

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Pentecost 18**  
***Sunday, October 1, 2023***

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

1011 W Jomax Road  
Peoria, AZ 85383

***Sunday 9am Worship***

Pastor Paul Mueller  
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

### Luke Looks at Living **TO** Jesus

and  
Living  
**FOR**  
Jesus



As Christians we know God expects us to live for him. "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). As the giver of all we have, God deserves to be honored in everything we do.

We also know God expects us to live our lives for others. He says, "Serve one another in love" (Galatians 5:13). But, what does this mean to us in terms of how we live our daily lives?

The gospel of St. Luke chronicles the life Jesus lived for us—he literally lived our life for us to save us. In Luke, Jesus demonstrates what it really means to live to and for him through his words, his actions and his interactions with people he encounters. Pastor Mueller continues a sermon series on these accounts: "Luke Looks at Living TO Jesus and Living FOR Jesus". Today our theme is "Paralyzed Man walks with Jesus (Luke 5:17-26)".

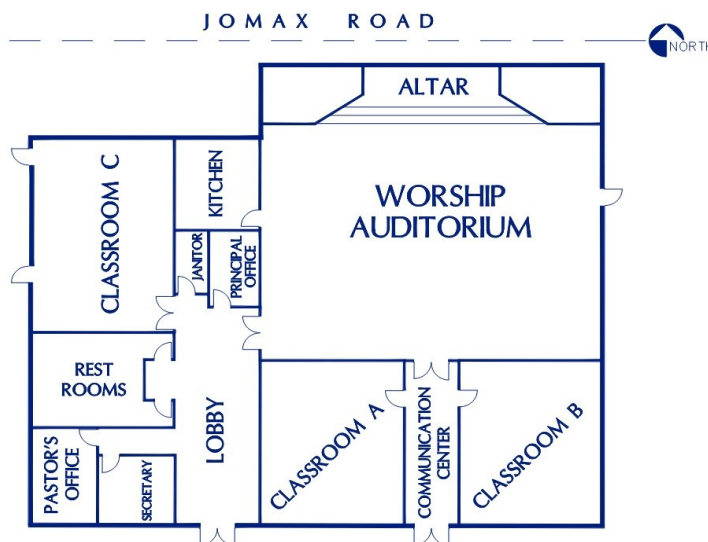
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**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 in Classroom A.
- **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 Setting 3 and Lord's Supper

### Opening Hymn: I Sing as I Arise Today

CWH 779



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 I sing as I a - rise to - day, I call on  
2 The word of God to be my speech, the hand of  
3 The work of God to be my joy, the house of  
4 I sing as I a - rise to - day; I cry out

my Cre - a - tor's might: the will of God to  
God to be my stay, the shield of God to  
God to be my rest, the grace of God to  
my Re - deem - er's name: Lord Je - sus Christ, my

be my guide, the eye of God to be my sight;  
be my strength, the path of God to be my way;  
be my song, the praise of God to be my best.  
hope, my all, to - day and ev - er - more the same.

Text (sts. 1-2): anonymous; (sts. 3-4): Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963

Tune: Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien, Hamburg, 1690, alt.

Text (sts. 3-4): © 2006 Michael D. Schultz, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Text (sts. 1-2) and tune: Public domain

### Invocation

M: We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



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

### Confession and Absolution

M: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.



“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.



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

M: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: Amen.

## Glory to God in the Highest

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, and

peace to his peo - ple on earth, and peace to his peo - ple on

earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,

you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the

Most High, Je - sus Christ. with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the

glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men. Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, glo - ry to God, and peace to his peo - ple on

earth, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

# The Word

## Prayer of the Day

M: Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1–4,25–32

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel:

“ ‘The parents eat sour grapes,  
and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?

<sup>3</sup>“As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup>For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? <sup>26</sup>If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. <sup>27</sup>But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?

<sup>30</sup>“Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. <sup>31</sup>Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

## Choir

### Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love

Words and Music by Aaron Keyes, Keith Getty, Matt Pappa, Luke Brown  
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The main thoughts of the day are collected or summarized in this short prayer.



The prophet Ezekiel gives a strong warning to Christians who have grown dismissive of their sin. God wants sincere repentance that leads to true obedience.



Moved by Christ's love  
and empowered by the  
Spirit, we sincerely  
attempt to imitate the  
selflessness and humili-  
ty of Jesus.

## Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup>then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup>not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

<sup>5</sup>In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup>Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;  
<sup>7</sup>rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
<sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## Children's Sermon

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



A verse from the Holy  
Scriptures is usually  
spoken to capture the  
theme of the service.

## Verse of the Day

*(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)*

M: Alleluia. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you will not despise. Alleluia.





