

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Thanksgiving
Wednesday, November 22, 2023

623-224-8839 ♦ 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

GIVE
THANKS
in all circumstances;
1 Thessalonians 5:18



The theme for our Thanksgiving worship comes from the encouragement of St. Paul in 1 Thessalonians 5:18: Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. The Lord didn't just have Paul write those words, God helped him to live them. You can read in Philippians how St. Paul was able to be content in both plenty and in great difficulty by relying on the Lord and His promises for strength.

The Lord enabled Paul's heart to be filled with thanksgiving even when he was imprisoned for teaching about Christ. We pray the Holy Spirit would strengthen our hearts through His Word, that we too may be ready to give thanks to God in all circumstances and at all times.

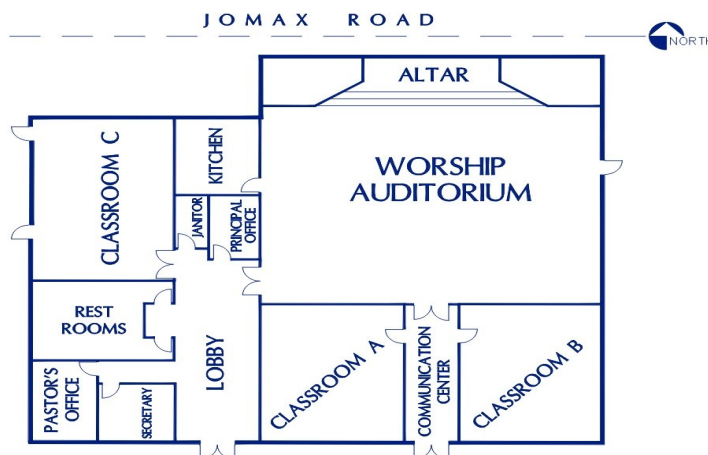
VISITOR INFORMATION

New to Cross of Glory? We are so glad you joined us today!

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.

Give Thanks in All Circumstances

Opening Hymn: For the Fruits of His Creation

CWH 506



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 For the fruits of his cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For his gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
In our world-wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -



sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
found us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

Text: © 1970 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain

Greeting

(Spoken Responsively)

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

C: Amen.



We begin our service of
thanksgiving calling
upon the triune God to
be present with us.

Confession and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of Life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



“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 disci -
ples, “If you forgive
anyone his sins, they
are forgiven”. The pas -
tor speaks for God and
announces God's for -
giveness to those who
made confession.



Our invitation to worship God because he faithfully cares for his people.

Dialogue of Thanksgiving from Psalm 100

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

C: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

M: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us,

C: and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

M: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

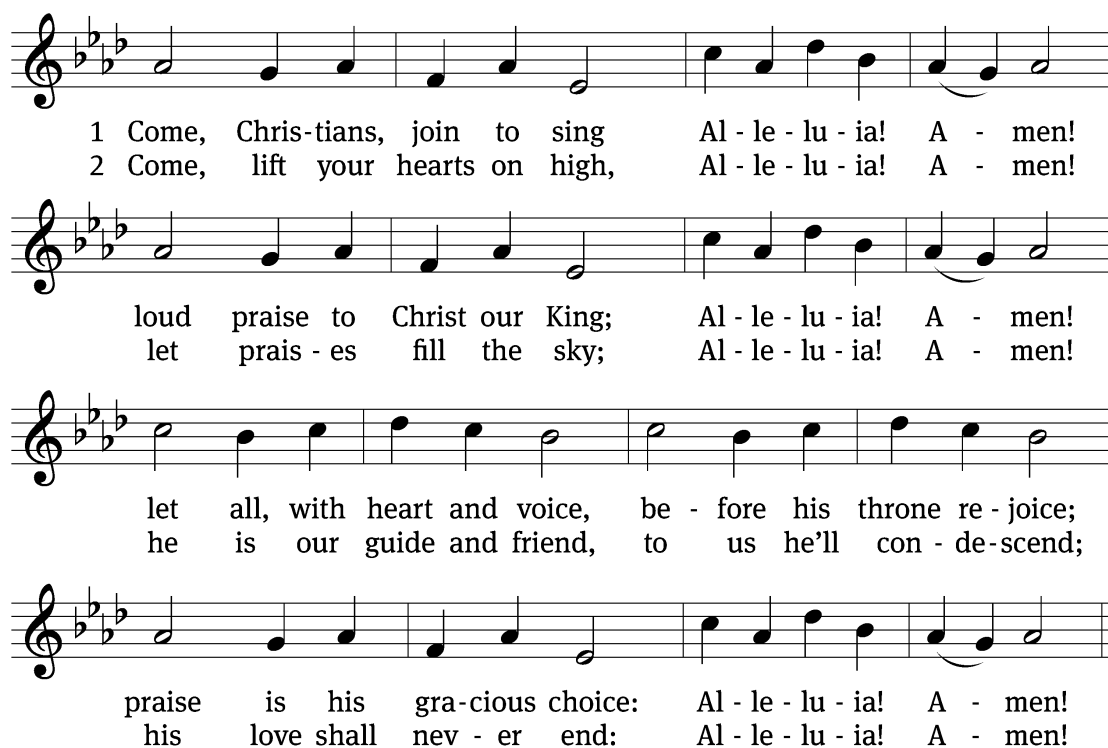
C: give thanks to him and praise his name.

