

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Reformation**  
**Sunday, October 29 , 2023**

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

10111 W Jomax Road

Peoria, AZ 85383

**Sunday 9am Worship**

Pastor Paul Mueller

(925) 337-3635

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



Today we commemorate **Reformation Day**. On October 31, 1517, few would have suspected that the sound of a hammer striking the castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany, would soon be heard around the world and lead ultimately to the greatest transformation of Western society since the apostles first preached the Gospel throughout the Roman empire. The posting of the 95 Theses by Martin Luther was a return to the faithful preaching and teaching of God's Word and the good news of Jesus as the only source of our salvation.

Martin Luther was also instrumental in restoring the singing of hymns by the congregation in worship. He proclaimed, *"Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. The gift of language combined with the gift of song was given to man that he should proclaim the Word of God through music."* Therefore today, we celebrate this legacy of hymn singing established over 500 years ago in our Reformation Hymn Festival.

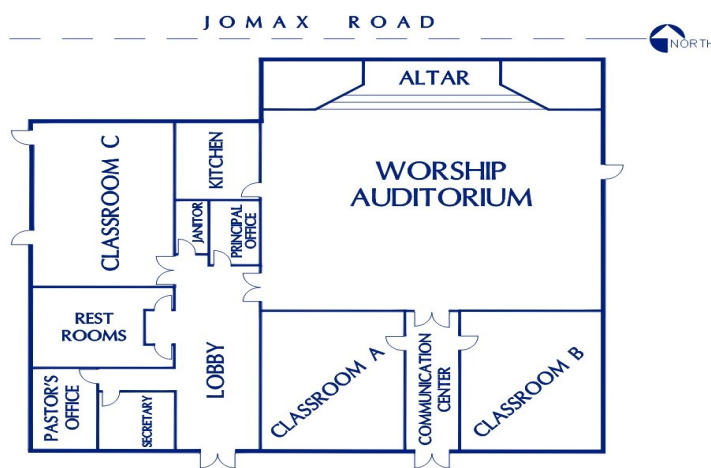
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**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.

Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

- Using the **friendship register** at the end of each row to connect with us today.
- Emailing us at:  
**church.secretary@crossofglory.org**

## CHURCH MAP



## FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- Restrooms with changing tables located in lobby.
- Nursery for toddlers 2 years and younger accompanied by adult 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!

# Reformation Hymn Festival

## Choir

### Before the Throne of God Above (CWH 561)

Words and Music by Vikki Cook and Charitie Bancroft; Arranged by Jay Rouse

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*Before the throne of God above I have a strong and perfect plea;  
a great High Priest whose name is Love, who ever lives and pleads for me.  
My name is graven on his hands, my name is written on his heart.  
I know that while in heav'n he stands no tongue can bid me thence depart,  
no tongue can bid me thence depart.*

*When Satan tempts me to despair and tells me of the guilt within,  
upward I look and see him there who made an end of all my sin.  
Because the sinless Savior died, my sinful soul is counted free;  
for God the just is satisfied to look on him and pardon me,  
to look on him and pardon me.*

*Refrain: Alleluia, alleluia, praise the one, risen Son of God.*

*Behold him there, the risen Lamb, my perfect, spotless righteousness,  
the great unchangeable I am, the King of glory and of grace.  
One with himself, I cannot die; my soul is purchased by his blood.  
My life is hid with Christ on high, with Christ my Savior and my God,  
with Christ my Savior and my God, with Christ my Savior and my God!  
(Refrain x 2)  
Praise the one, risen Son of God. Praise the one, risen Song of God!*



The choir anthem is a new hymn included in the recently published WELS hymnal. The hymn proclaims the gospel restored by the Reformation: Jesus is the one and only way to be saved. He pleads for us, he paid the price for our sins, and welcomes us into our home in heaven.

## Greeting

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

M: No less than six times in the book of Psalms and twice in Revelation we read, **“Sing a new song unto the Lord”**. God’s marvelous deeds are the source of our thanks and joy. That is what led Martin Luther to write and sing so many songs. That’s also why the Lutheran church became known as the ‘singing church’. We have gathered again to celebrate God’s love and forgiveness in song and Word of God. We gather to remember the Reformation Martin Luther brought about in 1517.



