

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Lent 2
Sunday, February 25, 2024

623-224-8839 ♦ www.crossofglory.org

1011 W Jomax Road
Peoria, AZ 85383

Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Zachary Pudlo
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

Rethinking Religion

Everyone has assumptions about God. Likewise, everyone has assumptions about religion. Increasingly, those assumptions are negative. Americans are walking away from Christianity in breathtaking numbers. It raises the question. How do those people know if their assumptions about religion are correct? Do they really understand Christianity at all? Do we? Do we truly understand this religion? In the season of Lent, as much as any other, Jesus teaches things that turns the world's assumptions about religion completely upside down. We call it "Christianity."

Our theme this week is **"Rethinking Suffering Under the Cross"**. We know that the cross was an instrument of torture and execution. However, Scripture also uses the term "cross" to refer to any suffering that one endures because he is a believer: the painful denial of the desires of the flesh; ridicule and persecution from unbelievers; etc. This is one reason people reject religion. They see Christians struggling in life with these crosses, while non-Christians often seem perfectly happy. Even the prophet Jeremiah asked, "Why do all the faithless live at ease?" (12:1). Today, Jesus asks us to rethink suffering under the cross. It is not pointless pain. Our crosses are not how we pay for sin. Jesus already did that on his cross. Our crosses are not redemptive, but they are constructive. Any suffering unbelievers face is only bad, a foretaste of worse to come. But the suffering believers face under the cross is only good, a way Christ connects us tightly to himself with fire-tested faith.

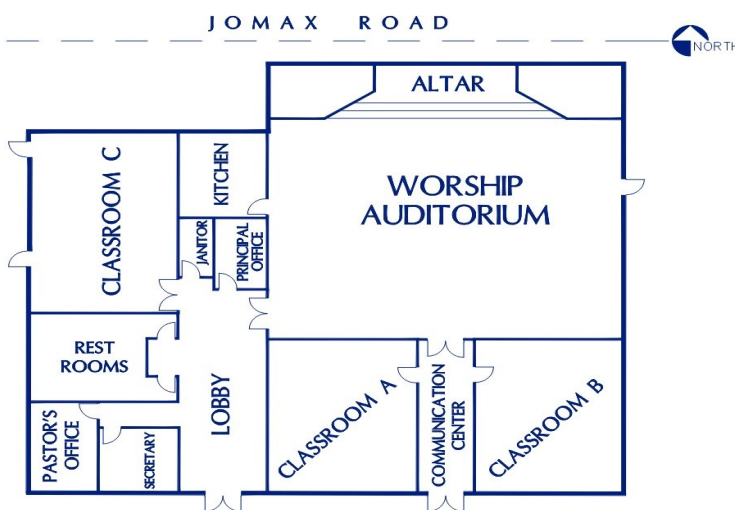
VISITOR INFORMATION

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 and 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

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!

Gathering Rite on Holy Baptism

(CWH679 Sung Responses)

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

C: Amen.

Congregation Sings:

1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap-tized
in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it, gave my
full re - demp-tion price. Do I need earth's trea - sures man - y?
I have one worth more than an - y that brought me sal -
va - tion free, last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!

M: I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C: **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.** (*John 3:5,6*)

M: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us.
(*Psalms 51:5*)

C: **But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.** (*1 Corinthians 6:11*)

Congregation Sings:

2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized
in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er: Je - sus'



God's people long to gather together for strength from him and for mutual encouragement. The beginning of this worship service reminds us of the continual blessings of Baptism.

"Don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."

(*Romans 6:3,4*)



"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)



M: As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

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.

Congregation Sings:



M: Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his

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.

authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Congregation Sings:



4 Death, you can - not end my glad-ness: I am bap-tized
5 There is noth - ing worth com - par - ing to this life - long
in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness to in -
com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing: e - ven
her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in dust and ash - es
there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a - waits its rais - ing,
faith's as - sur - ance bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the
still my soul con - tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized
strength di - vine to make life im - mor - tal mine.
in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

Text: tr. Robert E. Voelker, b. 1957; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756 Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695–1755, alt.
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Catechism: The Power of Baptism

(Spoken Responsively)

M: *Third: How can water do such great things?*

C: It is certainly not the water that does such things, but God's Word which is in and with the water and faith which trusts this Word used with the water.

