



Pentecost 25 Sunday, November 19, 2023

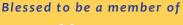
623-224-8839 • www.crossofglory.org

10111 W Jomax Road Peoria, AZ 85383

Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Paul Mueller 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



Luke Looks at Living **TO** Jesus and Living 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 "Widow's Mite" (*Luke 21:1-4*).

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

- CHURCH MAP
- **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!

Scripture and Song with The Lord's Supper

Gathering Rite on the Word of God

(CWH633 Sung Responses)

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

- C: Amen.
- M: Oh, how I love your law!
- C: I meditate on it all day long.
- M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies,

C: for they are ever with me.

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

C: for I meditate on your statutes.

M: How sweet are your words to my taste,

C: sweeter than honey for my mouth.

Sung by Congregation:





God's people long to gather together for strength from him and for mutual encouragement. The beginning of this worship service focuses on the Word of God and its power to bring us to faith.

"And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe. "

(1 Thessalonians 2:13)



"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) M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness,

C: so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.
- 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.

Sung by Congregation:



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.

M: God gave his Word so "that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, that by believing you may have life in his name". The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. Therefore, as a called serv-

ant 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.

Sung by Congregation:



Text and tune: © 2006 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing,com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

- M: Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before 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.



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



How did Israel respond to all of God's gifts? With grudging service, which is not faithful service. How does God respond to Israel? By promising to make them as pure as newly fallen snow.

First Reading

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom; listen to the instruction of our God, you people of Gomorrah! ¹¹"The multitude of your sacrifices what are they to me?" says the LORD. "I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. ¹²When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? ¹³Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations— I cannot bear your worthless assemblies. ¹⁴Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. ¹⁵When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood! ¹⁶Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. ¹⁷Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. ¹⁸"Come now, let us settle the matter,"

says the LORD.

"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

Psalm 128

M: Blessed are all who fear the Lord,

C: who walk in obedience to him.

M: You will eat the fruit of your labor;

C: blessings and prosperity will be yours.

M: Your wife will be like a fruitful vine with in your house;

C: your children will be like olive shoots around your table.

- M: Yes, this will be the blessing
- C: for the man who fears the LORD.

M: May the LORD bless you from Zion;

C: may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life.

M: May you live to see your children's children—

C: peace be on Israel.

The Children's Sermon

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

Second Reading

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.



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."



When we keep God's mercy in view, we understand and appreciate the gifts he gives us in Christ, and we use those gifts faithfully.

(Spoken Responsively)

Romans 12:1-8



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



Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Text and tune: © 2012 Getty Music and Seek 1st Publishing, admin. MusicServices.org and Townend Music. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Sermon

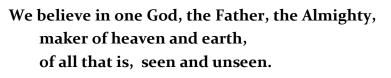
Luke Looks at Living TO Jesus and Living FOR Jesus: Luke 21:1–4 Widow's Mite...

As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. ²He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. ³"Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. ⁴All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

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 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: Sovereign Ruler of the Skies

Ensemble sings Vs. 1-2 and Congregation joins for Vs. 3,4,5

Sovereign Ruler of the skies, ever gracious, ever wise; all my times are in your hand, all events at your command.

Refrain: Ever faithful, ever true, keep my heart to only you. Since I cannot part from thee, Sovereign Ruler ever be. His decree, who formed the earth, fixed my first and second birth; now my life to him I owe. Where He leads me I will go. (Refrain)



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.



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.





Offering Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

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

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 responsive reading from I Corinthians reminds the communicants of the necessity of the unity of faith and preparation required as we receive the body and blood of Christ.

(Spoken by Minister)

(Spoken in Unison)

(Spoken Responsively)

Lord's Prayer

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.

Holy Communion

The Preparation

- M: I appeal to you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another,
- C: so that there may be no divisions among you, and that you may be perfectly united in mind and thought. (1 Cor. 1:10)
- M: Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ?
- C: And is not the bread that we break, a participation in the body of Christ?
- M: Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body:
- C: for we all partake of the one loaf. (1 Cor 10:16-17)
- M: Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.
- C: A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. (1 Cor 11:26-28)

Communion Canticle: Just as I Am, without One Plea



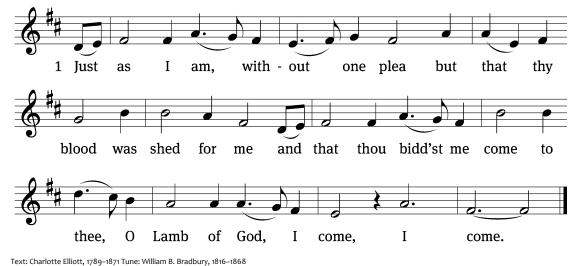
As we approach the Lord's table, we are reminded that we are invited only because of the price Jesus paid on the cross.