The greeting used by St. Paul perfectly summarizes Christianity.

We are reminded of the gift of singing of hymns restored by Martin Luther in the Reformation.

## Confession of Sin and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: When we consider the immenseness of God and his holiness, we become frightened because of our unworthiness as a result of our sins. Each time when God’s angel appeared in the Bible they said, “Do Not be Afraid!” God certainly wants



We confess our sins to God confident he will forgive us because he has promised, "If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).



"Hymns are woven into the fabric of our faith lives. "Jesus Loves Me" may be the first song we learn as a toddler; "Amazing Grace" may be the last song that passes our lips before Jesus carries us home. Hymns have the power to convict and comfort, to instruct and inspire. And for many, a beloved hymn may be a memory that lingers when others are stolen by age or disease."

(WELS Commission on Worship)

Preceding each hymn today, Pastor will read an explanation of the hymn in the context of our worship.

us to fear the punishment of hell. We are called upon to realize our sins, regret them, and turn them to Jesus for forgiveness, so we don't have to be afraid. I invite you to confess your sins to God. Then, we rejoice to hear God's forgiveness pronounced by the pastor.

**C: Lord of heaven and earth, you see all that goes on in my life. You even see the desires of my heart. You know that I have failed over and over to do what I should and at times neglected to carry out your love. Father, forgive me for my sins. I am sorry that I have offended you with them. I cannot make up for them. I can only be sorry for them and ask for forgiveness for Jesus' sake. Please forgive and restore me. Guide me in my life and take me to life eternal through faith in Jesus by your grace.**

**M: God does forgive sorrowful sinners. I can assure you from the Word of God that he has forgiven your sins in Christ Jesus. Believe it. Receive it. Hear these comforting words again, "God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." Go in peace, your sins are forgiven.**

