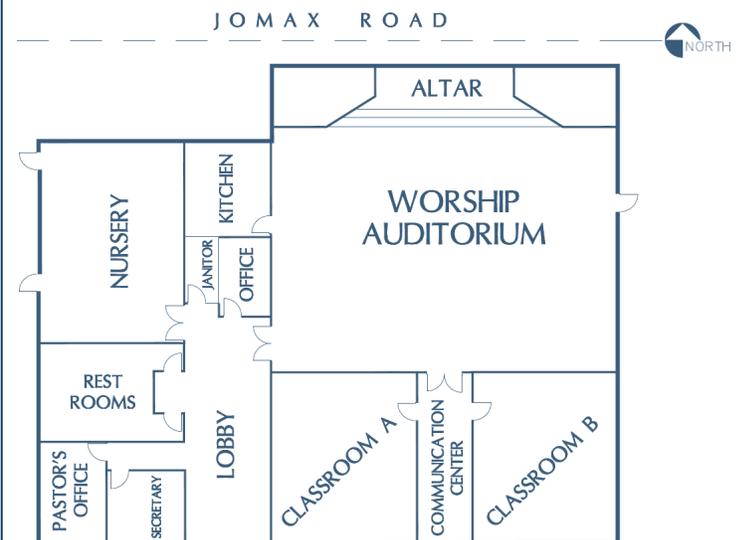
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**New to Cross of Glory?** We are so glad you joined us today! We invite you to stay for the dinner and program following the service.

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

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

## CHURCH MAP



## FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

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

# A Service of Celebration for 25 years of God's Grace

## Choir

### Lift High the Cross

Congregation joins for refrains and verses as written



Choir sings:

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
till all the world adore his sacred name.*

*Come, Christians follow where our Savior trod,  
our King victorious, Christ the Son of God.*

Congregation sings refrain:

Refrain



Lift high the cross; the love of Christ pro - claim till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

Women of the Congregation sing:



All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied bear



on their brow the seal of Christ who died.

Congregation sings refrain.

Choir sings:

*Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
the hosts of God in conquering ranks combine.*

Congregation sings refrain.

Written in 1887, "Lift High the Cross" is a processional hymn which is often sung while a cross is processed into the sanctuary. To Christians, the cross represents the ultimate expression of the love of God in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for all humanity. Living the mission that God set for us is sharing the saving message of the cross to the world.

The Cross of Glory choir first sang this anthem for the 2004 dedication of the Jomax campus.

**Men of the Congregation sing:**



O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your  
death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.



**Congregation sings refrain.**

**Congregation sings:**



So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise  
to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.



**Congregation sings refrain.**

**Choir sings:**

*Amen, amen.*

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God's people long to gather together for strength from him and for mutual encouragement. We gather today in thanksgiving to the triune God for 25 years of grace at Cross of Glory.

**Gathering Rite of Thanksgiving**

*(Spoken responsively, sung responses)*

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

**C:** Amen.

**Congregation sings:**



Lord Je - sus Christ, the Church's head, you are her one foun -  
da - tion; in you she trusts, be - fore you bows, and waits for





your sal - va - tion, built on this rock se - cure, your Church



shall en - dure though all the world de - cay and all things



pass a - way. O hear, O hear us, Je - sus.

M: Shout for joy to God, all the earth!

C: **Worship the LORD with gladness;**

M: come before him with joyful songs.

C: **Know that the LORD is God.**

M: It is he who made us, and we are his;

C: **we are his people the sheep of his pasture.** (*Psalm 100: 1-3*)

**Congregation sings:**



O Lord, let this your lit - tle flock, your name a - lone con -



fess - ing, con - tin - ue in your lov - ing care, true u - ni -



ty pro - sess - ing. Your sac - ra - ments, O Lord, and your



sav - ing Word to us e'er pure re - tain; grant that they



may re - main our on - ly strength and com - fort.



"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)

M: As children of God, we join in confessing our sins:

C: Lord, we confess that we have heard the call to do your will, but have chosen to not always follow. We have picked roads that lead to anxiety and despair. We have walked paths of darkness and sorrow. We do not always follow your beckoning love. We have sinned as we have been slow to share our faith with others, and have been reluctant to fully support the church with our gifts and skills, and have been hesitant to take advantage of every Christian education opportunity. Lord, we see our sins and our helplessness to make things right with you. We turn to our Savior Jesus Christ and pray: have mercy on us according to your unfailing love. Cleanse us from our sins and take away our guilt.

