Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School



623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org 10111 W Jomax Road Peoria, AZ 85383

Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Zachary Pudlo 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.

The Living Lord Produces Active Faith

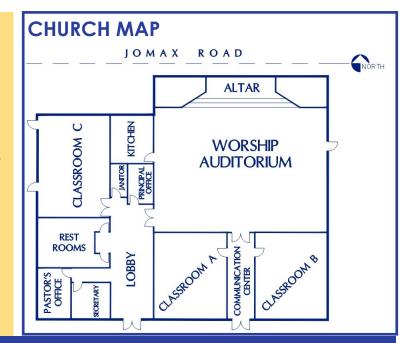
St. Paul writes, "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20). Big word: Indeed! Paul is stressing that we must not think of Jesus' resurrection like a happy ending to another epic fable. The resurrection is not legend. It really happened. Easter is not just a holiday. Easter is history. On time's infinite line, Jesus' resurrection is the punctiliar moment that defines reality for us all. If Christ remained dead, he is a fraud and failure. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality: Jesus is exactly what he claimed to be—the Son of God, our Lord and Savior. If Christ remained dead, then the grave is the final, ugly, rotten end of us all. But Christ has indeed been raised. So, the reality is Jesus' resurrection proves that "all will be made alive" (1 Corinthians 15:22). The reality of the resurrection does not just change our future, but the way we look at life now. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

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

- 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!

Service of Celebration and Reverence

Opening Hymn: Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing

CWH 595





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)

We Approach God

(Spoken/Sung Responsively)

M: O Creator, to you darkness is light, and a thousand years is as a day. Before we speak, you know our thoughts.

C: There is no place we can flee from your sight.

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M: O most holy Lord, our relationship with you requires a personal integrity we do not have. We are cut to the heart to realize that you judge every thought, word and action.

C: We have been arrogant to challenge your laws. We have been foolish to excuse our lust for more as a basic human need. We have blamed our unhappiness on others. Our self-centeredness is the worst affliction on earth and we no longer deny it.

M: O God of wisdom, we have wandered from your ways. We do not deserve leniency. The only thing we possess is our guilt.

C: O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we can speak your name only because you are the God of grace. Jesus came to be the sacrificial Lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. Because you have gathered all the lost, we plead: "Be our Shepherd."



We are able to approach the eternal, almighty Triune God because he is the God of undeserved love—the God of Grace.

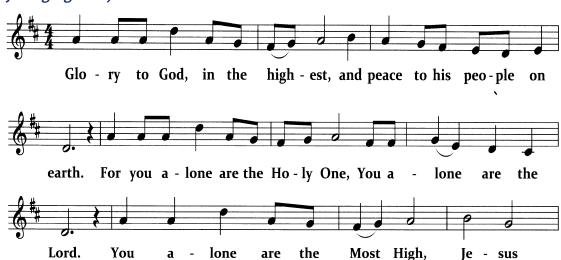
We confess our sins to God confident he will forgive us because he has promised, "If we confess our sins, he [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

(Sung by Congregation)



M: The Triune God knows our needs. He remembers that we are dust. He gloried in doing for us what we do not deserve. Before we existed, the Father sent his one and only Son to trade places with a world of sinners. In the fullness of time, Jesus packaged his honor in humility and was born into our world. By His flawless life and innocent death, he ransomed the world from sin, Satan and damnation. The Holy Spirit raised him back to life to guarantee that we who trust these truths are God's children and heirs of heaven. Amen.

(Sung by Congregation)





This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because our debt of sin was paid by Jesus, our victorious Savior.



Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther.



Glo - ry to God, in the high - est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

Catechism Review: The Keys

(Spoken Responsively)

M: First: What is the use of the keys?

C: The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his Church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners but refuse forgiveness to the impenitent as long as they do not repent.

M: Where is this written?

C: The holy evangelist John writes in chapter 20, "[Jesus] breathed on [his disciples] and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.'"

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; 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 Acts 4:32–37

²All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. ³³With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all ³⁴that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales ³⁵and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.

³⁶Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means "son of encouragement"), ³⁷sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.



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 lifelong 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.



In the early church, as the apostles preached the resurrection of Christ, the living Lord produced the fruits of unity and generosity.



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."



M: You, God, are my God,

C: earnestly I seek you;

M: I thirst for you,

C: my whole being longs for you,

M: in a dry and parched land

C: where there is no water.

M: I have seen you in the sanctuary

C: and beheld your power and your glory.