## Favorite Hymn: How Great Thou Art

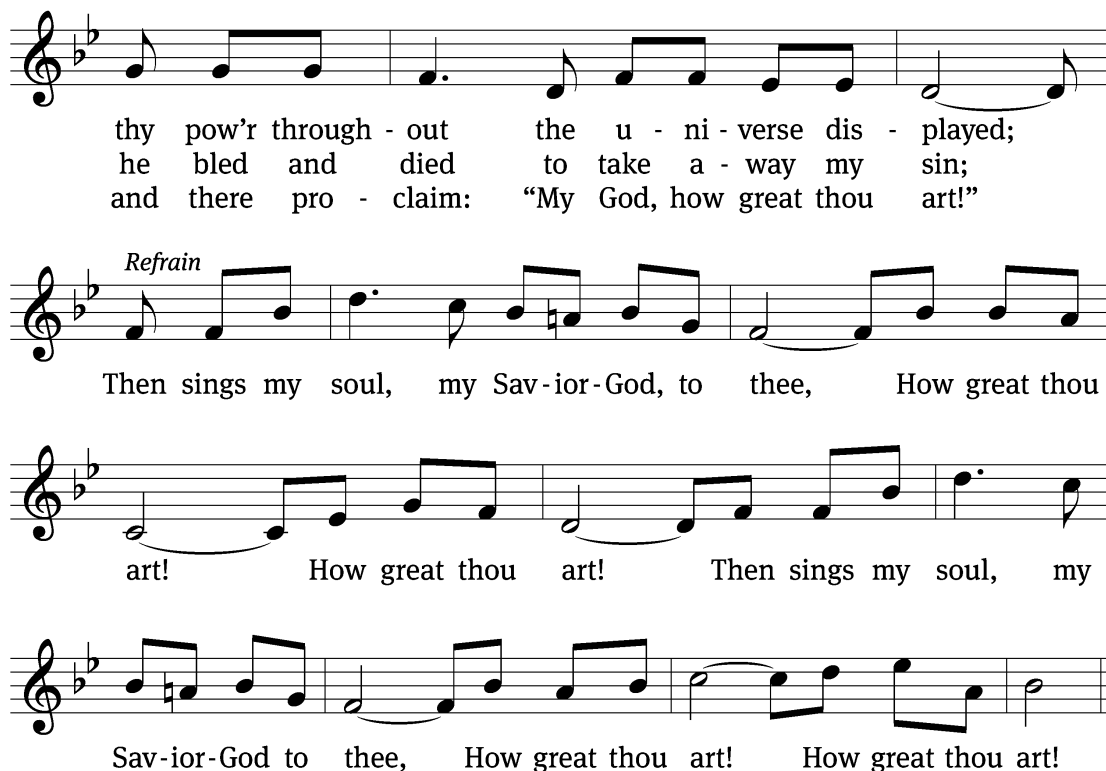
CWH 612

**M: *How Great Thou Art*** is majestic and inspiring. It explains why this song and 'Amazing Grace' are two perennial favorites at memorial services. ***How Great Thou Art*** is a Swedish hymn written by a Lutheran Pastor, Carl Boberg. Boberg had been caught in a sudden thunderstorm. The storm was immediately followed by brilliant sunlight and singing birds. Inspired by this event, he wrote the basics of this hymn. It spread to Europe and Russia. Missionary Stuart Hine heard it, revised it, and brought it to America in 1954. George Shea heard it and popularized it when he sang it for a Billy Graham Crusade in 1955. This hymn was our 7th favorite hymn.

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der  
 3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing,  
 4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion

con - sid - er all the works thy hand hath made,  
 sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
 and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!

I see the stars, I hear the might - y thun - der,  
 that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly bear - ing  
 Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion



thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
he bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
and there pro - claim: "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior - God, to thee, How great thou  
art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my  
Sav - ior - God to thee, How great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989 Tune: Swedish  
Text and tune: © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust . US print rights admin. Hope Publishing Co. All other rights admin. Capitol CMG Publishing. . Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

## Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Prayer is our way of communicating with God. Dear Lord, we ask you to let the joy we have in our hearts be expressed in our songs today. We can only imagine what it will be like when we sing with the angels in heaven one day. We want to be part of that choir. Keep us strong in our faith in Jesus today and every day.

Let's continue with the prayer Jesus himself taught us.



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

## 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.



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

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

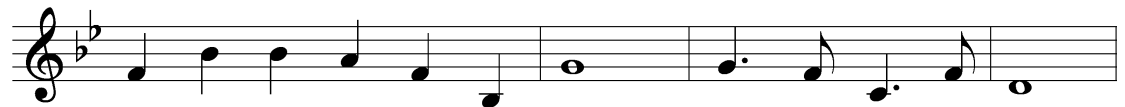
### Favorite Hymn: He Will Hold Me Fast

CWH 813

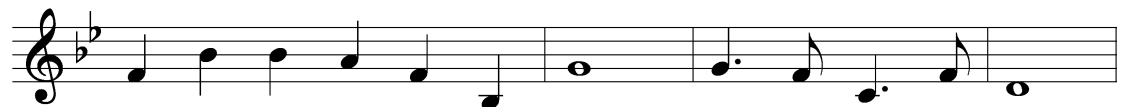
M: During times of loss, or upheavals in our life, our faith is tested. We end up either holding tighter or letting go. Thank God that, in those desperate times, the result ultimately depends upon His wisdom, not our sufficiency to handle things or make sense of it.

The words to this hymn *He Will Hold Me Fast* were originally written by: Ada Ruth Habershon around 1900. Matthew Merker read the words while going through a period of questioning in his faith journey when his parents both died in a car wreck.

Merker discovered, as countless before him, it is God who does the saving. Our salvation is secure in him. Our destiny is sure. The path may be filled with confusing fog, emotional hailstorms, or tornadic winds that shake us to our knees. Yet...if we are Christ's child, HE will hold us fast! His strong arms hold tightly and carry us through the storm. It is our 2nd most favorite hymn.



