

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Easter 5**  
**Sunday, May 7, 2023**

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

10111 W Jomax Road

Peoria, AZ 85383

***Sunday 9am Worship***

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 BE THE ONLY WAY TO HEAVEN** The gospel is the most inclusive message in the world. The benefits of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are meant for every man, woman, and child who ever lived. The gospel is also the most exclusive message in the world, for it maintains that salvation can only be found in one place—the person of Jesus Christ. Just listen to how Jesus speaks: “I am the way and the truth and the life” (John 14:6). Jesus doesn’t say, “I will show you the true way to eternal life.” The prophets and apostles could say that. But Jesus says, “I am the way. I am the truth. I am the life you crave.” And note that definite article: “the,” not “a”! Jesus is not a way into heaven. He is the way. There is no other way than through faith in the One who died and rose again. The unbelieving world finds this claim—that Jesus Christ is the only way to heaven—to be the most offensive teaching in all of Scripture. Yet this is the very truth upon which Christ builds his Church.

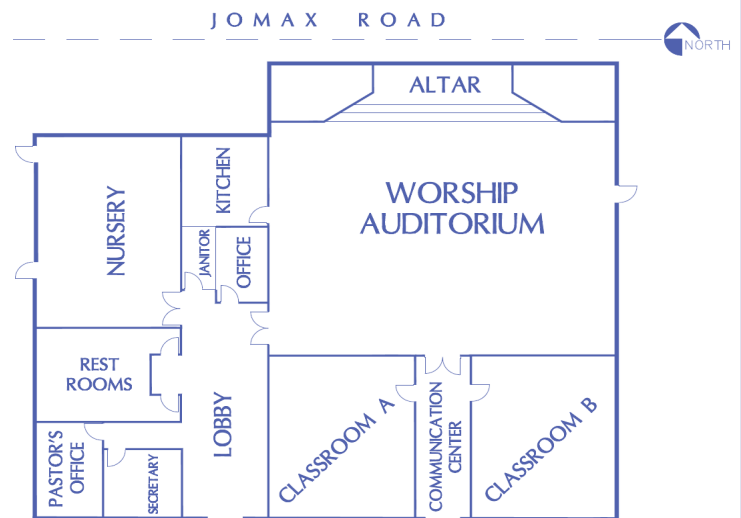
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**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!

# The Service and Lord's Supper

## Opening Hymn: Christ the Eternal Lord

CWH 521



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 Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, whose prom - ise here we claim,  
3 Christ the re - deem - ing Son who shares our hu - man birth,  
4 Christ the un - fad - ing Light of ev - er - last - ing day,  
5 Christ the as - cend - ed King ex - alt - ed high a - bove,



whose gifts of grace are free - ly poured on all who name your name;  
and by his death sal - va - tion won for ev - 'ry child of earth;  
our Morn - ing Star in splen - dor bright, the Life, the Truth, the Way;  
whose praise un - end - ing a - ges sing, whom yet un - seen we love;



with thank - ful - ness and praise we stand be - fore your throne,  
in - spire our hearts, we pray, to tell your love a - broad,  
that light of truth you give to ser - vants as to friends,  
when mor - tal life is past your voice from heav - en's throne



in - tent to serve you all our days and make your glo - ry known.  
that all may hon - or Christ to - day and fol - low him as Lord.  
your way to walk, your life to live, till earth's brief jour - ney ends.  
shall call your chil - dren home at last to know as we are known.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

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## Invocation

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

C: Amen.

## Confession

(Spoken Responsively)

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

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

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,  
I am sinful by nature



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



“If we confess our sins,  
he is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our  
sins and purify us from  
all unrighteousness. “

(1 John 1:9)

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

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.

## Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

## Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

## Glory to God in the Highest

Tune: CWH 517

Tune: BEACH SPRING

1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he loves so  
 2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our sin a -  
 well. On the earth let all his peo - ple speak his  
 way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed— for your



Text: Michael A. Perry Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844  
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*This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because Jesus is our victorious Savior.*

## The Word

### Prayer of the Day

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



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

### First Reading

Acts 4:8–12

<sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup>If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, <sup>10</sup>then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. <sup>11</sup>Jesus is

“ ‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’

<sup>12</sup>Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”



*St. Peter told the Jewish leaders that the man they had crucified was raised to life and therefore is the only man in whom salvation is found.*

### The Children's Sermon

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



The claim that Jesus is the only way to heaven is like a stone over which unbelievers stumble. But that truth is the cornerstone on which Christ builds his Church.

## Second Reading

1 Peter 2:4–10

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—<sup>5</sup>you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. <sup>6</sup>For in Scripture it says:

“See, I lay a stone in Zion,  
a chosen and precious cornerstone,  
and the one who trusts in him  
will never be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,

“The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone,” <sup>8</sup>and,

“A stone that causes people to stumble  
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also what they were destined for.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

## Choir

### Jesus is the Living Stone

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Words Adapted from 1 Peter 2:4-8



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

## Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Response sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. Alleluia.



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.



## Hymn of the Day: Welcome, Happy Morning

CWH 469



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



1 "Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!" age to age shall say;  
2 Mak - er and Re - deem - er, life and health of all,  
4 Free the souls long pris - oned, bound with Sa - tan's chain;



"Hell to - day is van - quished; heav'n is won to - day!"  
God from heav'n be - hold - ing hu - man na - ture's fall,  
all that now is fall - en raise to life a - gain.



Lo, the dead is liv - ing, God for - ev - er - more!  
of the Fa - ther's God - head you, the on - ly Son,  
Show your face in bright - ness; shine in ev - 'ry land



Him, their true Cre - a - tor, all his works a - dore.  
man - kind to de - liv - er man - hood did put on.  
as in E - den's gar - den when the world be - gan.

### Refrain



"Wel - come, hap - py morn - ing!" age to age shall say;



"Hell to - day is van - quished; heav'n is won to - day!"

Text: tr. John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.; Venantius Fortunatus, c. 530–609, abr. Tune: Enchiridion Geistliche Lede und Psalmen, Lübeck, 1545  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### He Lives to be the Only Way to Heaven

John 14:1–11

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place where I am going."



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).



<sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”

<sup>6</sup>Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

<sup>9</sup>Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Don’t you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak on my own authority. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work. <sup>11</sup>Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves.



*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.*

## The Nicene Creed

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: The world claims everything evolved by accident. But what do Christians believe?

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

M: The world claims Jesus was only a noble and novel man. But what do Christians believe?

**C: We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

M: The world claims all people have an inborn, godly spirit. What do Christians believe?

**C: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**





*This is a hymn selected for the current church season that is generally new to our congregation, usually introduced first by a soloist, and repeated for several weeks to assist the congregation in learning the hymn.*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en! Trum - pets re -  
 2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter tell - ing the  
 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 -



sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light! Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for -  
 sto - ry to o - pen our eyes; break - ing our bread, giv - ing us  
 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 -



ev - er! Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 glo - ry: Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.  
 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!



*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 Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716  
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## Offering and Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

*The gifts of God's people are a response to God's blessings.*

## Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

*The apostle Paul encouraged young Pastor Timothy: "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people". (1 Timothy 2:1)*

# The Sacrament

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

## Preface

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



*Sanctus* is a Latin word meaning "Holy". The *Sanctus* contains words from Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3) and the crowd's response on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem (Matthew 21:9). We join them in spirit by singing their words as we anticipate Christ's coming in the sacrament.

## Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

Tune: CWH890

Tune: EWING

1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,  
your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."  
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!  
Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:  
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!  
in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.  
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

Text: Michael D. Schultz Tune: Alexander C. Ewing

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**M:** We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



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

## 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 pastor speaks the  
words which Jesus  
spoke when he institut-  
ed the Supper with his  
disciples in the Upper  
Room. With these  
words the bread and  
wine are consecrated,  
that is, set apart for  
God's use in this special  
meal.*

## Words of Institution

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

## O Christ, Lamb of God Agnus Dei

Tune: CWH394

Tune: NAAR MIT ÖIE



1 Dear-est Je-sus, lov-ing Sav-ior, Christ, who takes all sin a-way,  
2 Dear-est Je-sus, lov-ing Sav-ior, Christ, who takes all sin a-way,

Lamb of God, the world's Re-deem-er, hear us as we hum-bly pray:  
Lamb of God, the world's Re-deem-er, hear us as we hum-bly pray:

in our dire and des-p'rate need, for your mer-cy, Lord, we plead.  
let your mer-cy still in-crease; grant us par-don, grant us peace.

Text: Michael D. Schultz Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman  
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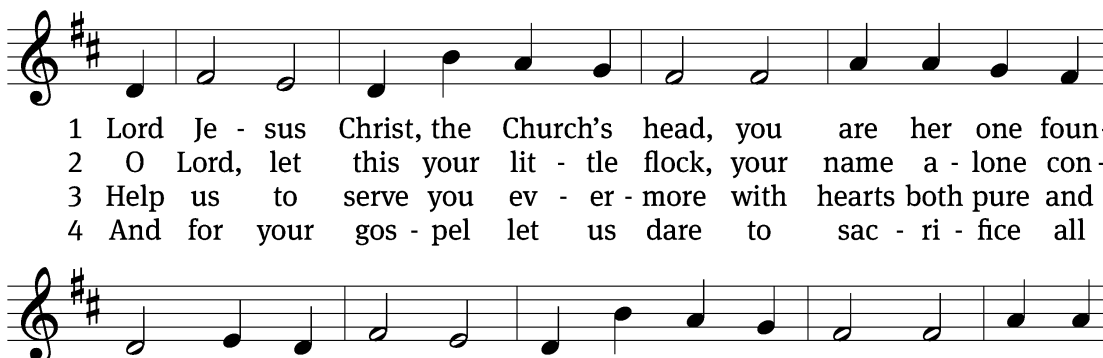
*Agnus Dei is a Latin phrase meaning "Lamb of God". John the Baptist spoke these words as he pointed to Jesus coming toward him (John 1:29). As Christ comes to us in the Holy Supper, we recognize him as the Lamb of God sacrificed for us to free us from the bondage of sin and death.*