**Congregation sings:**



Our Lord, we mag - ni - fy and praise your faith - ful - ness un -



brok - en; for you have kept through all our days each pro - mise



you have spo - ken. For - sake us not, we pray: pre - serve us



in your way! As you our fath - ers led, so shall it here be



said: "He keeps us safe for - ev - er!"

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

M: Beloved children of God, we have been rescued from the wrath of God. Jesus has lived and died for us, and rose gloriously on the third day. Through the gracious working of the Holy Spirit, each of us can joyfully confess, "Jesus Christ is my Savior and Redeemer!" God has had mercy on us and has restored us through the blood of Christ. He has declared us innocent in his sight. We are forgiven all our sins.

C: Amen.

**Congregation sings:**



So you, through all these man - y years great grace to us have



grant-ed. Your glo - rious gos - pel filled our ears through church and



school here plant - ed. So let it ev - er be that we may



ev - er see your per - fect, bound - less love and reach your



home a - bove with all your true be - liev - ers.

M: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

**C: give thanks to him and praise his name.**

M: For the Lord is good and his love endures forever;

**C: his faithfulness continues through all generations. (Psalm 100:4-5)**

**Congregation sings:**



God's Word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for -



ev - er; to spread its light from age to age shall be our



chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way, in death it



is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, we keep its



teach - ings pure through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

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## Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

**M:** Let us pray. O God, you have promised to be with your Church forever. We thank you for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your favor over these past 25 years. Increase our faith, knit us together in the bonds of love, and make our fellowship an example to all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## First Reading

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

<sup>6</sup>For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. <sup>8</sup>But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

## LES Choir

Lift High the Name of Jesus

*Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our King.  
Make known the power of his grace, the beauty of his peace.  
Remember how his mercy reached and we cried out to him.  
He lifted us to solid ground, to freedom from our sin.*

*Refrain:*

*Oh sing my soul, and tell all he's done,  
'til the earth and heavens are filled with his glory!*

*Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Lord.  
His power in us is greater than, is greater than this world.  
To share the reason for our hope, to serve with love and grace,  
that all who see him shine through us might bring the Father praise. (Refrain)*



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



Israel might have asked, "Why did God choose us?". We may ask the same question. The answer is because of God's grace—his remarkable mercy and faithfulness towards sinners who don't deserve either.



Members of our Lutheran elementary school established in 2005 sing an anthem that reminds us to joyfully share the good news of Jesus.

*Lift high the name of Jesus, of Jesus our Light.  
No other name on earth can save, can raise a soul to life.  
He opens up our eyes to see the harvest he has grown.  
We labor in his fields of grace as he leads sinners home. (Refrain)*

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## Second Reading

Romans 10:1–17

<sup>1</sup>Brothers and sisters, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for the Israelites is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup>For I can testify about them that they are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge. <sup>3</sup>Since they did not know the righteousness of God and sought to establish their own, they did not submit to God’s righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.” <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: <sup>9</sup>If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. <sup>11</sup>As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, <sup>13</sup>for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

<sup>14</sup>How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? <sup>15</sup>And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

<sup>16</sup>But not all the Israelites accepted the good news. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our message?” <sup>17</sup>Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

## Choir

### From Generation to Generation

*(Opening readings spoken by multiple generations of a Cross of Glory family.  
Congregation joins in singing “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”)*

*From generation to generation, God’s faithfulness endures.*

*The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all that I need.*

*The counsel of the Lord stands firm.*



St. Paul teaches that those who know in their heart that Jesus is both Lord and Savior will be saved. The Holy Spirit works the faith through the Word of God and the privilege given to sinful human beings called to serve as God’s messengers, proclaiming that which has the power to bring people to faith. How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!



This anthem sung at the 15th anniversary service reminds us of God’s ever-present, eternal faithfulness through the psalms including Psalm 90.

*God's promises last from generation to generation.*

*Tell it to your children and let your children tell it to their children,  
and their children to the next generation.*

*Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*

*Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.*

*God, you have made us. We are your people, the sheep of your pasture.*

*We will praise you forever.*

*Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good, and the love of God endures forever.*

*Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life...*

*You, O Lord, reign forever, and your faithfulness continues  
from generation to generation to generation.*

*Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life,  
and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever, together.*

*From father to daughter, from mother to son,*

*God's story of love is passed on.*

*From hearts of the faithful, the truth of God's word has been made known.*

*From generation to ev'ry generation, we have heard the story.*

*From ages past to days that come at last, we find hope in God's grace and glory.*

*God's faithfulness will always endure, God's love is sure.*

*The saints of the ages have answered the call.*

*God's story of love has been told.*

*The gift of salvation is given for all, both young and old.*

**Congregation joins:**

O God, our help in a - ges past, our  
hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the  
storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home. And  
our e - ter - nal home!

