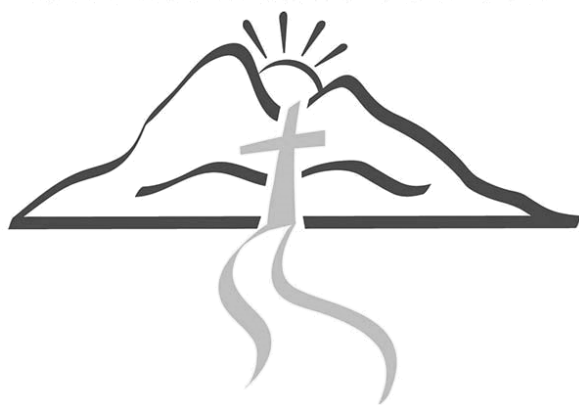


Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Good Friday
March 29, 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.

Worship Focus



This evening we silently gather to meditate on Jesus' final words from the cross as he suffered for our sins. With the final words, "It is finished", (John 19:30), Jesus declared the work of salvation complete. He had done **EVERYTHING** necessary to pay for the sins of all those that had lived before and will ever live.

Tonight's service will include the darkening of the sanctuary as we extinguish a candle for each reading and hear the *strepitus* at the end of the service representing the closing of Jesus' tomb. The "backbone" of the service will be the seven words of our Savior as he died on the cross. As we leave in silence this evening through the side exit, we place a nail in the cross, symbolizing that Jesus removed all our guilt and sin when he suffered and died on the cross.

On Good Friday our Savior died and was buried. But the story doesn't end there. Christ will break forth from the tomb alive and will be represented by the resurrection candle. Here we receive the first taste of victory - a foreshadowing of our Easter celebration. Christ died, but Christ also rose from the dead. At death our bodies and souls separate. And because Christ lives, we know that when he returns on judgment day our bodies will rise from the grave to see our Savior and live with him in heaven forever. We depart in silence and reverence for the death of our Savior. But with this taste of Easter, we also depart in joy.

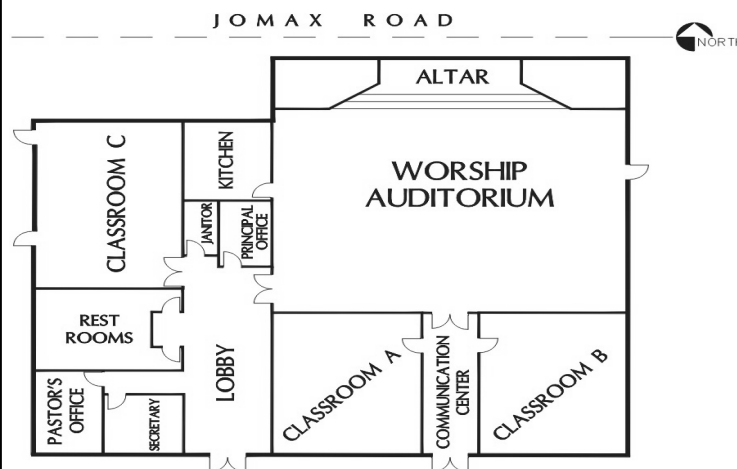
VISITOR INFORMATION

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.

Good Friday: A Service of Seven Words from the Cross

Ensemble

Lord, Have Mercy

Words & Music by Matt Boswell, James Tealy, Aaron Keyes, Matt Papa
Congregation joins for final refrain.



We begin this Good Friday service contemplating the truth that we all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23), and we rely solely on the grace and mercy of our God.

*For what we have done and left undone we fall on your countless mercies.
For sins that are known and those unknown we call on your name so holy.
For envy and pride, for closing our eyes; for scorning our very neighbor.
In thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King;
how deeply we need a Savior.*

Refrain:

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us.

Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on us.

