

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Easter 2**  
***Sunday, April 16, 2023***

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



**HE LIVES TO GIVE ME PROOF AND PEACE** Thomas had been taught and trained by Christ himself. He heard Jesus predict his death and resurrection. Yet, even after hearing the eyewitness testimony of friends, who all saw the resurrected Jesus, Thomas had doubts: "Rising from the dead. That can't be possible!" Today is a day of great comfort for any follower of Jesus who wrestles with doubt concerning Christ's promises or doubts about God's Word. Jesus does not come to rebuke Thomas' weak faith. Jesus comes to strengthen Thomas' faith, giving him proof of the mind-bending reality of the resurrection—to let him feel it, touch it, explore it. Jesus didn't reject Thomas. Jesus engaged Thomas and gave him peace. Still today, Jesus comes to his disciples in Word and sacrament. The living Lord speaks to us. He lets us partake of his true body and blood. When we show weakness of faith, he does not reject us. Just as he did with Thomas, Jesus engages us, giving us proof and peace.

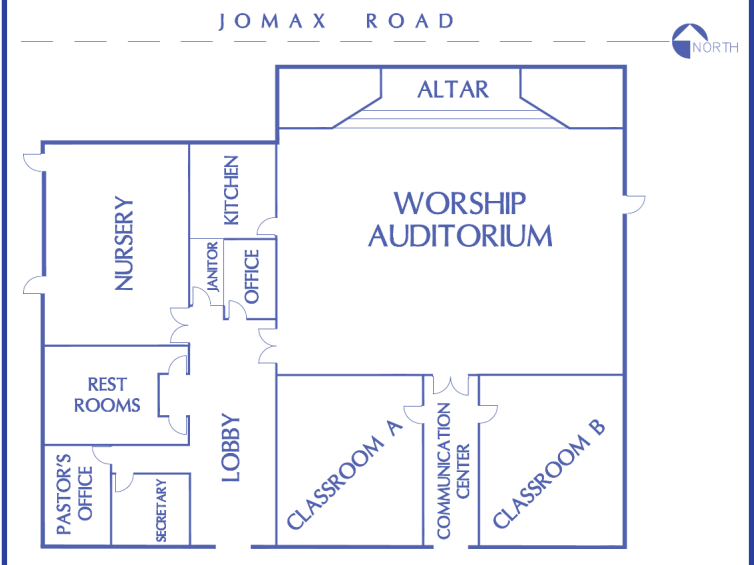
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**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](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. 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 and Sacrament

### Opening Hymn: Now Let the Heavens Be Joyful

CWH 448



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 Now let the heav'ns be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,  
2 From death to life e - ter - nal, from earth un - to the sky,  
3 Let all things, seen and un - seen, their notes of glad-ness blend,



let all the world keep tri - umph and all that is there - in.  
our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.  
for Christ the Lord has ris - en, our joy that has no end.

#### Refrain



He is ris - en! He is ris - en! Christ the Lord is



ris - en! Our joy shall have no end.

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; John of Damascus, c. 696–c. 754  
Tune: French Text and tune: Public domain

### Invocation

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

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



### Confession and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C:** Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



“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.



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

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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:** For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

**M:** For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: Christ have mercy.**

**M:** For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

**M:** Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

**C: Amen.**

## Prayer and Praise

(Spoken by Minister, Sung by Congregation)

**M:** The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

### Congregation Sings:

*Refrain*

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa - ther, you crown our life

with your love. You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it;

you make us pure and ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your

*Refrain*

on - ly Son, but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,  
 how glo - rious is your name in all the earth. O Son of  
 God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther, you came to live with us;  
 you made your Fa - ther known; you washed us from our sins in  
 your own blood. You are the King of glo - ry; you are the Lord!  
*Refrain*  
 O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

Text: Christian Worship, 1993

Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923–1993

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## The Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

**M:** O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by Word and sacrament, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## First Reading

Acts 2:14a,22–32

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd:

<sup>22a</sup>Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. <sup>23</sup>This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to



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



The living Lord appeared to many eyewitnesses so that they might testify to the truth of Jesus' resurrection. Through their testimony, God gives his Church proof and peace.

death by nailing him to the cross. <sup>24</sup>But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. <sup>25</sup>David said about him:

“ ‘I saw the Lord always before me.

Because he is at my right hand,

I will not be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

my body also will rest in hope,

<sup>27</sup>because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,

you will not let your holy one see decay.