For without God's Word the water is just plain water and not Baptism. But with this Word it is Baptism, that is, a gracious water of life and a washing of rebirth by the Holy Spirit.

M: *Where is this written?*

C: St. Paul says in Titus, chapter 3, "[God] saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying."



For five centuries, Martin Luther's Small Catechism has served as the basic instruction book for the church. It directs us to God's Word and points to the only source for spiritual life, the Means of Grace: the Word and Sacraments. As life-long students of the Catechism, we review these important truths from God's Word as we continue to grow in a deep appreciation for all that Jesus has done as our Savior.



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



Job is given a heavy cross, but it does not crush his faith. Instead, God uses Job's cross to move Job to worship and praise the LORD.



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."

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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

Job 1:13–22

¹³One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁴a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, ¹⁵and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁶While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁷While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

¹⁸While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, ¹⁹when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

²⁰At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship ²¹and said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb,
and naked I will depart.

The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away;
may the name of the LORD be praised."

²²In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

Psalm 22

(Spoken Responsively)

M: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

C: Why are you so far from saving me?

M: I am a worm and not a man,

C: scorned by everyone, despised by the people.

M: All who see me mock me;

C: they hurl insults, shaking their heads.

M: "He trusts in the LORD," they say, "let the LORD rescue him.

C: Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."

M: My mouth is dried up like a potsherd,

C: and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

M: you lay me in the dust of death.

C: A pack of villains encircles me;

M: they pierce my hands and my feet.

C: They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.

M: But you, LORD, do not be far from me.

C: You are my strength; come quickly to help me.

M: I will declare your name to my people;

C: in the assembly I will praise you.

M: All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD,

C: and all the families of the nations will bow down before him.

M: They will proclaim his righteousness,

C: declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!

The Children's Sermon

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

Second Reading

Romans 5:1–11

¹Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

⁶You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.



St. Paul teaches that God works through our suffering to shape our Christian character and to lead us to cling to Christ's gracious promises.



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

Sermon Hymn: Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

CWH 694

1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, all to leave and
2 Let the world de - spise and leave me; they have left my
3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure! Come, dis - as - ter,
4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry, armed by faith and

fol - low you; des - ti - tute, de-spised, for - sak - en, you on
Sav - ior, too. Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; you are
scorn, and pain! In your ser - vice pain is plea - sure, with your
winged by prayer; all but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry, God's own

earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion,
not, like them, un - true. And, since you have smiled up - on me,
fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you Ab - ba, Fa - ther;
hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry,

all I've ev - er hoped or known; yet how rich is
God of wis - dom, love, and might, foes may hate and
you my all in all shall be. Storms may howl, and
swift shall pass the pil - grim days, hope soon change to

my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!
friends may shun me; show your face, and all is bright.
clouds may gath - er, all must work for good to me.
heav'n - ly glo - ry, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887
Text and tune: Public domain

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).

Message: The Need for the Cross

Mark 8:31–38

³¹He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³²He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

³³But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

³⁴Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For

whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ³⁷Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ³⁸If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

Apostles' Creed

(Spoken in Unison)

**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.**

Song of the Season: To My Precious Lord

CWH 542

Ensemble sings Vs. 1; Congregation joins for Vs. 2-3

Refrain:

*To my precious Lord I bring my flask of fragrant oil;
kneeling down, I kiss his feet, anoint them with the oil.*

*Jesus, who for my sake walked the road to Calvary,
with each step has marked the imprint of his love for me. (Refrain)*



After hearing the word of God, the worshiper responds with this confession of faith.