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

Your hand, O Lord, in days of old  
was strong to heal and save;  
it triumphed over pain and death,  
o'er darkness and the grave.  
To you they came, the blind, the mute,  
the paralyzed and lame,  
the lepers in their misery,  
the sick with fevered frame.

Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health,  
gave speech and strength and sight;  
and youth renewed and frenzy calmed  
revealed you, Lord of light.  
And now, O Lord, be near to bless,  
almighty as before,  
in crowded street, by beds of pain,  
as by Gennes'et's shore.

O be our great deliverer still,  
the Lord of life and death;  
restore and quicken, soothe and bless,  
with your life-giving breath.  
To hands that work and eyes that see  
give wisdom's healing power  
that whole and sick and weak and strong  
may praise you evermore.

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-1891, alt. Text: Public domain

**Sermon      Luke Looks at Living TO Jesus and Living FOR Jesus**  
***A Paralyzed Man walks with Jesus***

**Luke 5:17-26**

<sup>17</sup>One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick. <sup>18</sup>Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus.

<sup>19</sup>When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

<sup>20</sup>When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

<sup>21</sup>The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

*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>22</sup>Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, “Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? <sup>23</sup>Which is easier: to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk’? <sup>24</sup>But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” <sup>25</sup>Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. <sup>26</sup>Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, “We have seen remarkable things today.”



*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.*

## **Nicene 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.**



# Song of the Season: My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone (Psalm 62) CWH 818

Choir sings Vs. 1 and Congregation joins for Vs. 2 & 3



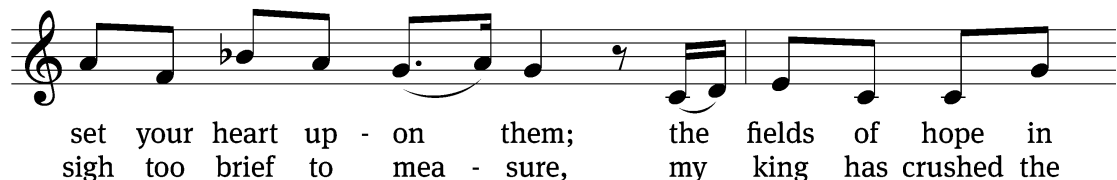
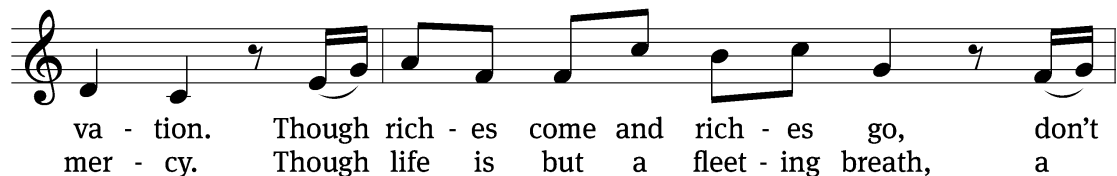
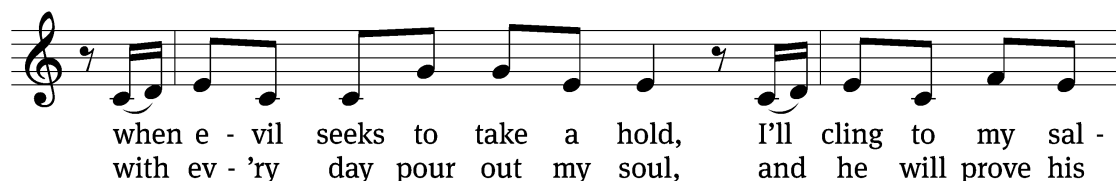
This is a hymn selected for the current church season that is generally new to our congregation, usually introduced first by a soloist, and repeated for several weeks to assist the congregation in learning the hymn.

*My soul finds rest in God alone, my rock and my salvation;  
a fortress strong against my foes, and I will not be shaken.  
Though lips may bless and hearts may curse, and lies like arrows pierce me,  
I'll fix my heart on righteousness, I'll look to him who hears me. (Refrain)*

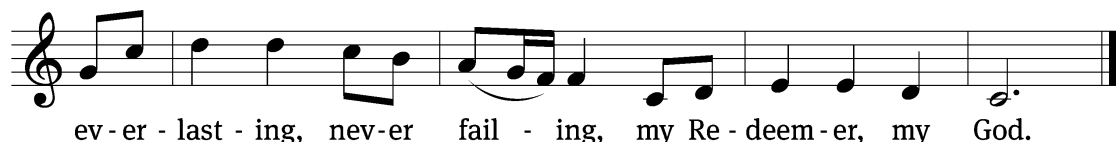
## Refrain:

*O praise him, hallelujah, my delight and my reward;  
everlasting, never failing, my Redeemer, my God.*