<sup>28</sup>You have made known to me the paths of life;

you will fill me with joy in your presence.’

<sup>29</sup>“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. <sup>30</sup>But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup>Seeing what was to come, he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay. <sup>32</sup>God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of it.



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 16

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Keep me safe, O God,

**C: for in you I take refuge.**

M: I said to the Lord, “You are my LORD:

**C: apart from you I have no good thing.**

M: I have set the LORD always before me

**C: because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.**

M: My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;

**C: my body also will rest secure,**

M: because you will not abandon me to the grave,

**C: nor will you let your Holy One see decay.**

M: You have made known to me the path of life;

**C: you will fill me with joy in your presence.**

## The Children's Sermon

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

## Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3–9

<sup>3</sup>Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup>and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup>who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup>In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. <sup>7</sup>These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup>for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Response sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

(Sung by Congregation)

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!



St. Peter points to the resurrection as proof of the hope we have regardless of the outward circumstances of our life.



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



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

## Hymn of the Day: O Sons and Daughters of the King

CWH 456



1 O sons and daughters of the King, whom heav'n - ly  
4 That night th' a - pos - tles met in fear; a - mong them  
5 When Thom - as af - ter - wards had heard that Je - sus  
6 "Thom - as, be - hold my side," said he, "my hands, my



hosts in glo - ry sing, to - day the grave has lost its sting!  
came their Lord most dear and said, "My peace be with you here."  
had ful - filled his word, he doubt - ed that it was the Lord.  
feet, my bod - y see; and doubt not, but be - lieve in me."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

No longer Thomas then denied;  
he saw the feet, the hands, the side;  
"You are my Lord and God," he cried.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Blessèd are they that have not seen  
and yet whose faith has constant been;  
in life eternal they shall reign.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.; attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494, abr.  
Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615; Text and tune: Public domain



In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).

## Sermon He Lives to Give Me Proof and Peace

John 20:19–31

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." <sup>22</sup>And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”

<sup>28</sup>Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”

<sup>29</sup>Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

<sup>30</sup>Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

## The Nicene Creed

(Spoken in Unison)



*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.*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**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.**

**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.

## Song of the Season: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

CWH 454

*Soloist sings Vs. 1-2; Congregation joins for Vs. 3-5*

*Alleluia! Jesus is risen!*

*Trumpets resounding in glorious light!*

*Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!*

*Oh, what a miracle God has in sight! (Refrain)*

*Refrain:*

*Jesus is risen and we shall arise:*

*Give God the glory! Alleluia!*

*Walking the way, Christ in the center*

*telling the story to open our eyes;*

*breaking our bread, giving us glory:*

*Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise. (Refrain)*



3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es; life in the  
 4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent: death put a -  
 5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er, gold - en Je -



Spir - it the fruit of the tree; heav - en to earth, Christ to the  
 sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright. Cher - u - bim sing: "O grave, be  
 ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb, riv - er of life, saints and arch -



peo - ple, gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.  
 o - pen!" Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 an - gels, sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



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

*Refrain*

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise:  
Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009 Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987  
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## The Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

## Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

## The 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.**

## The Sacrament of the Altar

### Greeting

(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: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

## Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Sung by Congregation)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal - va -

tion. Ho - ly ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.



*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.



The pastor speaks the words which Jesus spoke when he instituted 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.

## Words of Institution

(Spoken by Minister)

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**



*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)

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us,  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

## 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 by checking the box in the attendance record book at the end of your row. Thank you for honoring our practice.

## Distribution Hymn: Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

CWH 446



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



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense and my Sav - ior,  
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; I, too, un - to  
 3 No, too close - ly am I bound un - to him by  
 4 I am flesh and must re - turn un - to dust, whence  
 5 Glo - ri - fied, I shall a - new with this flesh then



now is liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence  
 life shall wak - en. End - less joy my Sav - ior gives;  
 hope for - ev - er; faith's strong hand the rock has found,  
 I am tak - en; but by faith I now dis - cern  
 be en - shroud - ed; in this bod - y I shall view



rests up - on the hope he's giv - ing, though the  
 shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I  
 grasped it, and will leave it nev - er. E - ven  
 that from death I shall a - wak - en with my  
 God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; in this



night of death be fraught still with man - y an anx - ious thought.  
 fear, or could the head rise and leave his mem - bers dead?  
 death now can - not part from its Lord the trust - ing heart.  
 Sav - ior to a - bide in his glo - ry, at his side.  
 flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.