M: For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;

C: his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalm Response: Come, Christians Join to Sing

CWH 599



1 Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
2 Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
he is our guide and friend, to us he'll con - de - scend;

praise is his gra-cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Text: Christian Henry Bateman, 1813–1889
Tune: arr. Benjamin Carr, 1768–1831; Spanish Text and tune: Public domain



Moses calls to mind the fact that everything which was given to the Israelites on their journey to the promised land was from God—a good reminder to not forget God as they entered the plenty of the promised land.

Part One: Give thanks to the Lord...in Plenty

Deuteronomy 8:10–18

¹⁰When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you. ¹¹Be careful that you do not forget the LORD your God, failing to observe his commands, his laws and his decrees that I am giving you this day. ¹²Otherwise, when you eat and are satisfied, when you build fine houses and settle down, ¹³and when your herds and flocks grow large and your silver and gold increase and all you have is multiplied, ¹⁴then your heart will become proud and you will forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ¹⁵He led you through the vast and dreadful wilderness, that thirsty and waterless land, with its venomous snakes and scorpions. He brought you water out of hard rock. ¹⁶He gave you

manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. ¹⁷You may say to yourself, “My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.” ¹⁸But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

Hymn of Response: Before You I Kneel

CWH 735

1 Be - fore you I kneel, my Mas - ter and Mak - er, to of - fer the
 2 Be - fore you I kneel and ask for your good-ness to cov - er the
 3 Be - fore you we kneel, our Mas - ter and Mak - er; es - tab - lish the
 work of my hands. For this is the day you've giv - en your
 work of my hands, for pa - tience and peace to shape all my
 work of our hands, and or - der our steps to seek first your
 ser - vant; I will re - joice and be glad
 la - bor; your grace for thorns in my path.
 king - dom in ev - 'ry small and great task.
 for the strength I have to live and breathe, for each
 Flow with - in me like a liv - ing stream; wear a -
 May we live the gos - pel of your grace, serve your
 skill your grace has giv - en me, for the needs and op - por -
 way the stones of pride and greed, till your ways are dwell - ing
 pur - pose in our fleet - ing days, then our lives will bring e -
 tu - ni - ties that will glo - ri - fy your great name.
 deep in me and a har - vest of life is grown.
 ter - nal praise and all glo - ry to your great name.

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

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As Christians we know
that all things happen
according to God's
purpose—both in times
of plenty and in difficult
times. With the proph-
et we can be joyful in
God our Savior.

Part Two: Give thanks to the Lord...in Difficulty

Habakkuk 3:17–19

¹⁷Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,
¹⁸yet I will rejoice in the LORD,
I will be joyful in God my Savior.

¹⁹The Sovereign LORD is my strength;
he makes my feet like the feet of a deer,
he enables me to tread on the heights.

Hymn of Response : We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer

CWH 609

1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers, we bless you;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer

in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.

We lay it be - fore you, we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us;

we bless your ho - ly name, — glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, — our bat - tles we win.
to you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text: Julia B. Cory, 1882–1963, alt.
Tune: Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, Haarlem, 1626
Text and tune: Public domain

Part Three: Give thanks to the Lord... for Difficulty

2 Corinthians 12:7–10

Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. ¹⁰That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.



Like St. Paul, we delight in our difficulties because they remind us that any strength we have is because of Christ’s power in us.

