# Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School



623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org
10111 W Jomax Road
Peoria, AZ 85383
Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Fred Piepenbrink 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
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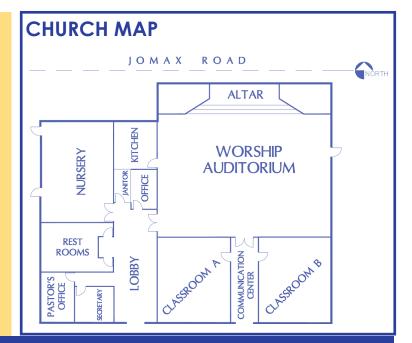
HE LIVES TO RULE ALL THINGS FOR THE CHURCH We understand why God became man in the person of Christ. The Savior needed to be able to suffer and die to atone for mankind's sin. What is fascinating is that when the work of redemption was completed, the Son of God did not set aside his humanity. The God-man ascended into heaven. It is a human, our brother, who sits on heaven's throne. The ascension marks the completion of Jesus' earthly mission, but it does not signify the end of his work. While on earth, Jesus had set aside so much of his divine power. But Jesus now picks all that power back up again. He ascended to exercise his limitless authority for the Church as we carry out our mission to be Christ's ambassadors of grace to the world. He lives! And he is in absolute and perfect control, ruling over Creation for the eternal well-being of his friends. And that is what we are! The Festival of the Ascension is one of the oldest and most joyful celebrations in the Christian Church. It will be observed by Christians until Christ returns to take us to be with him.

#### **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



## **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

CWH 549



- 1 You're the Word of God the Fa ther from be fore the 2 Yet you left the gaze of an gels, came to seek and
- 3 With a shout you rose vic to rious, wrest-ing vic t'ry



world be - gan. save the lost, from the grave,

Ev-'ry star and ev - 'ry plan-et has been and ex-changed the joy of heav-en for the and as - cend - ed in - to heav-en, lead-ing



fash - ioned by your hand. an - guish of a cross. cap - tives in your way. All cre - a - tion holds to With a prayer you fed the Now you stand be - fore the



geth - er hun-gry, Fa - ther, by the pow - er of your voice. with a word you calmed the sea, in-ter-ced - ing for your own;

Let the skies deyet how si - lentfrom each tribe and



clare your glo - ry, let the land and seas joice! re suf - fered ly you that the guilt - y may free! go and na - tion you are lead - ing sin - ners home! tongue



You're the au - thor of cre - a - tion, you're the Lord of ev - 'ry



Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974
Tune: arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974

Text and tune: © 2002 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing,com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716



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)



We worship the resurrected Savior who ascended to the Father and sits at his right hand in majesty and glory.

#### **Call to Worship for Ascension**

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.

C: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

M: How majestic is the Lord's name in all the earth!

C: He has set his glory above the heavens.

M: For the Lord is the Most High over all the earth.

C: He is exalted far above all gods.

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

C: God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

M: The Lord reigns, let the nations tremble.

C: He sits enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.

M: The throne of our God will last forever and ever.

C:`A scepter of justice will be the scepter of his kingdom.

M: Praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted.

C: His splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

#### **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.

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.



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

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)

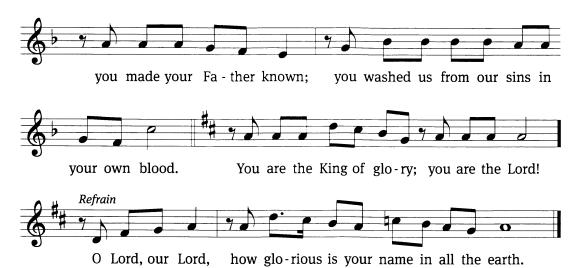
M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

## Congregation Sings:





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



Text: Christian Worship, 1993

Tune: Kurt J. Eggert, 1923-1993

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Tune: © 1993 Kurt J. Eggert, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 71171



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

# **Prayer of the Day**

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens, and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that, at your command and by your power, we may be your witnesses in all the world; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



Jesus tells his disciples that although he is going to ascend, they will not be left alone. He promises to send the Holy Spirit to them and to us.

First Reading Acts 1:1–11

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>6</sup>Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

<sup>7</sup>He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

<sup>9</sup>After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

<sup>10</sup>They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. <sup>11</sup>"Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Psalm 47

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Clap your hands, all you nations;

C: shout to God with cries of joy.