*For what you have done, your life of love you perfectly lived, we praise you.
Though tempted and tried, you fixed your eyes;
you finished the work God gave you.
And there on the tree, a King among thieves, you bled for a world's betrayal.
You loved to the end, our merciful friend; how pure and forever faithful. (Refrain)*

Congregation repeats refrain:

Refrain I

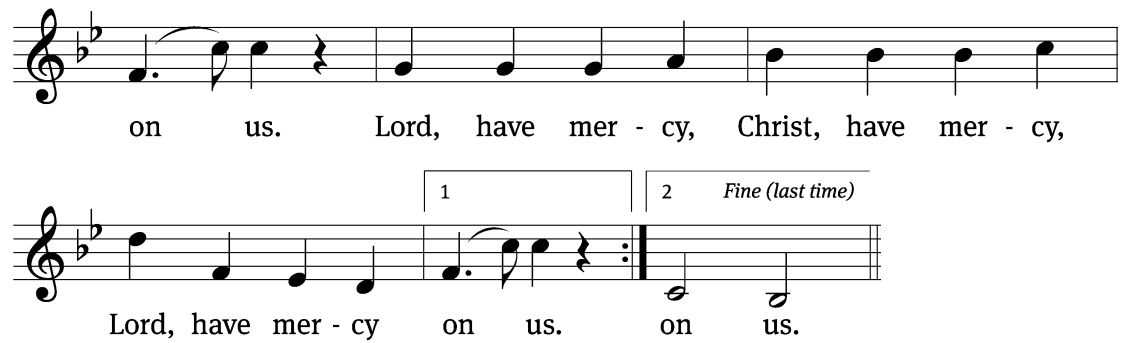
Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy
on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,
Lord, have mer - cy on us.

*For hearts that are cold, for seizing control; for scorning our very maker.
In thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King;
how deeply we need a Savior.*

Congregation sings:

Refrain II

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy



It was the LORD's will to
sacrifice his servant so
that we might be justi-
fied.

Reading

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

- ¹³See, my servant will act wisely;
he will be raised and lifted up and highly exalted.
- ¹⁴Just as there were many who were appalled at him—
his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being
and his form marred beyond human likeness—
- ¹⁵so he will sprinkle many nations,
and kings will shut their mouths because of him.
For what they were not told, they will see,
and what they have not heard, they will understand.
- ¹Who has believed our message
and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?
- ²He grew up before him like a tender shoot,
and like a root out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him,
nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.
- ³He was despised and rejected by mankind,
a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.
Like one from whom people hide their faces
he was despised, and we held him in low esteem.
- ⁴Surely he took up our pain
and bore our suffering,
yet we considered him punished by God,
stricken by him, and afflicted.
- ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed.
- ⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

⁷He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.

⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?
For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was punished.

⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.

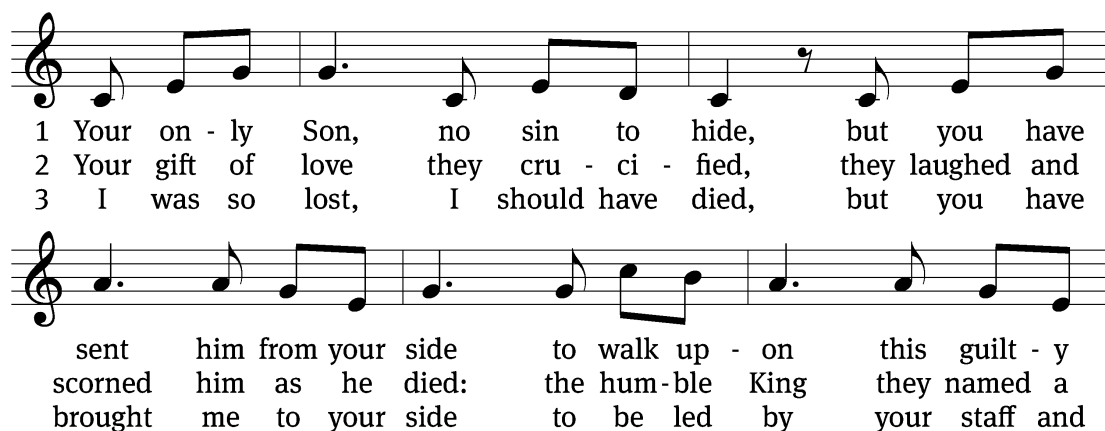
¹⁰Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,
and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin,
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand.

