

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Midweek Lent 3
Wednesday, March 8, 2023

623-224-8839 ♦ www.crossofglory.org

1011 W Jomax Road
Peoria, AZ 85383

Sunday 9am Worship

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

WELCOME to our worship center

Blessed to be a member of



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

Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

ABOUT US

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

Worship Focus

HIS FINAL STEPS

In the 40 days of Lent, along with many other Christians throughout the world, we consider the season of Lent to be important because it provides the opportunity—often through special, midweek worship services—to focus attention on the redeeming work of Jesus Christ. It is a time to receive, reflect and be comforted. It is our opportunity to soak in the Passion History as it's read and hear the old, old story that gives us so much peace. Rejoice that God loved you enough to do it all to win your salvation.

During this season of Lent, we will walk with our Savior on the final steps of his journey to the cross. How humbling and comforting to learn that Jesus knew exactly what lay ahead. Yet Jesus took his final steps to the cross for you and for me!

VISITOR INFORMATION

New to Cross of Glory? We are so glad you joined us today!

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.

Opening Hymn: My Song Is Love Unknown

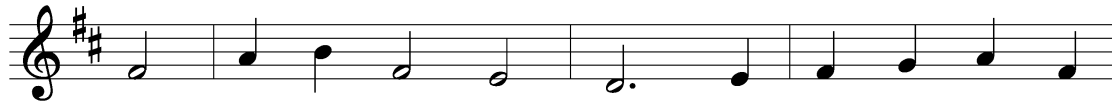
CWH 397



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 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -
4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and
7 Here might I stay and sing; no sto - ry so di -



me, love to the love - less shown that they might love - ly
stow, but such dis - dain! So few the longed - for Christ would
spite? He made the lame to run, he gave the blind their
vine, nev - er was love, dear King, nev - er was grief like



be. Oh, who am I that for my sake
know! But oh, my friend, my friend in - deed,
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these
thine. This is my friend, in whose sweet praise



my Lord should take frail flesh and die?
who at my need his life did spend!
them - selves dis - please and 'gainst him rise.
I all my days could glad - ly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683, alt.

Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962 Text and tune: Public domain

Confession of Sins and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Almighty God, our heavenly Father,

C: we have sinned against you in our thoughts, in our words, in our deeds,
and in all that we have not done. Forgive us in the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ. Deliver and restore us, that we may rest in peace.

M: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in him we are forgiv-
en. Let us rest in his peace until the rising of the sun, when we shall serve him in
newness of life.

C: Amen.



"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 disci-
ples, "If you forgive
anyone his sins, they
are forgiven". The pas-
tor speaks for God and
announces God's for-
giveness to those who
made confession.



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

Psalm 118A

Soloist will sing the Refrain—Congregation will repeat Refrain and continue singing the Psalm with the Cantor

Refrain



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!



This is the day the LORD has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Tone



The LORD is my strength and / my defense;

he has become my sal- / vation.

The LORD's right hand is / lifted high;

the LORD's right hand has done / mighty things!

I will not / die but live,

and will proclaim what the / LORD has done. *Refrain*

I will give you thanks, for you / answered me;

you have become my sal- / vation.

The stone the builders re- / jected

has become the / cornerstone;

the LORD has / done this,

and it is marvelous / in our eyes.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Text: Lectionary for Mass Tune: Marty Haugen

Text: © 1969 ICEL (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Tune: © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716



The main thought of the psalm are collected or summarized in this short prayer.

Psalm Prayer

M: Lord Jesus, you are the stone the builders rejected that has become the cornerstone. We praise you for facing the fury of your enemies undaunted. Because you overcame death itself, we will not die but live, and we will always proclaim

your marvelous deeds; for you live and rule with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