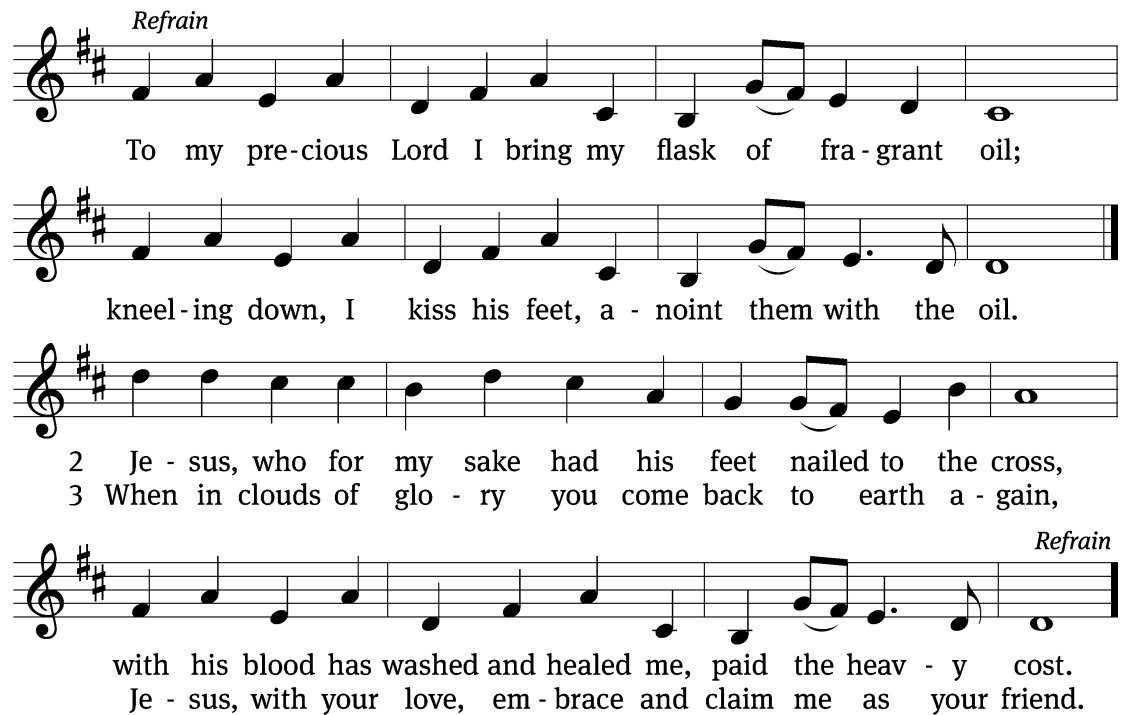
The Apostles' Creed, developed over hundreds of years in the early Christian church, is a brief and simple statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. Christians used it to tell others what they believed and also to confess their faith with one another as they met for worship.



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.

Congregation sings:

Refrain



To my pre-cious Lord I bring my flask of fra-grant oil;
kneel-ing down, I kiss his feet, a - noint them with the oil.

2 Je - sus, who for my sake had his feet nailed to the cross,
3 When in clouds of glo - ry you come back to earth a - gain,

Refrain

with his blood has washed and healed me, paid the heav - y cost.
Je - sus, with your love, em - brace and claim me as your friend.

Text: tr. Edward Poltras, b. 1932; Chung Kwan Park, b. 1958 Tune: Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953; arr. Paul Junggap Huh, b. 1962; Chung Kwan Park, b. 1958
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The gifts of God's people are a response to God's blessings.

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.

Installation of Church Officers

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

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,

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)

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

but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.



In the Blessing and Response, the minister speaks a summary of Ephesians 1. The congregation responds by singing the doxology (song of praise). Finally, the minister speaks the **Apostolic Blessing**. This is the blessing which the apostle Paul spoke as he concluded his second letter to the church at Corinth. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

Blessing and Response

(Response Sung by Congregation)

M: We praise you, O God of heaven and earth, that you have so richly lavished us with your free love and unearned salvation, in Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord:

Sung by Congregation:

Praise God from whom all bless - ings
flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;
praise him a - bove, ye heav - en - ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