From generation to ev'ry generation, we have heard the story.  
 From ages past to days that come at last, we find hope in God's grace and glory.  
 God's faithfulness will always endure, God's love is sure.  
 From generation to ev'ry generation, God's love is sure.

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## Gospel

John 10:14–18

<sup>14</sup>“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—<sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”



He, for whom the whole of creation exists, freely and willingly sacrifices himself for the sheep who add nothing to his own infinite worth. The Father even agrees with that sacrifice. He loves the sheep, it would seem, even more than he loves the Shepherd!

## Sermon Hymn: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

CWH 602



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,



Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



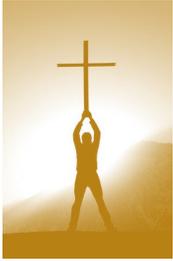
as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Refrain  
 Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!



This hymn follows the theme of the readings and sets the stage for the sermon. We are reminded of our faithful God guiding us as we go about the work of the church.



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, we respond with our confession of faith.

Today, we confess the third article of The Apostles' Creed, which focuses on the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit who creates faith in our hearts through the gospel, keeps us in the faith and motivates us to do good works.

The explanation is taken from Luther's Small Catechism.

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;  
all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.  
Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisolm, 1866–1960 Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957 Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## Lift High the Cross

Deuteronomy 7:6–9

**<sup>8</sup>But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.**

### The Hand That Designed Cross of Glory...

## Confession of Faith: The Third Article of the Creed

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** 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.

*What does this mean?*

**C:** I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

**M:** In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

**C:** On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.  
**This is most certainly true.**



The Ensemble first sung this anthem at the 15th anniversary service..

For Cross of Glory, “Built on a Rock” has a dual meaning—first, knowing that our church’s foundation is Christ Jesus and then also, our physical church is physically built on caliche rock, a reminder of our firm foundation in Jesus.

*Rock of ages cleft for me let me hide myself in thee.*

*The church has one, one sure foundation in Jesus Christ her Lord.*

*She is his new, his new creation from water and the Word.*

*Built on a rock, not built on shifting sand, the cornerstone of God’s eternal plan.*

*Straight and true these walls will stand;*

*this church is built on a rock by God’s almighty hand.*

*From heaven he came, he came and sought her, to be his holy bride.*

*And with his precious blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*

*Built on a rock, not built on shifting sand, the cornerstone of God’s eternal plan.*

*Straight and true these walls will stand;*

*this church is built on a rock by God’s almighty hand.*

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;*

*let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed,*

*be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and make me pure.*

*Built on a rock, not built on shifting sand, the cornerstone of God’s eternal plan.*

*Straight and true these walls will stand;*

*this church is built on a rock by God’s almighty hand, God’s mighty hand.*

*Built on a rock by God’s almighty hand, God’s own hand!*

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**Offering and Offering Prayer**

(Spoken by Minister)

**Prayer of Remembrance and Thanksgiving**

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** Throughout history God has blessed his Church. In March, 1998, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, through the Arizona District Mission Board, called Pastor Michael Nitz to plant a mission church in north Peoria.

**C:** **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. We shall not die but live and declare the praises of God.**

**M:** The first service of Cross of Glory Lutheran church was held on Easter of 1999. We join in thanks to our God for these called workers God has provided us from that first service through today:

**C:** **It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.**



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 ". (I Timothy 2:1)

M: Even as King David desired to build God a house of worship, so also Cross of Glory laid plans for this sanctuary which was dedicated in February of 2005. For these blessings and their sanctified use we admit:

**C: Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain. Unless the Lord watches over the city, the watchmen stand guard in vain.**

M: In 2005, Cross of Glory was blessed with the opening of a preschool, followed by the planting of a grade school the following year. Today, after three building expansion programs, the school is thriving. Growth came not only from within, but also from without as God moved the hearts of non-members to join the flock at Cross of Glory. For the growth God has granted we confess:

**C: Neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are workers in God's kingdom, and glory in Christ Jesus in our service to God.**