Hymn of Response: How Firm a Foundation

CWH 800

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,
2 “Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
4 “When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way shall lie,
is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace all - suf - fi - cient shall be your sup - ply;
What more can he say than to you he has said,
I’ll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
the flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
up - held by my right - eous, om - ni - po - tent hand.
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

Text: A Selection of Hymns, London, 1787, ed. John Rippon, alt.
Tune: Genuine Church Music, Winchester, 1832, ed. Joseph Funk Text and tune: Public domain

Part Four: Give thanks to the Lord... for Forgiveness

Psalms 103:1–5, 8–12

- ¹Praise the LORD, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
²Praise the LORD, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,



In addition to praising God for the bounty he has given us, we thank him for forgiveness of sins and the gift of salvation.

⁴who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁸The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

⁹He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor his anger forever;
¹⁰he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;
¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Hymn of Response: Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

CWH 621



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble



trib - ute bring. Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress. Praise him, still the same as ev - er,
frame he knows. In his hand he gent - ly bears us,



ev - er - more his prais - es sing; Al - le - lu - ia,
slow to chide, and swift to bless, Al - le - lu - ia,
res - cues us from all our foes; Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
al - le - lu - ia! glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
al - le - lu - ia! wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847 Tune: John Goss, 1800–1880 Text and tune: Public domain

Part Five: Give thanks to the Lord... in Death

Philippians 1:20–24



We can even be thankful when God takes us in death because of his promise of eternal life with Christ.

²⁰I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²²If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

Hymn of Response: For Me to Live Is Jesus

CWH 848



1 For me to live is Je - sus, to die is gain for me;
2 For Christ, my Lord and broth - er, I leave this world so dim
4 In my last hour, Lord, grant me a slum - ber soft and still,
5 Thus, bound to you, my Sav - ior, death's brief and harm-less night



so, when my Sav - ior pleas - es, I meet death will - ing - ly.
and glad - ly seek an - oth - er, where I shall be with him.
no doubts to vex or haunt me, safe an - chored in your will.
gives way to joy for - ev - er with you in heav'n - ly light.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Ein schön geistlich Gesangbuch, Jena, 1609
Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570-1615 Text and tune: Public domain

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.

Thanksgiving Prayer

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

C: **His love is everlasting.**

M: Come, let us praise God joyfully.

C: **Let us come to him with thanksgiving.**

M: For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for seen and unseen splendors:

C: **We thank you, Lord God.**

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)

M: For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For work to do and strength to work; for the comradeship of labor; for exchanges of good humor and encouragement:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For marriage; for the mystery and joy of flesh made one; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for secrets kept in love:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For family; for living together and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For the young; for their high hopes; for their candid criticism; for their search for freedom and fairness:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; for time made precious by its passing:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases; for preserving us in temptation and danger:

C: We thank you, Lord God.

M: For the Church into which we have been called; for the good news we receive by Word and Sacrament; for our life together in the Lord:

C: We praise you, Lord God.

M: For your Holy Spirit, who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith, hope, and love, who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship:

C: We praise you, Lord God.

M: Above all, O God, for your Son, Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him; and for the joy of serving him:

C: We thank and praise you, eternal God, for all your goodness to us.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer.

M: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

C: His love is everlasting.

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



*Again, we thank the
author of our salvation.*



*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 congre-
gation as they are
about to conclude their
worship.*

The 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.**

Dialogue of Thanks from Psalm 118

(Spoken Responsively)

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

C: **his love endures forever.**

M: Let those who fear the LORD say:

C: **"His love endures forever."**

M: "The LORD's right hand has done mighty things! The LORD's right hand is lifted high;

C: **The LORD's right hand has done mighty things!"**

M: I will not die but live,

C: **and will proclaim what the LORD has done.**

M: I will give you thanks, for you answered me;

C: **you have become my salvation.**

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

C: **his love endures forever.**

Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)

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.**



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

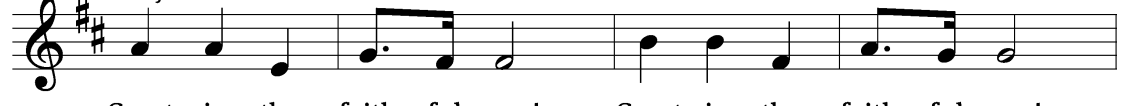


Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisolm, 1866–1960

Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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