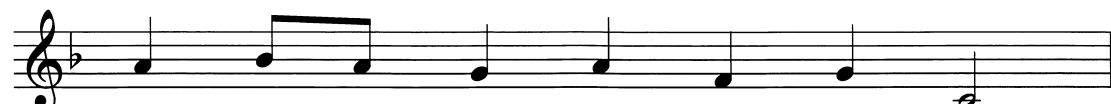
Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616–1679; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 4): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941;; (st. 5): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–166 Text and tune: Public domain

## Song of Thanksgiving

(Sung by Congregation)

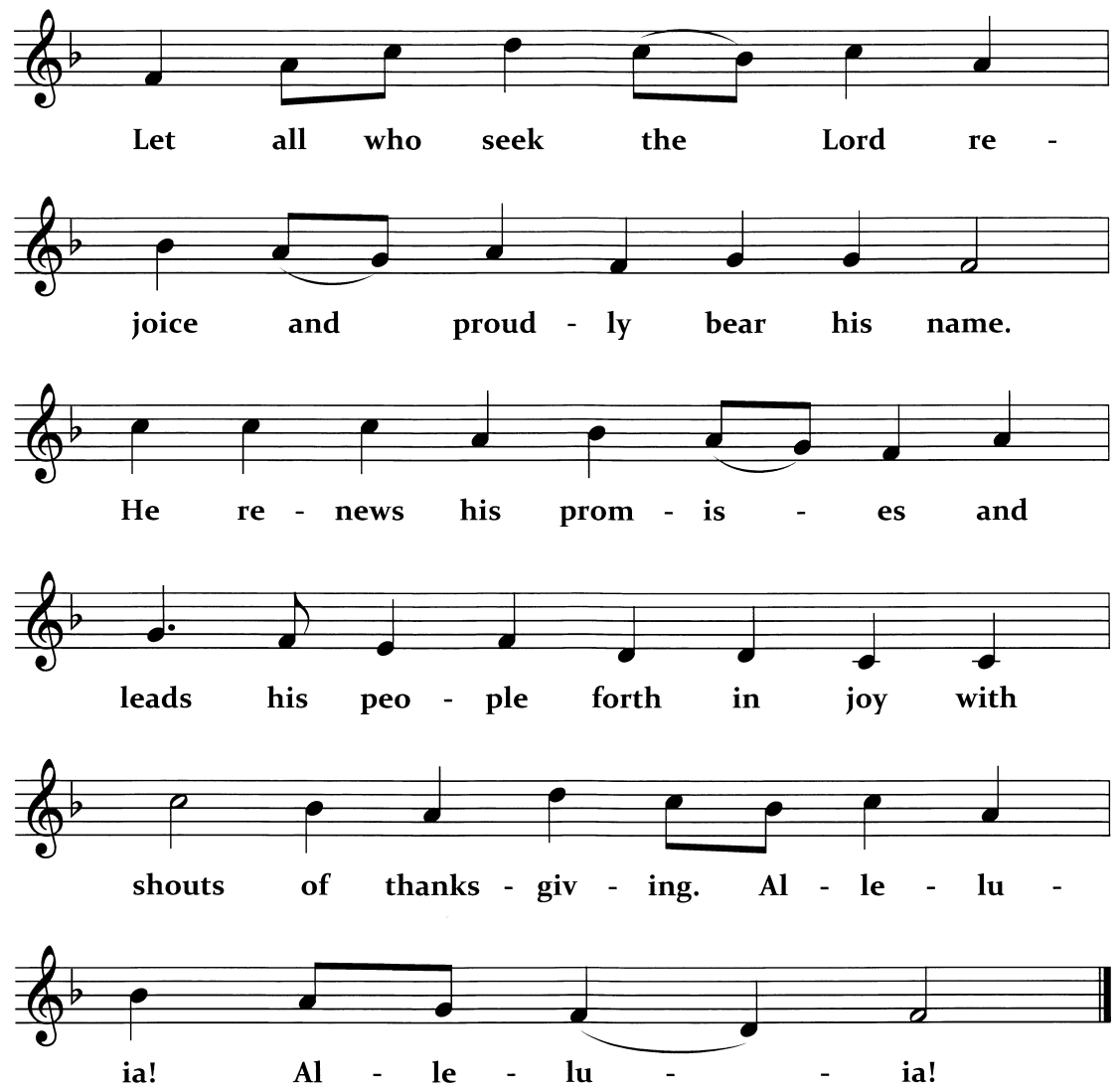


Thank the Lord and sing his praise;



tell ev - 'ry - one what he has done.