## 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: Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head

CWH 861

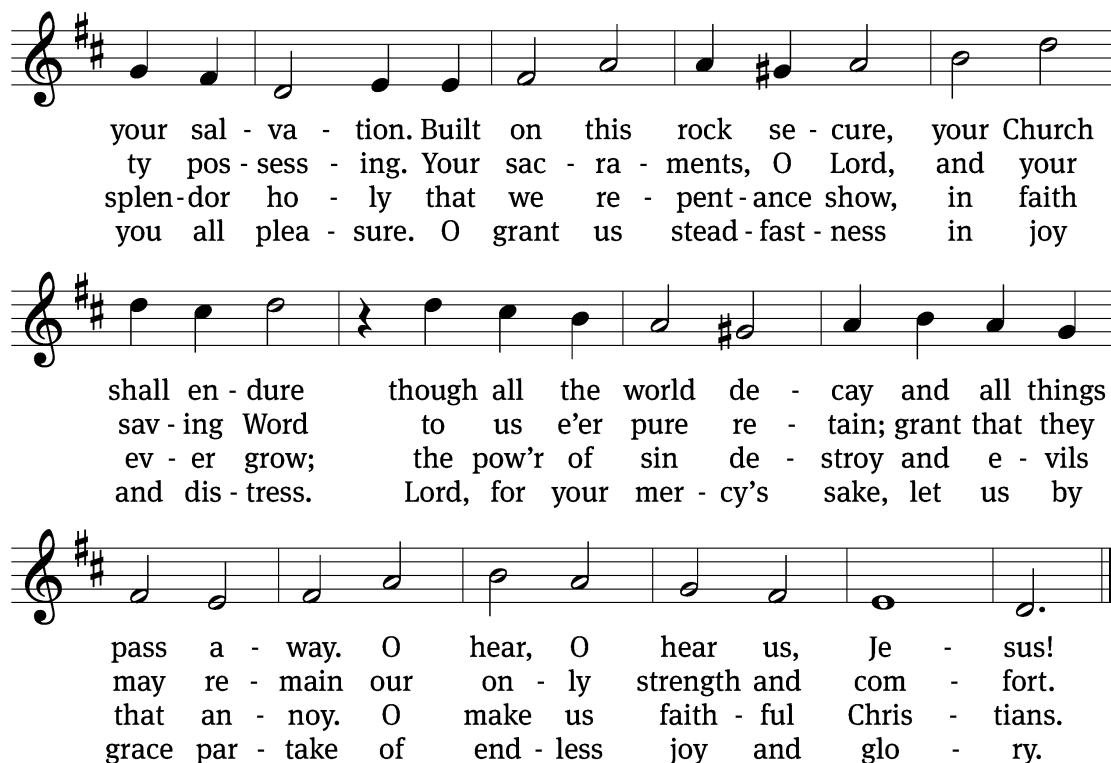


1 Lord Je-sus Christ, the Church's head, you are her one foun-  
2 O Lord, let this your lit-tle flock, your name a-lone con-  
3 Help us to serve you ev-er-more with hearts both pure and  
4 And for your gos-pel let us dare to sac-ri-fice all

da-tion; in you she trusts, be-fore you bows, and waits for  
fess-ing, con-tin-ue in your lov-ing care, true u-ni-  
low-ly; and may your Word, that light di-vine, shine on in  
treasure; teach us to bear your bless-ed cross, to find in



*These hymns are sung by the congregation during the distribution of the Lord's Supper.*



your sal - va - tion. Built on this rock se - cure, your Church  
 ty pos - sess - ing. Your sac - ra - ments, O Lord, and your  
 splen - dor ho - ly that we re - pent - ance show, in faith  
 you all plea - sure. O grant us stead - fast - ness in joy

shall en - dure though all the world de - cay and all things  
 sav - ing Word to us e'er pure re - tain; grant that they  
 ev - er grow; the pow'r of sin de - stroy and e - vils  
 and dis - tress. Lord, for your mer - cy's sake, let us by

pass a - way. O hear, O hear us, Je - sus!  
 may re - main our on - ly strength and com - fort.  
 that an - noy. O make us faith - ful Chris - tians.  
 grace par - take of end - less joy and glo - ry.

Text: tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt.; Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734, abr. Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Distribution Hymn: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

CWH 563



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus'  
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on  
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me  
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I

blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no  
 his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and  
 in the rag - ing flood; when ev - 'ry earth - ly  
 then in him be found, clothed in his right - eous -

oth - er claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
 prop gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.  
 ness a - lone, fault - less to stand be - fore his throne.

*Refrain*

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Tune: John Stainer, 1840–1901, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

## Thanksgiving and Proclamation

(Spoken Responsively)

*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.*

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**C: his mercy endures forever.**

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

**C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.

We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## 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.*

## Closing Hymn: Christ Is Our Cornerstone

CWH 914

1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, on him a - lone we  
3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise these hal - lowed courts shall  
build; with his true saints a - lone the courts of  
ring; our voic - es we will raise the Three in  
heav'n are filled. On his great love our hopes we  
One to sing and thus pro - claim in joy - ful  
place of pres - ent grace and joys a - bove.  
song, both loud and long, that glo - rious name.