¹¹After he has suffered,
he will see the light of life and be satisfied;
by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many,
and he will bear their iniquities.

¹²Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,
because he poured out his life unto death,
and was numbered with the transgressors.
For he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Hymn: Lamb of God

CWH 550



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, but you have
2 Your gift of love they cru - ci - fied, they laughed and
3 I was so lost, I should have died, but you have

sent him from your side to walk up - on this guilt - y
scorned him as he died: the hum - ble King they named a
brought me to your side to be led by your staff and



Just as lambs – gentle animals who symbolize purity – were offered as sacrifices in the Old Testament to atone for sins, Jesus served as a sacrifice to atone for the sins of humanity. The phrase “Lamb of God” refers to Jesus as the perfect and ultimate sacrifice provided by God for the atonement of the sins of all people.

sod, and to be - come the Lamb of God.
 fraud and sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.
 rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

Refrain

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the
 ho - ly Lamb of God! O wash me in his pre-cious
 blood, my Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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Jesus spoke these words of intercession to the betrayers and the deniers: the soldiers, the High Priests, Herod and yes, us. The message of the Gospel is that where there is forgiveness of sins there is also life and salvation. All who recognize the terrible burden of sin and its eternal consequence are thankful for the price Jesus paid, for which reason the Father graciously forgives our sin.

First Word

Luke 23:32-34

³²Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. ³³When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. ³⁴Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

M: Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me;

C: They pierce my hands and my feet.

M: They divide my garments among them

C: and cast lots for my clothing.

M: He bore the sin of many,

C: and made intercession for the transgressors.

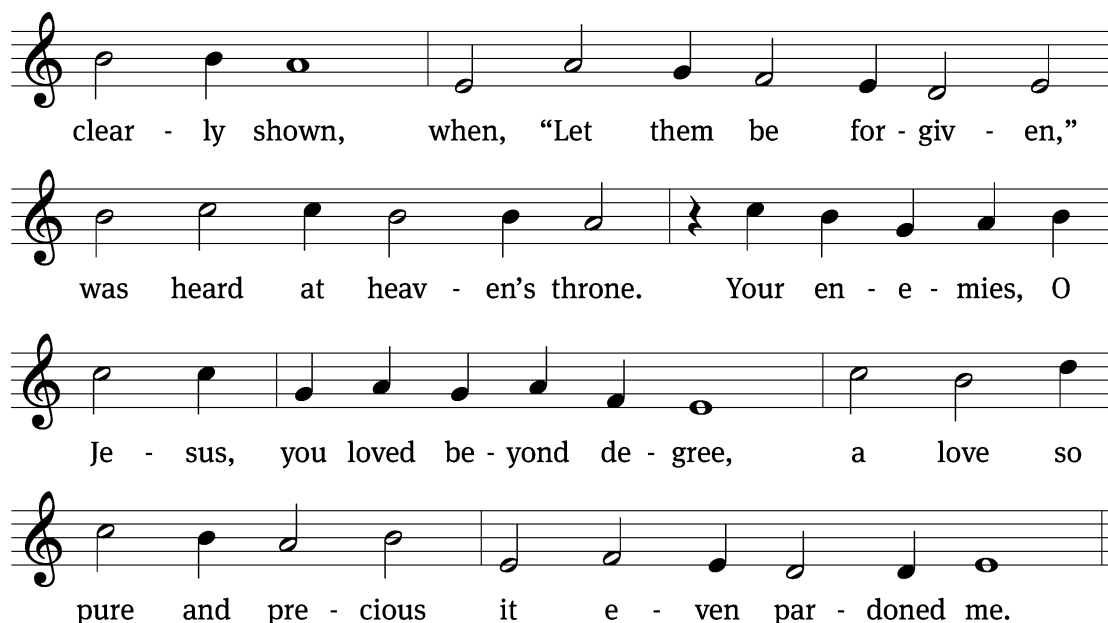
M: Gracious Savior, you did not strike back with revenge against your enemies as they ridiculed and crucified you but prayed for their forgiveness. In your compassion, pardon us for our secret sins and sins we do not discern, and enlighten us to know and do your will.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Response: The Seven Words