M: The devil would have us glory in none other than outward achievements, rather than glory in the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. Workers, buildings, and growth in numbers are all blessings from God. Still, what remains our crowning jewel is the Gospel, preached through the Word and administered through the sacraments. Throughout its history, Cross of Glory has acknowledged God's sovereignty and grace by sharing the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ through regular worship, distributing the sacraments, offering opportunities for Bible Study, using the keys of the kingdom of heaven, carrying on personal ministry, and training the youth. All these have been used with God's command, holding firmly to these three promises of God:

**C: Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.**

**"This is my body," and "this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."**

**This water symbolizes baptism that now saves you.**

M: Eden was a paradise. We live in a sinful world. Our Lord instructed us to bear our crosses and follow him. Cross of Glory has weathered rocky paths in the past, dealing with sin and sinners, personality clashes, financial challenges, and spurts of growth and decline. And there have been joys: God claimed little babies for himself through water and the Word, he warmed cold adult hearts by the Gospel, he recalled impenitent sinners back to his fold, and faithful saints were laid to rest in his sure hands. The apostle Paul echoes our sentiments, saying:

**C: I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength.**

M: Already in Eden God promised the solution for sin by his grace. Lord, that grace is what has taken Cross of Glory through these past 25 years. Your grace provided wisdom, love, patience, and courage. Your grace gave contentment, kindness, and a spirit of service. Lord, we confess that we live alone by grace through faith. Make us ever mindful of our total dependence upon your grace for life, health, and eternity:

**C: I lift up my eyes to the hills--where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. He will not let your foot slip- – he who watches over you will not slumber; indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord watches over you--the Lord is your shade at your right hand; the sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all harm- – he will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore.**

M: Grant that this celebration of your gracious activity in years and ages past be only the prelude to that far greater celebration we will enjoy forever in the joy and glory of the world to come. Still be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

## **Lord's Prayer**

*(Spoken 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.**



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



## Hymn: Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross

CEL315

This is a beloved hymn played throughout the last 25 years at Cross of Glory as a reminder for us to never stray far from Christ's cross of glory.



1. Je - sus, keep me near the cross there a pre - cious foun - tain.  
2. Near the cross, a tremb - ling soul, love and mer - cy found me;  
3. Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;



Free to all, a heal - ing stream, flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.  
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.  
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ows o'er me.

### *Refrain*



In the cross, in the cross, be my glo - ry ev - er.



Till my ran - somed soul shall find, rest in Christ my Sav - ior.

Tune: Fanny Crosby (1869)  
Tune: © 1869 Celebration Public Domain. Used by permission: One License no. 711716-A

**Repeat Final Refrain**

## Closing Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

**M:** Lord God, heavenly Father, the unfailing Giver of every good gift, we beseech you to dwell continually among us with your holy Word and Sacraments, so that by grace we poor sinners may be turned to you and be saved eternally; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## Blessing

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

**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 congregation as they are about to conclude their worship.



This ending anthem is a final reminder of God's infinite love for the world revealed through Christ's sacrifice on the cross. We pray our mission at Cross of Glory continues to be to share this gift of love with our community and the world.

*What wisdom once devised the plan where all our sin and pride  
was placed upon the perfect Lamb who suffered, bled, and died?  
The wisdom of a Sovereign God whose greatness will be shown  
when those who crucified your Son rejoice around your throne.*

*Refrain:*

*And, oh, the glory of the cross; that you would send your Son for us!  
I gladly count my life as loss that I might come to know  
the glory of, the glory of the cross.*

*What righteousness was there revealed that sets the guilty free,  
that justifies ungodly men and calls the filthy clean?  
A righteousness that proved to all your justice has been met,  
and holy wrath is satisfied through one atoning death. (Refrain)*

*~Interlude~*

*What mercy now has been proclaimed for those who would believe,  
a love incomprehensible, our minds could not conceive?  
A mercy that forgives my sin and makes me like your Son,  
and now I'm loved forevermore because of what you've done. (Refrain x2)*

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**Following the service, all are invited to the dinner and program in the tent. Please be seated at a table. The meal will be ready to serve within twenty minutes after the service. There will be music and a DJ ready to entertain you.**