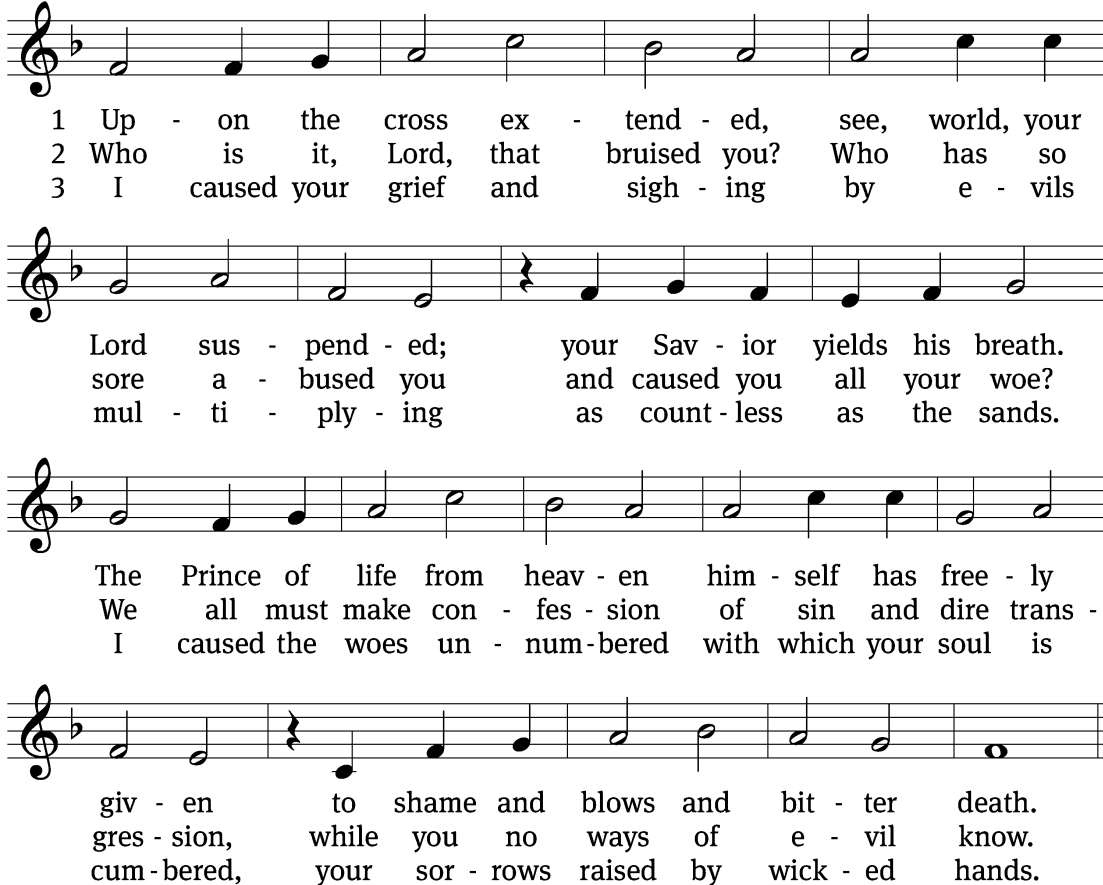
C: Amen.

Passion History

The Trial before the High Priest

Sermon Hymn: Upon the Cross Extended

CWH 434



1 Up - on the cross ex - tend - ed, see, world, your
2 Who is it, Lord, that bruised you? Who has so
3 I caused your grief and sigh - ing by e - vils

Lord sus - pend - ed; your Sav - ior yields his breath.
sore a - bused you and caused you all your woe?
mul - ti - ply - ing as count - less as the sands.

The Prince of life from heav - en him - self has free - ly
We all must make con - fes - sion of sin and dire trans -
I caused the woes un - num - bered with which your soul is

giv - en to shame and blows and bit - ter death.
gres - sion, while you no ways of e - vil know.
cum - bered, your sor - rows raised by wick - ed hands.

Text: tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.
Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

His Final Steps Led to His Enemies Those enemies included the Jewish leaders. Those enemies included you and me.

Luke 20:9–19

⁹He went on to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. ¹²He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.



Each week during the midweek Lent services, the minister reads from the Bible a portion of Jesus' Passion history. The readings take us through the events of Holy Week—from Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem to his crucifixion on the cross.



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



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 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)

¹³"Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.'

¹⁴"But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. 'This is the heir,' they said. 'Let's kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.' ¹⁵So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

"What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others."

When the people heard this, they said, "God forbid!"

¹⁷Jesus looked directly at them and asked, "Then what is the meaning of that which is written:

" 'The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone'?"

¹⁸Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed."

¹⁹The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.

The Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

Prayer

(Read Responsively)

M: Gracious Lord, according to your will and promise,

C: you sent your Son into our world to atone for sin and restore eternal life.

M: You planned his path to the cross,

C: and he followed it perfectly.

M: He confronted the blindness of unbelief, the confusion of doubt, and the hurt of death

C: but was not deterred as he proclaimed your kingdom to the least, the last, and the lost.

M: As we hear and contemplate the holy record of our Savior's passion and death,

C: use the sharp message of the law to empty us of pride and self-reliance.

M: Humble us as we view the Savior in his humility,

C: remembering and believing that he endured the cross so we might be freed from its horror.

M: In his suffering show us our healing,

C: in his grief show us our joy,

M: and in his death show us our life.

C: Hear our prayers, Lord, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

(Prayed in Unison)



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

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

Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)

M: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us.

C: May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.
Amen.



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

Closing Hymn: Upon the Cross Extended

CWH 434

4 Your soul in griefs un - bound - ed, your head with
5 Your cross I place be - fore me, its sav - ing

thorns sur - round - ed, you died to ran - som me.
pow'r re - store me, sus - tain me in the test.

The cross for me en - dur - ing, the crown for me se -
It will, when life is end - ing, be guid - ing and at -

cur - ing, you healed my wounds and set me free.
tend - ing my way to your e - ter - nal rest.

Text: tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt.; Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.
Tune: Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517
Text and tune: Public domain

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

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.

Acknowledgments

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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.