## Congregation sings:



## Refrain



Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978

Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Aaron Keyes, b. 1978

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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".  
(1 Timothy 2:1)

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



**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.

## Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

*If you brought a monetary gift today for the work of the church, please place your offering in the receptacle at one of the two entrances to the sanctuary either before or after the service.*

## Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

# The Sacrament

## 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.

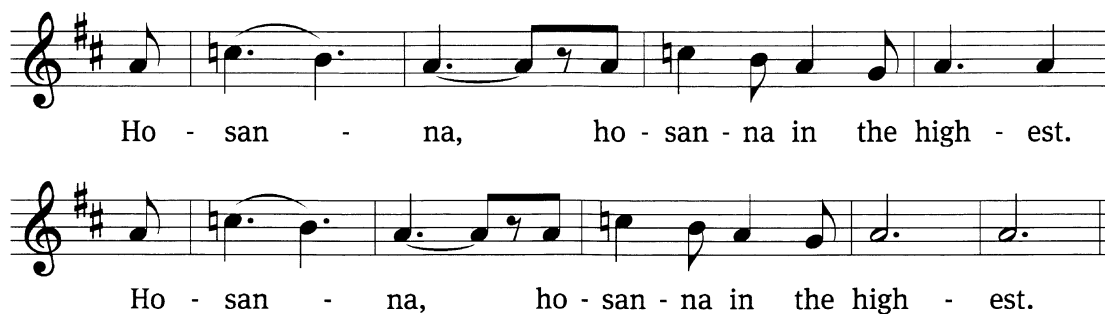
**C:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**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 lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Choir sings and Congregation repeats)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts,  
 heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Tune: David Kauffman; William Gokelman

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**M:** Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## 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.

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



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.



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.

## Word 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.

## Lamb of God Agnus Dei

(Sung by Congregation)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer - cy on us. 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: God Loved the World So That He Gave

CWH 570



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



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly  
2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; his Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives the



Son the lost to save that all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in  
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the  
sins that you have done. You're jus - ti - fied by



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
him a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares that we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood; bap - tized, you are a child of God.

**If you are sick, if death is near,  
this truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves my soul from death;  
this is the anchor of my faith!**

**Glory to God the Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To you, O blessed Trinity,  
be praise now and eternally!**

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens- Opfer, Stettin, c. 1778  
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893 Text and tune: Public domain

## Thanksgiving and Proclamation

(Spoken Responsively)

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: O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us

*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.*



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.

but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through 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.**

## Closing Hymn: Go, My Children, with My Blessing

CWH 930

1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
3 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me;  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; you are my own.  
grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.  
I the Lord will smile up - on you and give you peace;

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here his ten - der com - fort  
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and

ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.  
stilled you. Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.  
Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you and give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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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>October 1st</b>	<b>October 8th</b>	<b>October 15th</b>
<b>Counters</b>	Nancy Murphy Harry Novak	Judy Sasse Susie Cornell	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa
<b>Communion</b>	Dawn		Shannon
<b>Cleaners</b>	Coates Simkauskas	Kelley Grams	Koutia Piepenbrink
<b>Ushers</b>	John Kull Kim Moline Dean Ellis	Brian Ehinger Jake Ehinger Trey Ehinger Kade Ehinger	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson
<b>Sunday Refreshments</b>	Paula Considine	Stacy Cornell Diana Piepenbrink	Jennifer Paul Rachel Plitzuweit
<b>A/V</b>	Hailey Ditter (Rene) Joel Ditter (Gus)	Titus Patterson Isaac Patterson	Stacy Aguilar (Rene) Gus Koutia

## Weekly Newsletter QR Code

Please check your email or use this QR code for the weekly newsletter



## Favorite Hymn Festival

To celebrate our heritage as 'the singing church', on Oct. 29th our worship service will consist of our eight favorite hymns (plus Bible readings etc.). You'll vote for your cherished songs the next two Sundays. (There will be a box to put the votes into.) Pastor will assemble the top eight favorites, plus background info, and that will guide our worship.

## Acknowledgement Letter

To the Saints at Cross of Glory,

To receive a call to serve as a pastor is always a humbling experience. Over the coming weeks I will be turning to our loving Lord in prayer that he would bless this time of deliberation for His Kingdom. I will be praying that God would bless Cross of Glory as well as all of you. I will humbly ask for your prayers as well. Please do reach out to me if you are able and interested with your thoughts on what you are looking for in a pastor and for your congregation. Even though we are separated by thousands of miles, we are working for the same thing...to share the good news of our loving sacrificial God out of thanks for all that He has done for us. May God bless all our efforts so many more can enjoy the same peace we do. I look forward to hearing from you and learning more about your work and ministry at Cross of Glory.