M: How awesome is the Lord Most High, the great King over all the earth!

C: God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

M: God has ascended amid shouts of joy,

C: the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

M: Sing praises to God, sing praises;

C: for God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a Psalm of praise.

The Children's Sermon

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

**Second Reading** 

Ephesians 1:15–23

<sup>15</sup>For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, <sup>16</sup>I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. <sup>18</sup>I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup>and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup>he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup>And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

# Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Response sung by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Alleluia.

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."



St. Paul teaches that Jesus ascended so that he might fill all creation with his presence and his power. Nothing is outside his control.



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

#### Congregation sings:



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

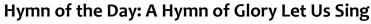


Faith comes from hear - ing the mes - sage, and the



mes - sage is heard through the Word of Christ.

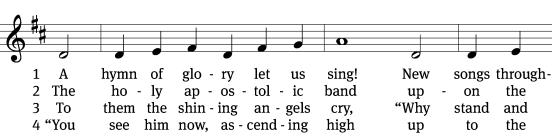


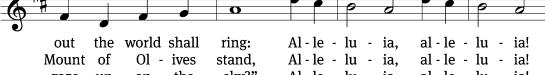


CWH 472



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





gaze up - on the sky?" Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! por - tals of the sky." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Christ, by road be - fore un - trod, a and with his fol - low - ers they see "This Sav - ior," thus they is the say. "Here af - ter Je - sus you shall see

as - cends un their Lord as -"This is his re - turn - ing



to the throne of God. cend in maj - es - ty. glo - rious tri - umph day." in great maj - es - ty."

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!



Text: tr. composite; The Venerable Bede, 673–735, abr. Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Köln, 1623 Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon He Lives to Rule All Things for the Church

Luke 24:44-53

<sup>44</sup>He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

<sup>50</sup>When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. <sup>53</sup>And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.



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 Nicene Creed

(Spoken in Unison)

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.



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.

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.

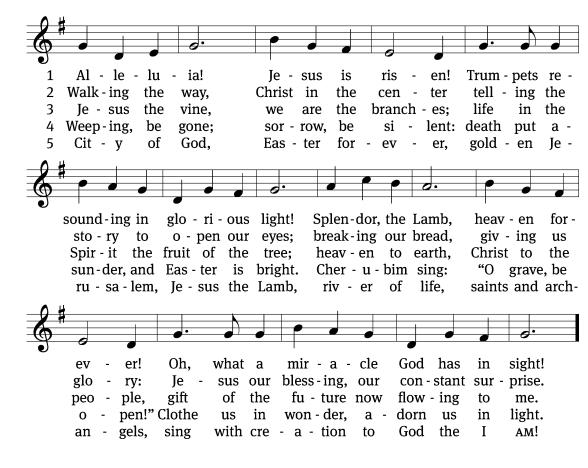
We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

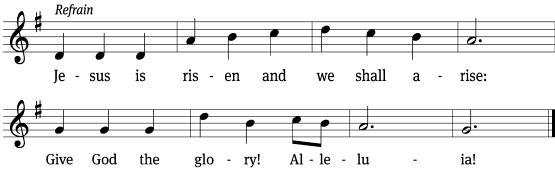
# Song of the Season: Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen

CWH 454



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.





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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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)

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

# 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)

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

The pastor and people

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.



(Sung by Congregation)



#### **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."



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.

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.

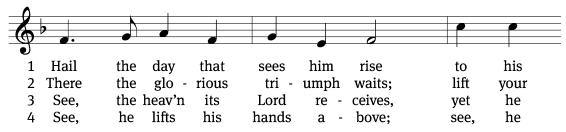


#### **Distribution of Sacrament**

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.

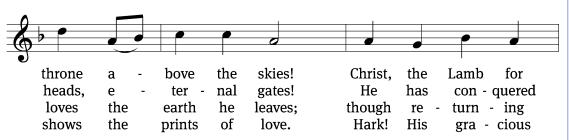
## Distribution Hymn: Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise

CWH 474





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





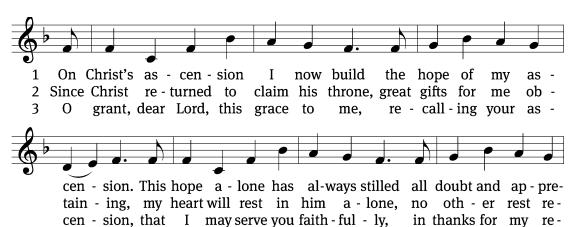
Still for us he intercedes, his atoning death he pleads. He, the first of all our race, near himself prepares a place.