*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.*



## Closing Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)

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.



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.

Thanks to you, O Christ vic - to - rious! Thanks to  
you, O Lord of life! Death has now no pow - er  
o'er us, you have con - quered in the strife.  
Thanks be - cause you did a - rise and have o - pened  
par - a - dise! None can ful - ly sing the  
glo - ry of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.  
Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667  
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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.

## Ways to Serve

<b>Worship Volunteers</b>	<b>April 16th</b>	<b>April 23rd</b>	<b>April 30th</b>
<b>Counters</b>	<b>Bill Brooks Harry Novak</b>	<b>Judy Sasse Susie Cornell</b>	<b>Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa</b>
<b>Cleaners</b>	<b>Patterson</b>	<b>Gullerud</b>	<b>Plitzuweit Peterson Aguilar</b>
	<b>Andrea</b>		
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>John Kull Kim Moline Dean Ellis</b>	<b>Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson</b>	<b>Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Kade Ehinger Bill Brooks</b>
<b>Sunday Refreshments</b>	<b>Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann</b>	<b>Clara Naber</b>	<b>Paula Considine</b>
<b>A/V</b>	<b>Shannon Gullerud Aaron Gullerud</b>	<b>Rene Koutia Gus Koutia</b>	<b>Stacy Cornell Aaron Gullerud</b>

## New Growth Group Opportunity

Tim Grams will be starting up his Wednesday Growth Group. It will run through May 10th, They will be studying The Chosen Season 3 episodes 4-8.

## Finish the Race Financial Campaign Status Update

Status of the "Finish the Race" Financial Campaign is as follows:

Pledges: \$209,145

Actual: \$197,308

There is still time to complete all pledges for this campaign. We thank the Lord for the many blessings he has provided for our Cross of Glory family!

## VBS Registration and Volunteer Information

Vacation Bible school is fast approaching (June 5-9). Please use the QR code below to register your children for VBS this year. Please remember that registration fills up fast, so register as soon as possible!

It takes a lot of great volunteers (like you) to make this a success. Please contact the school/church office if you are able to help. Volunteers are needed to serve as group leaders, craft and snack helpers, drama team participants, etc. This ministry is an exciting opportunity to reach out to our community. It seems to grow every year...so sign up to join the fun!



## Good Shepherd Bible Camp

For over 50 years, Good Shepherd Bible Camp (GSBC), has been providing the perfect blend of outdoor adventure and Christian fellowship to kids from 4th to 10th grade. It's a full week (6 nights/days) of fun in the California mountains July 9-15. You'll experience the chance to have fun with old friends and make plenty of new ones while you apply God's word to your life.

Spend the week growing in your faith, while you also play countless games, eat amazing food, swim, canoe, become the perfect archer, sing exuberantly around a campfire, play basketball/volleyball and anything else involving a ball, run around in the infamous "gaga" pit, build forts, unleash your creative side in some arts and crafts, and of course explore God's beautiful creation through a little hiking.

Please use this QR code to learn more and register.



## New Meditations Available

The newest copy of *Meditations* is available. Please check your boxes.

You may drop off your used *Meditations* at Cross of Glory. They will be sent to WELS Prison Ministry, which in turn ships them to prisons around the country for inmates to read. A marked basket is provided on the counter below the mailboxes in the church entry.

## This Week at Church

April 16th

9:00 am

Jomax Worship w/ Communion (Live Streamed)

9:30 am

New River Worship Service

10:45 am

Sunday Morning Bible Study x2

10:45 am

Contemporary Service

10:45 am

Kids Klub

April 17th

4:00 pm

Confirmation Class

6:30 pm

Bible Information Class

April 18th 9:30 am

Women's Bible Study

April 19th

4:00pm

Grams Growth Group

7:00 pm

Choir Practice

April 20th 6:30 pm

New River Growth Group

## Weekly QR Code



# 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 still undergoing treatments.***

***Pat Powell, as she recovers from back issues.***

***Anita Weyer, as she recovers from surgery after a serious hit-and-run accident.***

***Family of Darlene Novak, sister of Harry Novak, as she passed away this last week.***

## **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, at El Paso, TX***



**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.