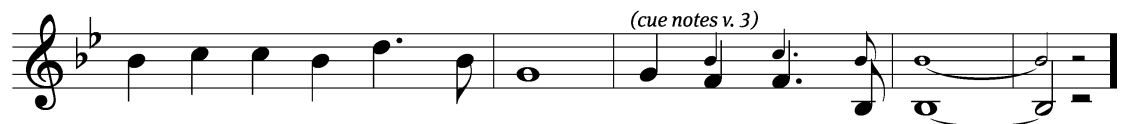
1 When I fear my faith will fail,	Christ will hold me fast;
2 Those he saves are his de - light;	Christ will hold me fast;
3 For my life he bled and died;	Christ will hold me fast;



when the tempt - er would pre - vail,	he will hold me fast.
pre - cious in his ho - ly sight,	he will hold me fast.
jus - tice has been sat - is - fied;	he will hold me fast.

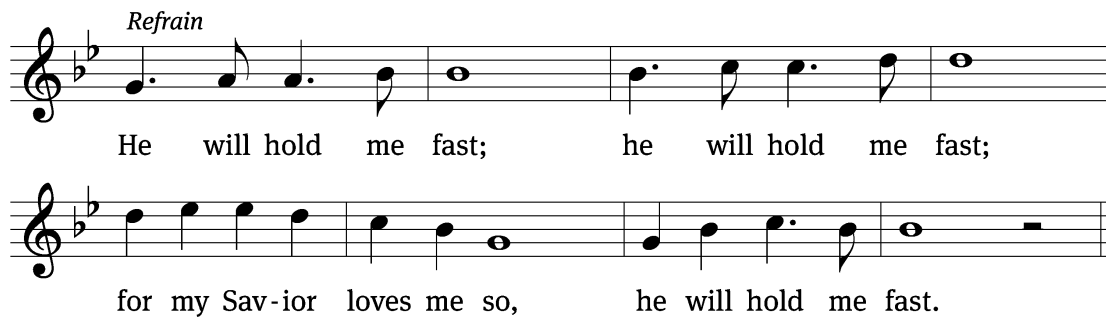


I could nev - er keep my hold	thro' life's fear - ful path,
He'll not let my soul be lost;	his prom - is - es shall last;
Raised with him to end - less life,	he will hold me fast



for my love is of - ten cold—	he must hold me fast.
bought by him at such a cost,	he will hold me fast.
till our faith is turned to sight	when he comes at last! (Refrain 2X)





Text (sts. 1–2): Matt Merker, b. 1984, alt.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2): Ada Habershon, 1861–1918; (st. 3): Matt Merker, b. 1984

Tune: Matt Merker, b. 1984 Text (sts. 1–2): Public domain

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## First Reading

*Daniel 6:10–12, 16–23*

<sup>10</sup>Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. <sup>11</sup>Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. <sup>12</sup>So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: “Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions’ den?”

The king answered, “The decree stands—in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.”

<sup>16</sup>So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions’ den. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!”

<sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel’s situation might not be changed. <sup>18</sup>Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

<sup>19</sup>At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions’ den. <sup>20</sup>When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?”

<sup>21</sup>Daniel answered, “May the king live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.”

<sup>23</sup>The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.



*Daniel and his friends faithfully served the government that God had placed over them—even though this was the government that had conquered their city and carried them off into exile.*

M: Christian music has exploded on the radio and in churches. This song is one that our new hymnal included both because of its lyrics and the fact that it covers a topic that is lightly covered—what it means to belong to the body of Christ.

Fellowship, being a part of God's family, acceptance and belonging, sharing joys and sorrows, forgiving and being forgiven, being a light to the community around us are all Christian values to recognize and celebrate. Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend, probably the premier Christian musicians of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, collaborated on this 2014 song for that purpose. It is our 5<sup>th</sup> most popular song.