#### Acknowledgments

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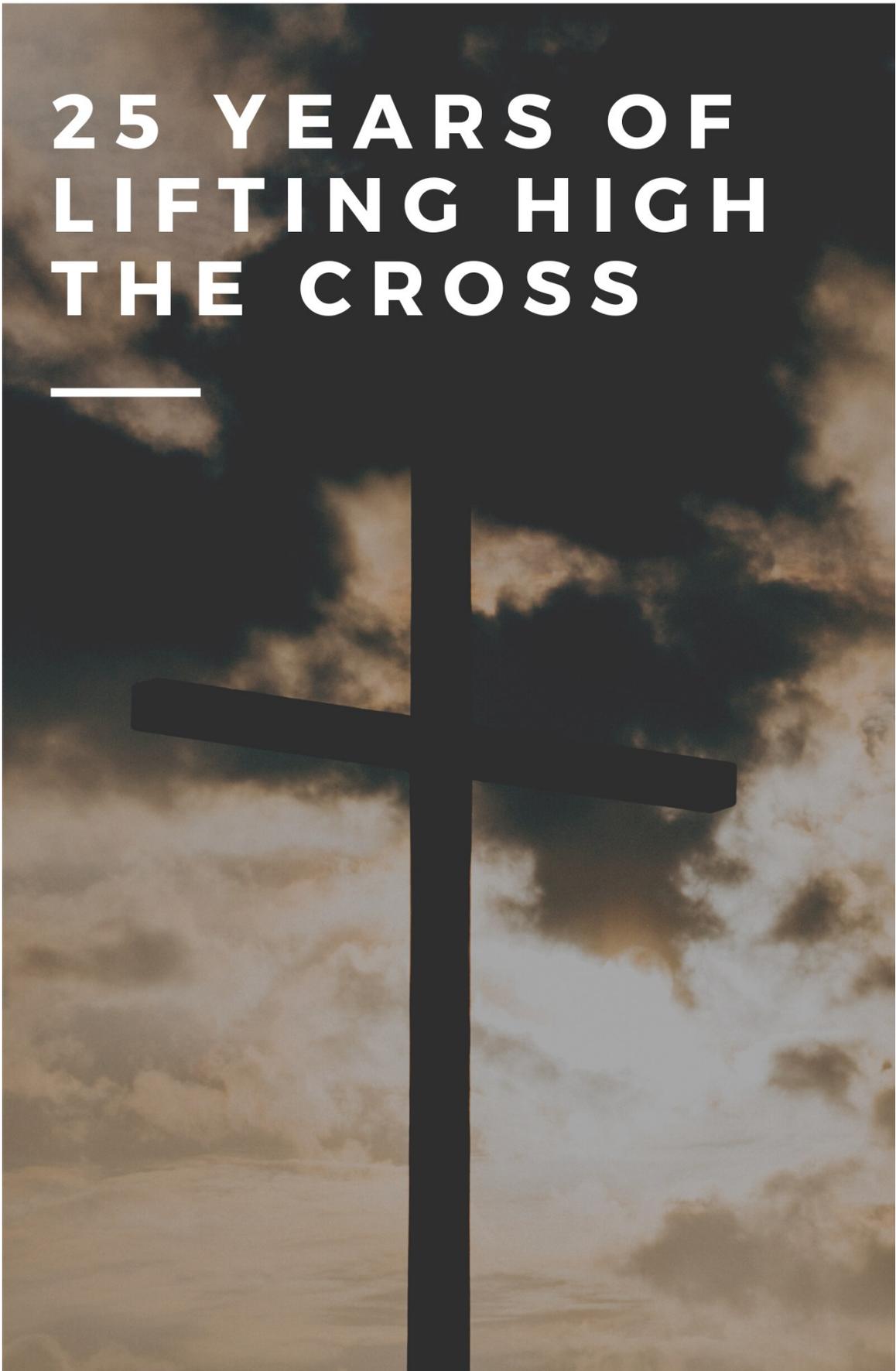
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# 25 YEARS OF LIFTING HIGH THE CROSS

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Thank you to everyone who celebrated our 25th church anniversary with us! We pray continued blessings over your life, and can't wait to see what God has planned for our future!

**THIS WEEK AT CROSS OF GLORY**

<b>Sunday</b>	Worship Service at Jomax (Livestreamed)	9:00 am	<b>Thursday</b>	Golden Agers Breakfast	9:30 am
	Worship Service at New River	9:30 am	<b>Friday</b>	7th Annual Fun Run	
	25th Year Anniversary Service w/ dinner to follow	4:00 pm		Grandparents Day	
<b>Monday</b>	Confirmation Class	4:00 pm	<b>Saturday</b>	Concert in the Park-Mystic	4:00 pm
	Bible Information Class	6:30 pm			
<b>Tuesday</b>	Women's Bible Study	9:30 am			
<b>Wednesday</b>	Mommy & Me	9:00 am			
	Midweek Lenten Service w/ Soup Supper	6:00 pm			
	Choir Practice	8:00 pm			

# 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.

## 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.