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.



This hymn of response perfectly describes the blessings of this Sacrament - forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.



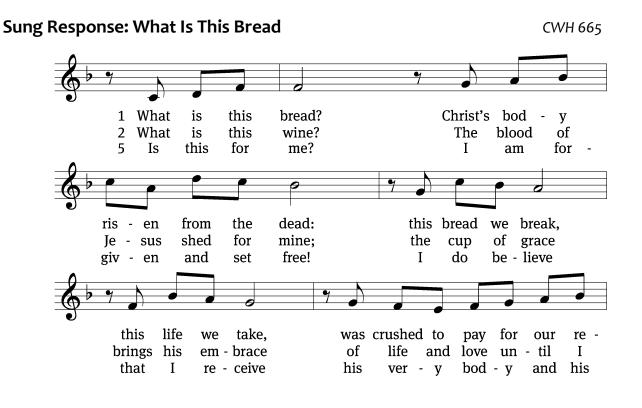
Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871 Tune: William B. Bradbu Text and tune: Public domain

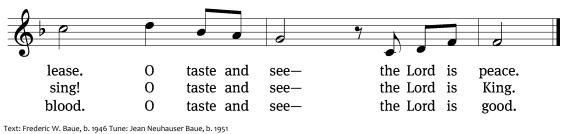
Words of Institution

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.

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

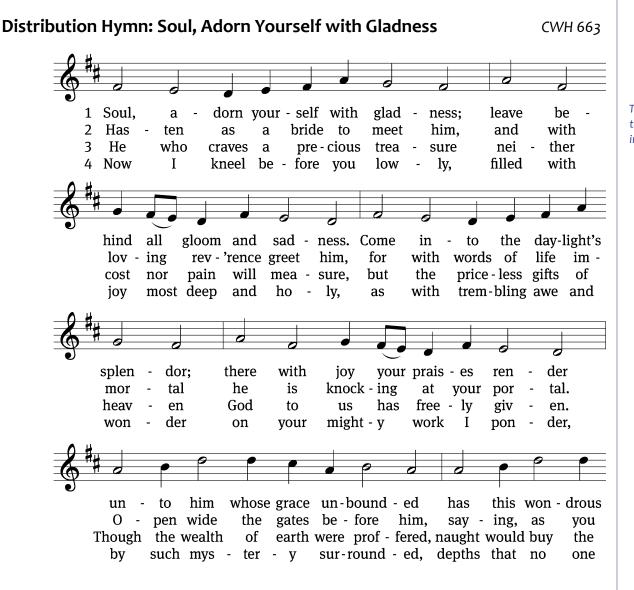




Text and tune: © 1991 Fred and Jean Baue. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

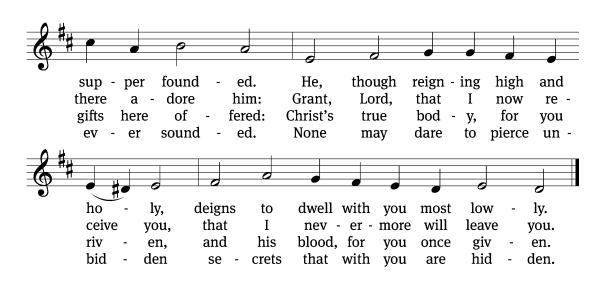
Distribution of Sacrament

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.



This is a hymn sung by the congregation during the distribution of

the Lord's Supper.



Human reason, though it ponders, cannot fathom these great wonders,

that Christ's body must be boundless since the souls it feeds are countless, and that he his blood is giving with the wine we are receiving.

These great mysteries unsounded are by God alone expounded.

Lord, by love and mercy driven, you have left your throne in heaven on the cross for me to languish and to die in bitter anguish, to forgo all joy and gladness and to shed your blood in sadness.

By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.

Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends most tender, Jesus, joy of my desiring, fount of life, my soul inspiring: at your feet I cry, my maker, let me be a fit partaker of this blessèd food from heaven for our good, your glory, given.

Jesus, Lord of life in heaven, help me when this meal is given to receive it for my blessing as I come, my sins confessing.

In this supper let me measure, Lord, how deep is your love's treasure, that, as I on earth have eaten, I may be your guest in heaven.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 1–2, 4, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (sts. 3, 5–6): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 8): tr. Peter M. Prange, b. 1972 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text (st. 8): © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Text (sts. 1–7) and tune: Public domain

Song of Simeon Nunc Dimittis

(Sung by Congregation)



Closing Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

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 but 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. Amen.



The Nunc Dimittis ("now dismiss") is also known as the "Song of Simeon" (Luke 2: 29-32). Through God's Word and Sacrament, we too have seen Christ, the Messiah. Like aged Simeon who held the Christchild in his arms as God had promised, we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.



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.

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.

Closing Hymn: God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

CWH 749



Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006 Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844 Text: © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version[®], NIV[®]. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.TM Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.

Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

All rights reserved. These and all other sources are used by permission under One License.net License # A-711716 and/or CCLI License # 1852086 and # CSPL136078 (Video).

Before Communing

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communing

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Ways to Serve			
Worship Volunteers	November 19	November 26	December 3
Counters	Nick Nicholai/Michael	Harry Novak/Nancy	Judy Sasse/Susie Cor-
	Ryan	Murphy	nell
Communion	Andrea		Dawn
Church Cleaners	Kelley/Grams	Patterson	Koutia/Piepenbrink
Ushers	Len Collyard/Nick Nicholai/Steve Sem- mann/Sharon Wilson	John Kull/Kim Moline/ Dean Ellis	Brian Ehinger/Trey Ehinger/Kade Ehing- er/Bill Brooks
Refreshments	Thanksgiving Potluck	Clara Naber	Mary Berggren/ Shannon Gullerud
A/V	Kelly Simpson/Pedro	Hailey Ditter/Joel Dit-	Stacy Aguilar/Gus
	Contreras	ter	Koutia

Weekly Newsletter QR Code

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



Christmas Church Decorating

We will have our annual Christmas church decorating and potluck on November 26 at 11:45 a.m.

Please bring your favorite soup. If you have another favorite dish you would like to bring to share, please do. Let's decorate, eat, and be happy!

Plates, silverware, cups, and napkins will be provided.

Please use the attached QR code to sign up.





Advent by Candlelight



Advent by Candlelight is an event to help women focus on Christ during the busy holiday season! Cross of Glory will be hosting Advent by Candlelight the afternoon of Sunday, December 3, at 3:00 p.m. Please let Karin Hansen (karinwedeking@hotmail.com or 712-660-0386) know, or use the QR for the sign-up genius, if you would like to host a table that will seat eight women or if you would like to be a reader during the program. Thanks for your consideration!

Karin



Fellowship Activities at Cross of Glory

Any suggestions or ideas that you have? Please send them to Pastor Mueller.

1. We will start with movie night on Friday, November 17, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. with pizza. There will be a freewill donation. The movie will be "Facing the Giants."

There is also a printed copy that you may fill out in the back of church with suggestions.



November 22, 7:00pm December 16, 10:00am December 16, 11:00am December 17, 9:00am December 24 December 24, 6:00pm December 25, 10:00am Thanksgiving Eve Service Pre-K Christmas Service Live Nativity K-4 Christmas Service Jomax Worship 9am, New River 930am Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Calendar at a Glance | Our full calendar is posted at www.crossofglory.org

November 19	Worship Service Jomax w/ Communion, 9:00am	
	Worship Service New River, 9:30am	
	Kids Klub, 10:30am	
	Confirmation Class, 10:30am	
November 20-24	No School	
November 21	Women's Bible Study, 9:30am	

Looking Ahead...

November 26	Worship Service Jomax 9:00am	
	Worship Service New River, 9:30am	
	Kids Klub, 10:30am	
	Confirmation Class, 10:30am	
	Church Decorating, 11:45am	
November 28	Women's Bible Study, 9:30am	
	Board of Ed, 6:30pm	
November 30	Foundations of Faith, 10:00am, 6:00pm	

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

Judy Sasse, for a recent hospitalization.

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.