1. Oh how good it is when the fam - 'ly of  
3. Oh how good it is to em - brace his com -

God dwells to - geth - er in spir - it in  
mand to pre - fer one a - noth - er, for -

faith and u - ni - ty. Where the bonds of  
give as he for - gives. When we live as

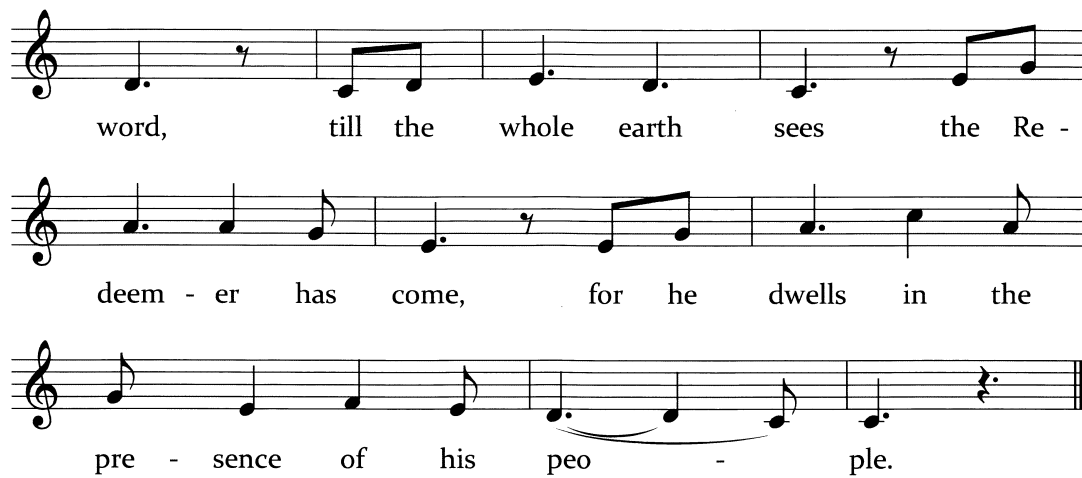
peace of ac - cep - tance and love are the  
one we all share in the love of the

fruit of his pre - sence here a - mong us.  
Son with the Fa - ther and the Spi - rit.

So with one voice we'll sing to the

Lord, and with one heart we'll live out his





## Second Reading

Romans 3:19–28

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God’s sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. <sup>25</sup>God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— <sup>26</sup>he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. <sup>28</sup>For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

## Favorite Hymn: Amazing Grace

CWH 576

M: *Faith’s Review and Expectations* was the original title of *Amazing Grace*.

We’ve heard John Newton’s story before, but I think it’s one we need to hear again and again to remind ourselves that “but for the grace of God there go I”. Newton’s story is one of redemption and prayer. His mother wanted him to be a pastor, but she died when he was seven. At age eleven he went to sea with his father where his Christianity was smothered. His life became so evil and his hatred of God so great that his friends questioned his very sanity. Yet, his mother’s love and faith remained buried deep in his heart. After a terrifying storm and deliverance from near fatal fever, Newton’s mother’s prayers became reality. Newton did become a pastor and served greatly. This former slave



God justifies those who have been given the gift of steadfast faith in Jesus Christ.

trader became one of the leading voices for abolition, which occurred before his death.

His tombstone proclaims these words, “John Newton, once an infidel and libertine was, by the rich mercy of God pardoned and appointed to preach the faith he had long tried to destroy.” When he said God saved a wretch like me, he really meant it. This is our 8th favorite hymn.

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that  
4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but to  
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.  
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (st. 1): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 4): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, Richmond, 1790  
Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman  
Text and tune: Public domain



*Our trust in Jesus  
doesn't mean absence  
of persecution, but  
faithfulness despite it.*

## Gospel

Matthew 10:16–23

<sup>16</sup>“I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. <sup>18</sup>On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, <sup>20</sup>for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

<sup>21</sup>“Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. <sup>22</sup>You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

M: We have again chosen the Townend/Getty team for another of our favorite hymns. Like Luther, they are encouraging us in this song to let our minds be still in the hearing of God's Word, despite the noise of daily life all around us. God is close to us if we will only but listen. God is near irrespective of our stresses, pressures, and distractions. Satan tries to tempt us when our lives experience darkness and despair. It is then that the light of the Gospel shines brightest. Only the Lord can bring us the earthly and spiritual place of rest we all seek. This is our 4<sup>th</sup> most popular song.