CWH 436

1 Their nails were fresh - ly driv - en, their ha - tred



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~Silence for Meditation~

Choir

On the Via Dolorosa

Words by Douglas E. Wagner

Music by Has Leo Hassler

*On the Via Dolorosa, way of grief and pain;
on the Via Dolorosa, spotless Lamb, he came.
Buffeted by soldiers, spat upon by passers-by,
on the Via Dolorosa, he went to die.*

*Condemned to death by Pilate's order,
a crown of thorns placed on his head;
paraded through the Holy City,
to Calv'ry's fearsome hill was led.*

*Past his weeping mother, through the mocking crowd,
faithful to his father's will.*

*On the Via Dolorosa, way of grief and pain;
on the Via Dolorosa, spotless Lamb, he came.
Buffeted by soldiers, spat upon by passers-by,
on the Via Dolorosa, he went to die.*

*O sacred head now wounded,
with grief and shame weighed down,
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, your only crown.*

*Lo, here I stand, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve your place;
look on me with your favor, and grant to me your grace.*

*On the Via Dolorosa, way of grief and pain;
on the Via Dolorosa, spotless Lamb, he came.
Buffeted by soldiers, spat upon by passers-by,
on the Via Dolorosa, he went to die.*



The criminal who was facing death hanging alongside Jesus spoke from the heart. He confessed his sin and unworthiness. Jesus' response reinforces the truth that salvation is by grace through faith. Eternal life is not earned, but a priceless gift from our loving God.

Second Word

Luke 23:35-43

³⁵The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is God's Messiah, the Chosen One."

³⁶The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

³⁸There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

³⁹One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

⁴⁰But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? ⁴¹We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

⁴³Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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: Remember me, Lord, when you show favor to your people.

C: Come to my aid when you save them.

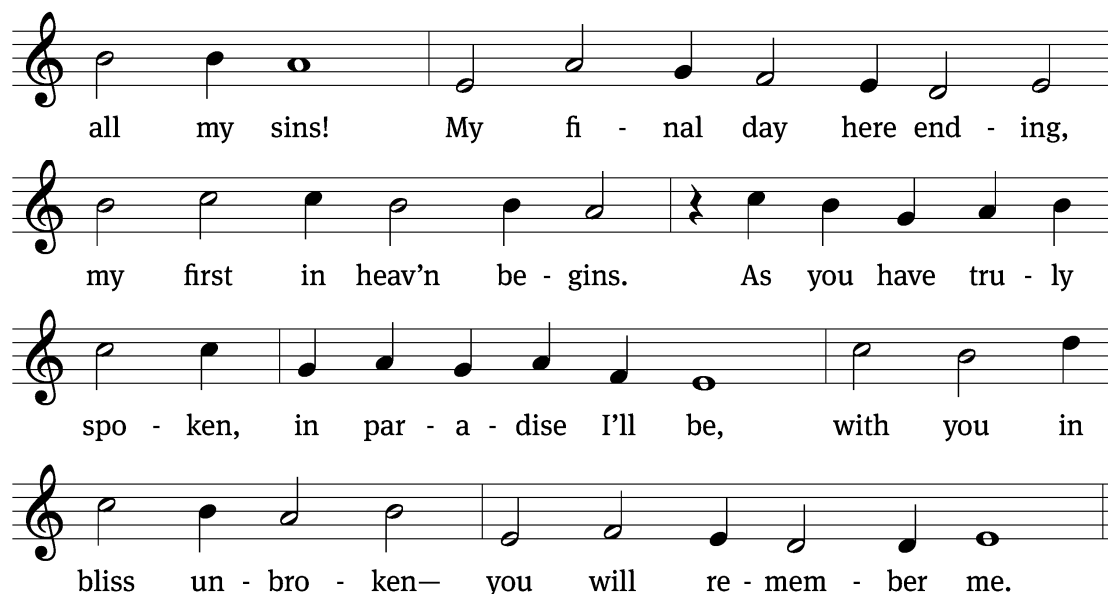
M: Mighty Redeemer, remember us as we walk through the darkest valleys of life and realize that our time on earth is ending. Stay close to us when we feel the pain and loneliness of dying and take away our fears with your certain promise of paradise.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Response: The Seven Words