CWH 867

1 Af - flict - ed saint, to Christ draw near, your Sav - ior's
2 Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the
3 Should per - se - cu - tion rage and flame, still trust in
4 When called to bear your weight - y cross, or sore af -
gra - cious prom - ise hear; his faith - ful Word you can be -
con - flict should be long, the Lord will make the tempt - er
your Re - deem - er's name. In fi - ery tri - als you shall
flic - tion, pain, or loss, or deep dis - tress, or pov - er -

lieve, that as your days your strength shall be. v. 2

flee, that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain

see that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain

ty, still as your days your strength shall be. Refrain

Refrain

So, sing with joy, af - flict - ed one; the bat - tle's fierce, but the

vic - t'ry's won! God shall sup - ply all that you need;

yes, as your days your strength shall be.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (Ref): Constance Dever, b. 1960
 Tune: Constance Dever, b. 1960
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GOD ON TRIAL

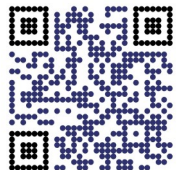
This year's theme is "**God on Trial.**" As in years past, we will have a soup supper served at 6:00 p.m. The service will follow at 7:00 p.m. Please use the QR Code below to sign up for the soup supper.

February 28: God on Trial: Sympathy (Pastor Rich Kugler, retired pastor from Cross of Glory, Peoria)

March 6: God on Trial: Accusations (Pastor Robert Smith, pastor at Our Savior, Sun City)

March 13: God on Trial: Restraint (Pastor Mark Jacobson, pastor at Grace, Glendale)

March 20: God on Trial: Testimony (Pastor Lincoln Albrecht, pastor at River of Life, Good-year)



Holy Week Calendar

March 24, 9:00am

Palm Sunday

March 28, 7:00pm

Maundy Thursday w/ Communion

March 29, 7:00pm

Good Friday

March 31, 7:00am

Sunrise Easter Service

March 31, 9:30am

Celebration Easter Service

Member Visit Sign Up

There are still sign ups available for your member visit with Pastor Pudlo. Please use the QR code provided to select the date, time, and location of your choosing.



WinGs Volunteer Opportunity

Hi Everyone,

We are confirmed with St. Mary's Foodbank for Saturday, March 16th, from 8-10 AM to pack emergency food boxes. Please let me know ASAP if you'd like to volunteer that day. We'll be taking the first 15 people who volunteer. Thanks to those who have already reached out to me. You can email me at karinwedeking@hotmail.com or text me at 712-660-0386.

Karin

Pictorial Directory Pictures

United Portraits will be here today at Cross of Glory, to get updated photos of our members for a pictorial directory. Pictorial directories as well as personal photos will be available for purchase.

Greeter/Usher Meeting

Hello all of you "happy" greeters.

Remember, we will meet immediately after the service today for a short meeting.

LWMS Spring Rally

Please scan the QR code to view the information and register for the upcoming LWMS Spring Rally. It will be held on April 13th at Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Mesa, AZ



Monthly Newsletter QR Code

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



Ways to Serve

Worship Volunteers	February 25	March 3	March 10
Counters	Judy Sasse/Susie Cornell	Joel Ditter/Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai/Michael Ryan
Communion		Andrea	
Church Cleaners	Patterson	Koutia/Piepenbrink	Gullerud/Kugler
Ushers	Len Collyard/Nick Nickolai/Steve Semmann/Sharon Wilson	John Kull/Kim Moline/Dean Ellis	Jon Naber/Rich Kugler/Kelly Simpson
Refreshments	Clara Naber/Connie Sauer	Kathy Collyard/Andrea Semmann	Ally Kelley/Sharon Wilson
A/V	Titus Patterson/Isaac Patterson	Stacey Aguilar/Pedro Contreras	Hailey Ditter/Joel Ditter

Mediation Renewal/Subscription Information Needed

It is that time of year again where we need to renew our Mediations Daily Devotional subscription. The cost is \$20.00 for the year. Please let Liz if you would like the regular or large print. The money is due today.

Call News

The voters approved the resolution and extended a call to James (Jamie) Roecker for grades 7-8 home-room teacher and athletic director. His wife, Roberta Roecker, was extended a call for full-time grades 5-6 teacher and music director. Please keep them in your prayers as they deliberate. More contact information will be provided.

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

***Diane Lawrence**, who recently broke her ankle and is recovering from surgery.*

***Velta Larson**, as she recovers from eye surgery & is now recovering from a broken pelvis.*

***Angela Hall**, who is recovering will from having surgery for a total ankle replacement.*

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.