1 Still, my soul, be still and do not fear though winds of  
 2 Still, my soul, be still; do not be moved by less - er  
 3 Still, my soul, be still; do not for - sake the truth you



change may rage to - mor - row. God is at your side;  
 lights and fleet - ing shad - ows. Hold on to his ways  
 learned in the be - gin - ning. Wait up-on the Lord



no long - er dread the fires of un - ex - pect - ed sor - row.  
 with shield of faith a - gainst temp - ta - tion's flam - ing ar - rows.  
 and hope will rise as stars ap - pear when day is dim - ming.



*Refrain*  
 God, you are my God, and I will trust in you and not be



shak - en. Lord of peace, re - new a stead-fast spir-it with-in



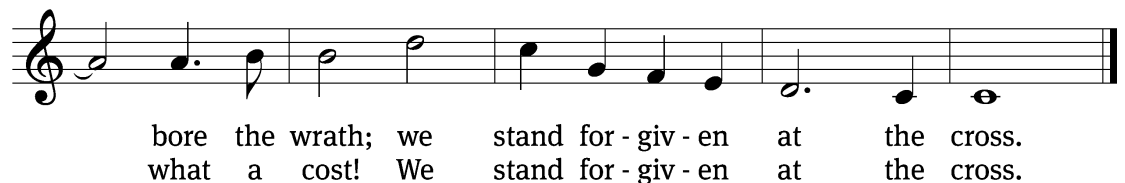
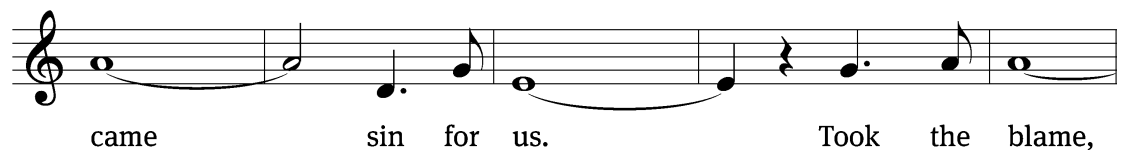
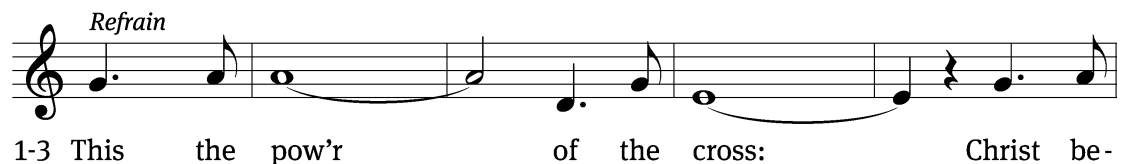
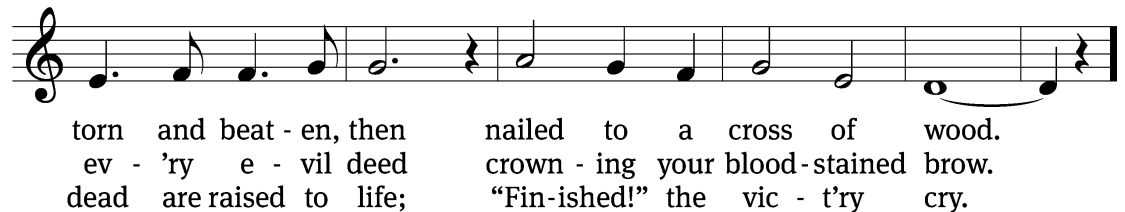
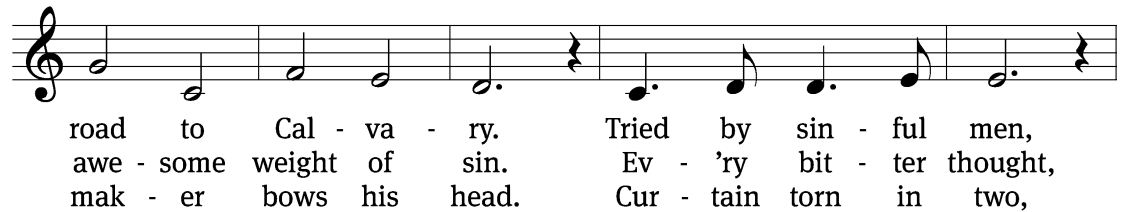
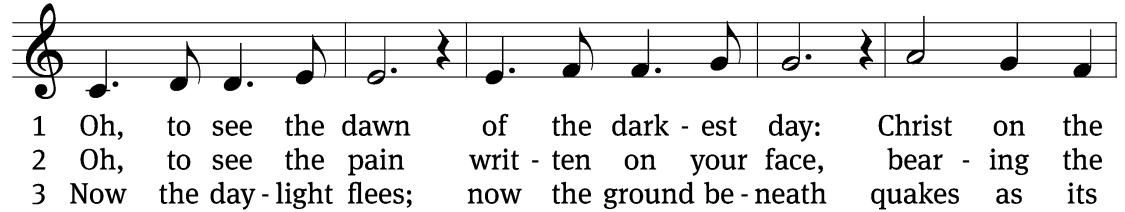
me to rest in you a-lone, to rest in you a-lone.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974;  
 Tune: Stuart Townend; arr. Ruth N. Coleman, b. 1953; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974;  
 Text and tune: © 2009 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Favorite Hymn: The Power of the Cross