CWH 436





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~Silence for Meditation~

Ensemble

Come, O Sinner

Words and Music by Jordan Kauflin

Come, O sinner, come and see Christ, the Lord upon a tree.

See the crown of thorns, adorn the King who labors to breathe in agony.

Come, O sinner, come and see what our God became to set us free.

Come, O sinner, come and mourn, for he calls your sin his own.

Do you feel the weight of justice served? He suffers the wrath that you deserve.

Come, O sinner, come and mourn, for he bears the curse for all you've done.

Refrain:

Oh, the wonder of this awesome scene where our Savior bleeds.

Oh, the power of the love of God. Come and stand in awe.

Come, O sinner, come rejoice. Mercy fills this place of scorn.

For he dies to save his enemies, that all who draw near may know his peace.

Come, O sinner, come rejoice, through the death of Christ, death is destroyed.

(Refrain)



In these words we learn that our welfare is the constant and abiding concern of our Savior. He knows our pain and sorrow. He did not die on the cross in our place to forgive us our sin and win heaven for us only then to forget us while we are waiting for eternity. He also reminds us to appreciate that he helps, strengthens, and encourages us through one another. At the cross we learn to appreciate the mutual love and care that exists within the body of Christ.

Third Word

John 19:25–27

²⁵Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, "Woman, here is your son," ²⁷and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

M: This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel,

C: and to be a sign that will be spoken against,

M: so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed.

C: And a sword will pierce your own soul too.

M: Who is my mother, and who are my brothers?

C: Whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother.

M: Precious Jesus, you consider us friends and care about the needs of our bodies and souls. Keep us in your care as we walk the road of life and provide the blessings we need to gain safety, contentment, and joy in your service.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Response: The Seven Words

CWH 436

3 A Sav - ior like no oth - er, all self - con -
cern de - nied, you served your griev - ing moth - er
while you were cru - ci - fied. My sin had made me
filth - y, but you, the per - fect child, were des - ig -
nat - ed guilt - y, and I am rec - on - ciled.

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~Silence for Meditation~

Fourth Word

Matthew 27:45, 46

⁴⁵From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.

⁴⁶About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).

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

C: Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?

M: My God, I cry out by day but you do not answer,

C: by night, but I find no rest.

M: “In that day,” declares the Sovereign Lord, “I will make the sun go down at noon

C: and darken the earth in broad daylight.”

M: Lord Jesus, you endured the horrific penalty of our sins as your Father turned his face from you on the cross. Compel us to see in your sacrifice the dreadful nature of sin and call us to acknowledge the amazing depth of your love. Overcome our shame, dear Savior, and give us grateful faith.

C: Amen.



This question from Jesus underscores the reality of his suffering and shame. This was real! It gives us a glimpse into the severity from which we have been delivered. It demonstrates the perfect love of God that caused him to spare sinful man from a dreadful eternal condemnation.

Hymn of Response: The Seven Words

CWH 436

4 Con - demned, cut off, for - sak - en, out - side the

Fa - ther's care, by ter - ror o - ver - tak - en,

no ear would hear your prayer. On you God's wrath was

vent - ed, on you his fu - ry fell, when, on the

cross tor - ment - ed, you took my place in hell.