In Christ,

Pastor Zachary Pudlo

## Worship Survey

Martin Luther once said that worship belongs to the people. At Cross of Glory, we want to make the worship experience of all members and visitors as meaningful and edifying as possible. For this reason, it is important that we receive feedback from all who enter our sanctuary to determine how we are doing and where we can improve. To achieve this goal, a worship survey was sent to all members with email addresses the second week of September. The survey has very specific questions that will help the leadership of the church continue to work hard at providing pleasant and God-pleasing worship that connects us all with God. Be sure to fill out the survey by October 1. Printed surveys are also available for those who want one.

## Trunk or Treat Sign Up

Welcome to Fall!!

Trunk or Treat will be on October 28 from 3:30pm-5:30 pm. We are looking for families to assist in making the Trunk or Treat event a success again this year. We need both families that are willing to decorate a trunk and those that can assist at a couple booths that we'll be setting up. If you are planning to decorate a trunk, please avoid scary or demonic themes, as we are on church grounds. To make this event more exciting for the children, it would be nice to have a planned game or activity near each trunk. Some ideas are ring toss, bowling, or even a simple craft. If you need ideas for a trunk or an activity, please reach out to Brenda Grams, Ashley Scott, or Liz Simkauskas. The two booths we are doing are a temporary tattoo booth and a coloring contest booth. Please use the QR code below to sign up.



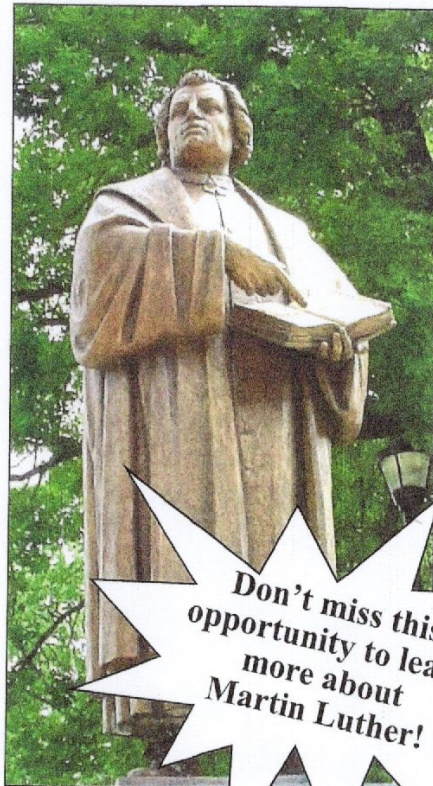
THE CONGREGATIONAL ASSISTANT PROGRAM PRESENTS

# The Life of Luther Seminar

No man since St. Paul has played a more important role in the history and direction of the Christian church than Dr. Martin Luther.

This seminar is intended to help Christians become better acquainted with the life and work of Luther. Learn why people who claim that Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation still name their churches after him. See how his understanding of Bible teaching allowed to defy pope and emperor.

You will find this day of fellowship and study rewarding and strengthening for your own faith.



Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about Martin Luther!

**Saturday, October 14, 2023**

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Shepherd of the Valley  
Ev. Lutheran Church**

14650 W Bell Rd.  
Surprise, AZ 85374

*Welcome food before the seminar and lunch during it will be provided.*

Guest Speaker

**Prof. Brian Hennig**

*Professor of Theology & History  
Martin Luther College*

*To Pre-register, contact*

**Mrs. Lori Neumann**

**azlori24@cox.net**

**(623) 975-0605**

*Seminar registration fee is \$10 per person.  
Please register by Thursday, October 5.*

For more information about the Congregational Assistant Program,  
visit our website at <https://mlc-wels.edu/can/>

## This Week At COG

### October 1

9:00 am	Jomax Worship w/ Communion (Live Streamed)
9:30 am	New River Worship Service
10:45 am	Everything New Bible Class
10:45 am	Contemporary Service
10:45 am	Kids Klub
4:00 pm	Confirmation Class

### October 3

7:00 pm	Elders Meeting
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### October 4

10:00 am	Life of Christ Bible Class
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### October 5

10:00 am	Foundation of Faith
6:30 pm	New River Growth Group

### October 7

9:00 am	Bible and Brews Bible Study
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## Next Week At COG

### October 8

9:00 am	Jomax Worship (Live Streamed)
9:30 am	New River Worship Service
10:45 am	Everything New Bible Class
10:45 am	Contemporary Service
10:45 am	Kids Klub
4:00 pm	Confirmation Class

### October 10

6:30 pm	Church Council
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### October 11

10:00 am	Life of Christ Bible Class
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### October 12

9:30 am	Golden Agers Breakfast
10:00 am	Foundations of Faith



## 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.*

**Norm Voigt**, as he continues treatments.

**Velta Larson**, as she recovers from eye surgery.

### 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.

**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.