Text: tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, alt.; Latin, c. 8th cent., abr. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–1789  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 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

Worship Volunteers	May 7th	May 14th	May 21st
Counters	Nick Nicholai Michael Radue	Bill Brooks Harry Novak	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell
Cleaners	Kelley Grams	Ehlers Martins	Simkauskis Pappenfuss
Communion	Shannon		Sharon
Ushers	Aaron Gullerud Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer Michael Ryan	Cody Hall Joel Ditter	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Titus Patterson Grant Stern
Sunday Refreshments	Rene Koutia	Karen Goelzer Angela Hall	Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson
A/V	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras	Shannon Gullerud Rene Koutia	Titus Patterson Isaac Patterson

### Acknowledgments

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## Weekly QR Code

Please check your email or use this QR Code for weekly announcements



## Highlights of the Open Forum on April 27

The meeting was led by District President Jon Buchholz. About 50 members attended. A Bible study of Acts 1:15-26 showed how the apostles and early church chose a man to complete a vacancy among them. The procedure included the following:

- It was required that the candidates be eyewitnesses of Jesus' entire ministry. (Today, that means a ministry candidate should be thoroughly trained.)
- Two candidates were identified. (Today, four or five candidates will be listed.)
- The apostles prayed for guidance by the Holy Spirit. (Today, the members pray for guidance by the Holy Spirit.)
- Lots were cast, and the man was chosen. (Today, a vote is taken for the final candidate.)

The biblical qualifications for a pastor were listed. They include the following: able to teach, possessing a knowledge of Scripture, humble, above accusations of past indiscretion. More qualification may be found in 1 Timothy 3.

Pastor Buchholz reviewed the results of the online questionnaire that was sent to every Cross of Glory member. Thirty-eight questionnaires were completed. The five areas of ministry where members felt Cross of Glory congregation "does especially well" are listed in order of perceived strength:

- Elementary school and preschool
- Worship experience
- Preaching
- Bible study
- Social and fellowship events

The five areas of ministry where members felt Cross of Glory congregation "struggles or has room for significant improvement" are listed in order of perceived weakness:

- Ministry to teens
- Administration
- Reclaiming delinquent members
- Ministry to college age
- Ministry to re-singles

## Highlights of the Voters' Meeting on April 30

- \* The meeting was well attended, and our new schedule (including a potluck meal prior to the meeting) seemed to work well.
- \* Motions were passed detailing the duties and compensations of interim vacancy Pastor Piepenbrink and assisting Pastors Kugler and Freeman. A motion was also passed to call a more permanent vacancy pastor, Rev. Paul Mueller, who is retiring from Cross of Christ, Kingman, Arizona. He will serve Cross of Glory from July 1 to December 31, 2023.
- \* Mrs. Lianne Coates' hours as finance manager were increased to 35 hours per week to handle all the work that it takes to keep things running in a church and school of our size.
- \* Three one-year calls were extended to keep our staff intact for the coming 2023/2024 school year.
- \* The 2023/2024 budget was presented. After some discussion concerning a couple topics related to the budget, it passed as presented without any changes.
- \* The voters approved a motion to improve our campus' appearance. Our two older buildings will receive new exterior doors and fresh paint. We also will be purchasing new chairs for our church sanctuary. A sub-committee is being formed to make some decorating decisions related to this motion. The voters also agreed with the council's decision to save about \$35,000 per year over the next two to three years to replace our aging HVAC system.
- \* A motion to allow Billy M. to remove our pump house for a "generous donation" passed. Some concerns about liability were raised, and the president is planning on asking him to sign a contract that clearly outlines liability issues for both parties.
- \* The voters approved the following council actions made on their behalf over the last three months: hiring Novak Financial Services to keep our finances on track, switching to One Church (a church management software), making a decision to continue to maintain our own landscaping, allowing the Woodworth food truck to be stored on campus and to be used for special events, and forming a new building committee.

## VBS is Full but Volunteers Are Still Needed

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!

## This Week at Cross of Glory

May 7th

9:00 am

Jomax Worship w/ Communion (Live Streamed)

9:30 am

New River Worship Service

10:45 am

Sunday Morning Bible Study

10:45 am

Contemporary Service

10:45 am

Kids Klub

May 8th

6:30 pm

Bible Information Class

May 8-12

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 9th 9:30 am

Women's Bible Study

May 10th

4:00pm

Grams Growth Group

7:00 pm

Choir Practice

May 11th 9:30 am

Golden Agers Breakfast

May 12th 6:30 pm

School Drama Night

# 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**, 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.