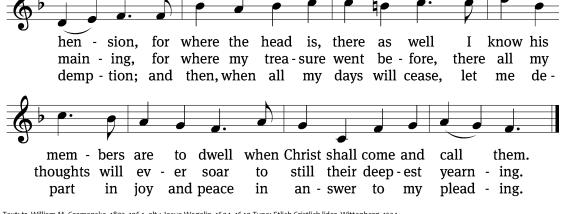
There we shall with him remain, partners in his endless reign, there his face unclouded see, live with him eternally.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, abr., alt. Tune: adapt. Richard Redhead, 1820–1901; Pierre de Corbeille, d. 1221 Text and tune: Public domain

# Distribution Hymn: On Christ's Ascension I Now Build

CWH 476





Text: tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964, alt.; Josua Wegelin, 1604–1640 Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524 Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain

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.



(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.

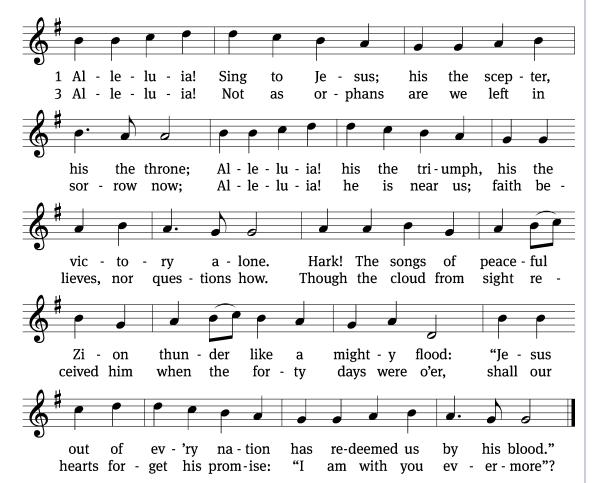
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

# Closing Hymn: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Text and tune: Public domain

CWH 606



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898, abr., alt. Tune: adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867; Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827



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.

## **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.

#### Acknowledgments

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# Friendship Register

Please remember to fill out the red friendship register located in the seat pockets so we can have record of your attendance with us.

# Ways to Serve

Worship	May	May	June
Volunteers	21S <b>t</b>	28th	4th
Counters	Judy Sasse	Joel Ditter	Nick Nicolai
	Susie Cornell	Nancy Schirripa	Michael Ryan
Cleaners	Simkauskis	Sterns	Patterson
	Pappenfuss	Coates	
Communion	Sharon		Andrea
Ushers	Chris Patterson	Pedro Contreras	Len Collyard
	Isaac Patterson	Tanner Pluzuweit	Nick Nicolai
	Titus Patterson	Michael Radue	Steve Semmann
	Grant Stern	Guy Robertson	Sharon Wilson
Sunday	Ally Kelley	Mary Berggren	Stacy Cornell
Refreshments	Sharon Wilson	Shannon Gullerud	Diana Piepenbrink
A/V	Titus Patterson	Stacy Cornell	Kelly Simpson
	Isaac Patterson	Aaron Gullerud	Gus Koutia

# Weekly QR Code

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



# **Employment Opportunities at School**

Cross of Glory has several teaching aid positions open for next school year. Most do not require special training or degrees. Hours range from 4 to 7 hours a day. Work days may be flexible. For more information, contact Mr. Aguilar. Complete the application, the link can be found in the weekly news, and submit it to the school office by May 24 for consideration.

# **Summer Camps**

#### ALA summer sports camps

Registration is now open for the ALA summer sports camps that take place the first three weeks of June. All the camps are Monday through Thursday.

Week one, June 5 -8, will be baseball, softball and volleyball.

Week two, June 12 -15, will be boys basketball.

The last week, June 19 -22, will be girls basketball.

For more information or to register for one of the camps go to ALAcoyotes.org/camp

# **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 during July. 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 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.

**Norm Voigt**, as he recovers from a recent hospitalization.

#### **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.