M: Because your love is better than life,

C: my lips will glorify you.

M: I will praise you as long as I live,

C: and in your name I will lift up my hands.

M: Because you are my help,

C: I sing in the shadow of your wings.

The Children's Sermon

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



1 John 3:18–24

(Spoken Responsively)

¹⁸Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

¹⁹This is how we know that we belong to the truth and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God ²²and receive from him anything we ask, because we keep his commands and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps God's commands lives in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.



to demonstrate living faith in loving words and actions.

Verse of the Day

(Spoken by Minister; Sung Response by Congregation)

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. Alleluia. (*John 14:6*)

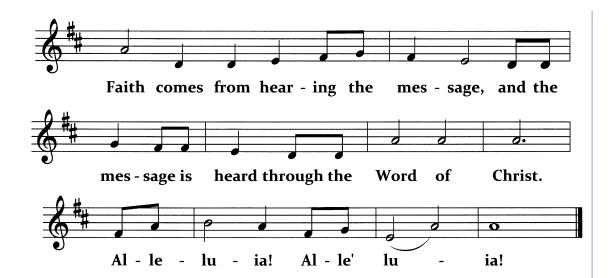
(Sung by the Congregation)





A verse from the Holy Scriptures is usually spoken to capture the theme of the service.

The sung response is taken from Romans 10:17.





CWH 709



- I I long to serve my Sav ior, to seek what's good and right,
- 2 There came, with grace un spar ing, a vine from heav'n a bove,
- 3 And so I'll serve my Sav ior with pow'r that he pro-vides,



its branch-es meant for bear-ing the fruits of self-less love. for he, my blest Re-deem-er, with-in my soul a-bides.



pow'r not mine: But con - duct pure and re - quires a ho ly This vine is Christ who of fered his life up on a tree: The fruit of self - less giv ing will grow by God's de - sign



when an-chored in vine. branch is fruit - ful a on - ly a for all sin he suf - fered and made a branch of me. my the branch, keep liv - ing faith in Christ the vine. I, by as

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Sermon: Growth in Christ

John 15:1-8

John 15:1-8

¹⁴I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. ³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

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).



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

⁵"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



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.

The Apostles' Creed

(Spoken in Unison)

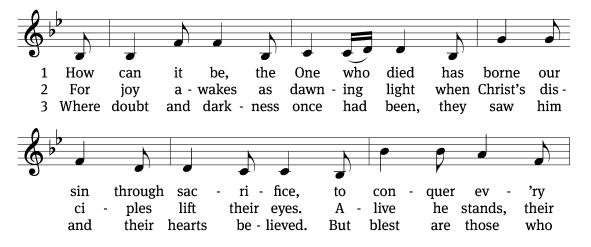
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

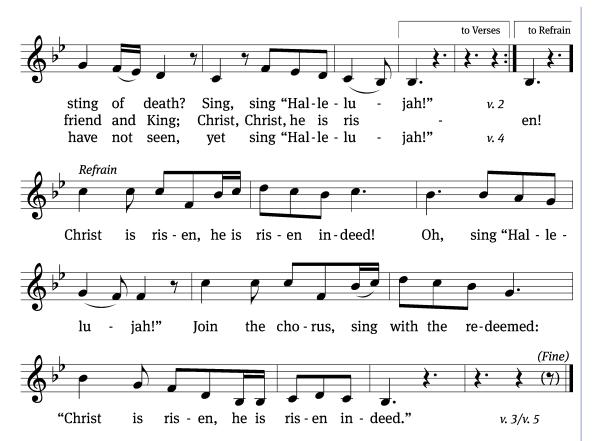
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand 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: Christ Is Risen, He Is Risen Indeed

CWH 447





Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, they preached the truth and pow'r of grace and pouring out their lives they gained life, life everlasting. (Refrain)

The pow'r that raised him from the grave now works in us to pow'rf'lly save. He frees our hearts to live his grace; go, tell of his goodness. (*Refrain*)

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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.

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

The Lord's Prayer

(Spoken in Unison)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,



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

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)

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.

Closing Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

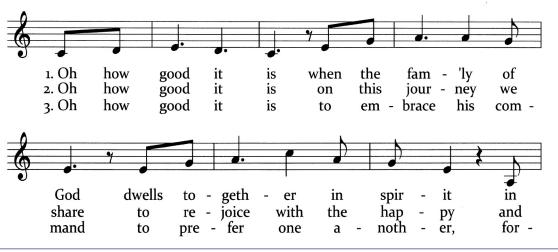
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: Oh, How Good It Is

CWH 731





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.