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~Silence for Meditation~

Ensemble

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Kristyn Getty

*Beneath the cross of Jesus I find a place to stand,
and wonder at such mercy that calls me as I am;
for hands that should discard me hold wounds which tell me, "Come."
Beneath the cross of Jesus my unworthy soul is won.*

*Beneath the cross of Jesus his fam'ly is my own.
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams; now, one through grace alone.
How could I now dishonor the ones that you have loved?
Beneath the cross of Jesus see the children called by God.*

*Beneath the cross of Jesus, the path before the crown,
we follow in his footsteps where promised hope is found.
How great the joy before us to be his perfect bride.
Beneath the cross of Jesus we will gladly live our lives.*



When Jesus was offered a drink to alleviate his suffering, he refused it so as to drink the cup of suffering to its fullest. Once he had endured it all and had fully paid the price, Jesus was ready to return to the Father and he said, "I am thirsty."

Fifth Word

John 19:28, 29

²⁸After this, when he knew that all things necessary for the Scripture to be fulfilled had now been accomplished, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips.

M: My mouth is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;

C: you lay me in the dust of death.

M: I am worn out calling for help;

C: my throat is parched.

M: They put gall in my food

C: and gave me vinegar for my thirst.

M: Dear Jesus, as our brother on earth you endured the agony of pain that besieged your body when your sacrifice was complete. Knowing our experiences, hover over us with your care and compassion when our bodies and hearts are hurting. Provide us with strength that we may confess you with confidence and power.

C: Amen.



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~Silence for Meditation~

Sixth Word

John 19:30

³⁰When he had received the drink, Jesus said, “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

M: On that day a fountain will be opened to the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem,

C: to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

M: Because of the blood of my covenant with you,

C: I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

M: I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.

C: I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.

M: Gracious Redeemer, you paid the full price for our redemption and have released us forever from the hold of Satan, the power of sin, and the fear of death. Protect us from the devil's claim that we need to do more and from the accusa-



With these three words, “It is finished.”, everything that ever needed to be done to save sinful mankind from eternal damnation was done. As Luther said, “My penitent tears do not justify me. Christ alone has taken my sins away. He cast them into a sea of forgetfulness. This is my defense, a defense which rests upon, ‘It is finished’”.

tion of our consciences that we have not done enough. Lead us to place our entire confidence in you and to live our lives secure in your grace.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Response: The Seven Words

CWH 436

6 Though sin's most le - tal wa - ges to me, O
Christ, were due, the guilt of all the a - ges
came crash - ing down on you. Most sure - ly, "It is
fin - ished"— my debt is ful - ly paid; my joy is
un - di - min - ished; my heart is un - a - fraid.

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~Silence for Meditation~

Choir

What Love is This?

Music by Brad Nix; Words by Pamela Stewart

*What love is this the angels mourn? His diadem a crown of thorns,
the King is now a thing of scorn. No other love is so transformed,
no other love is so transformed.*

*What love is this who stumbles now, and then moves on without a sound
to bear his cross before a crowd? No other love is so profound,
no other love is so profound.*

*What love is this? How can it be? He gives his life so willing,
his arms outstretched for all to see. No other love would die for me,
no other love would die for me.*

What love is this, love so divine that out of love for me you died?

*How marvelous to call you mine! O wondrous Love, now I am thine,
O wondrous Love, now I am thine.
O wondrous Love, now I am thine.*

Seventh Word

Luke 23:44-46

⁴⁴It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

M: Into your hands I commit my spirit;

C: deliver me, Lord, my faithful God.

M: He has not despised or scorned the suffering of the afflicted one;

C: he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

M: He poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors.

C: He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

M: Loving Savior, at the moment of your death you gave yourself into the loving hands of your Father. As we close our eyes in death, lead us to commit our bodies and souls to him who has summoned us by name and made us his own because of you and your love. Then, we pray, let us depart in peace.

C: Amen.