CWH 423

M: Can you guess who wrote this song? Keith and Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend. This song illuminates the Calvary story so clearly and forcefully that it has become a favorite in a very short time. We stand forgiven at the foot of the cross. So, we use this as our song of forgiveness. It is our 6<sup>th</sup> most popular song.



Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974  
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In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).

Sermon

Lion's Den: May God Save You

Daniel 6:10-12,16-23

M: *In Christ Alone* was a collaborative effort between Peter Townend and fellow songwriter (and now good friend) Keith Getty. Getty and Townend met by chance at a Christian concert. Getty had a tune but he needed words for it. Townend had just the opposite problem. They met up a week later and came up with *In Christ Alone*. In less than ten years, this song found a place in nearly all major hymn books. This song places our hope, our assurance, our eternal destiny in the right place—on the solid foundation of Christ. This is our most favorite hymn.



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found; he is my  
 2 In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the  
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the



light, my strength, my song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
 God in help - less babe; this gift of love and right - eous -  
 world by dark - ness slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
 pow'r of Christ in me; from life's first cry to fi - nal



ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.  
 ness, scorned by the ones he came to save.  
 day, up from the grave he rose a - gain!  
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny.



What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are  
 Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of  
 And as he stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has  
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ev - er



stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - fort - er, my all in  
 God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry sin on him was  
 lost its grip on me; for I am his and he is  
 pluck me from his hand; till he re - turns or calls me



all; here in the love of Christ I stand.  
laid; here in the death of Christ I live.  
mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, b. 1974  
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After hearing the word of God, the worshiper responds with this confession of faith.

*The Apostles' Creed, developed over hundreds of years in the early Christian church, is a brief and simple statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. Christians used it to tell others what they believed and also to confess their faith with one another as they met for worship.*

## The Apostles' Creed

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** In our services, we also have what is called a creed. A creed is a short statement of our beliefs. It tells what we stand for and what we accept as unchangingly true. It also tells people whom we believe in. Join with me in speaking the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## 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.*



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

## Favorite Hymn: Abide with Me

CWH 783

M: The origin of **Abide with Me** is an inspiration to many. Pastor Henry Lyte was deathly ill. The words of the Emmaus disciples came to his mind. They said to Jesus, "Abide with us; for it is nearly evening and the day is nearly over!" (Luke 24:29) Isn't it the wish of every believer to have Jesus remain with him/her every day of their lives, but especially at the last?! The song was sung at his funeral. What comfort it still brings! **Abide with Me** is ranked 3rd in our hymn festival.



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 5 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
 7 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
 shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me!  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–1889 Text and tune: Public domain

## Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

C: Amen.



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

Ensemble:

God is our Refuge



## Acknowledgments

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## Weekly Newsletter QR Code

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**Prayer Highlights** for members and friends with noteworthy blessings, difficulties or health issues. Today we especially remember in our prayers...

**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.