Jesus quotes Psalm 31:5. After he faced immeasurable torment, mockery, abuse and being forsaken by God, he nevertheless died a peaceful death. As children of God, may we be confident that we too will have a peaceful death because of what Jesus did for us on that gloomy Friday afternoon.

Hymn of Response: The Seven Words

CWH 436

7 My death will be tri - um - phant no mat - ter
how I die; Lord Je - sus, in that in - stant
es - cort my soul on high in - to my Fa - ther's
keep - ing, all - blame - less and all - blest, like wak - ing
up from sleep - ing, his hands my place of rest.

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~Silence for Meditation~



The account of the burial of Jesus.

Reading

John 19:31-42

³¹Now it was the day of Preparation, and the next day was to be a special Sabbath. Because the Jewish leaders did not want the bodies left on the crosses during the Sabbath, they asked Pilate to have the legs broken and the bodies taken down. ³²The soldiers therefore came and broke the legs of the first man who had been crucified with Jesus, and then those of the other. ³³But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water. ³⁵The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe. ³⁶These things happened so that the scripture would be fulfilled: "Not one of his bones will be broken," ³⁷and, as another scripture says, "They will look on the one they have pierced."

³⁸Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jewish leaders. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. ³⁹He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night. Nicodemus brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds. ⁴⁰Taking Jesus' body, the two of them wrapped it, with the spices, in strips of linen. This was in accordance with Jewish burial customs. ⁴¹At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had ever been laid. ⁴²Because it was the Jewish day of Preparation and since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.



As the Savior of the world is put to rest, we look forward to the coming Easter dawn when Jesus demonstrated that death has been forever crushed.

Hymn: Rest, O Christ, from All Your Labor

CWH 437

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

*Rest, O Christ, from all your labor;
sleep within your borrowed tomb.
Foes have crucified and bound you
fast within death's narrow room.
Pilate's guards stand watching, waiting
where they rolled the sealing stone.
All unseen another watches:
God will not forsake his own.*

Congregation sings:



2 Peace at last from all your an - guish, wounds in
3 Help us keep this sol - emn Sab - bath as we

hands and feet and side. En - e - mies no long - er
wait for Eas - ter dawn. Earth's dark night of sin is

mock you, scourged, a - ban - doned, cru - ci - fied.
pass - ing; death's long reign will soon be gone.

Faith - ful wom - en gath - er spic - es, weep for
Christ, in whom the new cre - a - tion ris - es

you whom sin has slain. Though they mourn, the God who
bright - er than the sun: may we, as we watch for

guards you will not let your death be vain.
morn - ing, trust the vic - t'ry you have won.

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Prayer of the Day

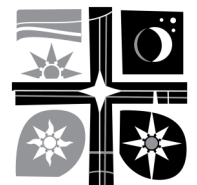
(Spoken by Minister)

M: God Most Holy, look with mercy on this, your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, be given over into the hands of the wicked, and suffer death upon the cross. Keep us always faithful to him, our only Savior, who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

(Spoken by All)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.



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



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



The strepitus (Latin for "great noise") made by slamming the Bible shut symbolizes the earthquake that followed Christ's death.

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.

The Strepitus

Dismissal Statement

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

C: Amen.



The minister exits the chancel.

Worshippers are invited to remain for meditation and upon leaving, disperse quietly and place a nail in the cross symbolizing that Jesus removed all our guilt and sin when he suffered and died on the cross.

Acknowledgments

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

***Diane Lawrence**, who is healing from surgery.*

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

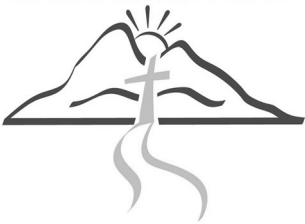
***Angela Hall**, who is starting physical therapy for her ankle replacement.*

***Judy Sasse**, who is recovering from surgery and will be undergoing radiation treatments for cancer that was discovered.*

***Phil Fidel**, as he mourns the death of his wife Fran*

***Norm Voigt**, as he battles cancer.*

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.