Acknowledgments

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Weekly Newsletter

Please scan the QR Code to view our weekly newsletter.



Ways to Serve

Worship	April	May	May
Volunteers	28th	5th	12th
Counters	Joel Ditter	Nick Nicholai	Nancy Murphy
	Nancy Schirripa	Michael Ryan	Harry Novak
Communion		Dawn	
Cleaners	Plitzuweit/Peterson/	Martins/Pappenfuss/	Coates/Simkauskas
	Sterns	Cape	
Greeters	Nancy Murphy	Ryan Family	John Stevenson
	Sharon Wilson		Maggie Stevenson
Ushers	Dave Goelzer	Len Collyard	Cody Hall
	Karen Goelzer	Nick Nickolai	Joel Ditter
	Michael Ryan	Steve Semmann	
	Gary Jeffers	Sharon Wilson	
Sunday	Linda Stern	Rene Koutia	Stacey Aguilar
Refreshments	Clara Naber		Karen Goelzer
A/V	Kelly Simpson	Rene Koutia	Titus Patterson
	Bentley Ryan	Gus Koutia	Isaac Patterson

News from Pastor Pudlo and Meal Train Info

Everyone is doing well! August Paul was born on April 14 at 5:02 p.m. He weighs 7lb 14oz and is 21 inches. He's eating well and already has gained weight.

A meal train has been set up. Please use the QR to view and sign up.



Cross of Glory's annual vacation Bible school is quickly approaching. During the week of June 3-7, we will welcome 200 students from all over Peoria to our campus for Bible lessons, crafts, STEM, singing, and games. All information you need is found using the QR code below. We look forward to another fun summer week of learning and growing in God's Word.

It takes a lot of great volunteers (like you) to make this a success. Please contact the school/church office if you are able to help. Volunteers are needed to serve as group leaders, craft and snack helpers, drama team participants, etc. This ministry is an exciting opportunity to reach out to our community. It seems to grow every year...so sign up to join the fun!



Housing for ALA Graduates

In search of a rental home/condo/apartment for three recent ALA graduates (siblings) in the West Valley. If you own a rental, or know of a trusted landlord in the area, please contact Margy Harzell:

margystamps@yahoo.com or (928) 358-0865 All leads appreciated!

WELS Youth Night Phoenix | The Christian and Technology

Since the advent of the internet, social media, and smartphones, anxiety, self-harm ideation, and depression have been on the rise among teenagers. While on the internet, teens have been confronted with challenges of many kinds. Are they ready to stand firm during these times? At WELS Youth Night Phoenix, we will help the teens confront the challenges of navigating through current technology as a Christian. On Saturday, May 4, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., we will have our next WELS Youth Night. It will take place at Calvary Lutheran Church (1270 N Dobson Rd, Chandler, AZ 85224). With icebreaker activities, fun games, and spiritual growth opportunities, WELS Youth Night Phoenix is a great opportunity for high schoolers throughout the Valley. You can learn more and register using this QR code.

Good Shepherd Bible Camp

For over 50 years, Good Shepherd Bible Camp (GSBC), has been providing the perfect blend of outdoor adventure and Christian fellowship to kids from 4th to 10th grade. It's a full week (6 nights/days) of fun in the California mountains during July. You'll experience the chance to have fun with old friends and make plenty of new ones while you apply God's Word to your life.

Spend the week growing in your faith, while you also play countless games, eat amazing food, swim, canoe, become the perfect archer, sing exuberantly around a campfire, play basketball/volleyball and anything else involving a ball, run around in the infamous "gaga" pit, build forts, unleash your creative side in some arts and crafts, and of course explore God's beautiful creation through a little hiking.



Registration for staff and campers is open now. Please reach out if you have any questions. Please scan the QR for more information.

WELS International Youth Rally

WELS International Youth Rally attendees come from huge churches in big cities and small churches in farming communities, from Alaska to Florida. No matter where you come from, when you come together at a youth rally, you're home with your family of believers.

A youth rally is designed for teens. Workshops hit timely teen topics. Performances and recreation are planned with teens in mind. There's time to discuss issues, eat, play, and just chill.

Front and center at the youth rally is the gospel of Jesus Christ. God will use the rally as another experience that shapes the lives of teens.

More Information is available using the QR code

Call News Update

The calls extended to Andrew Mildebrandt (grades 5-6) and Brian Papenfuss (grades 7-8) have been returned. We will now go to the assignment committee of the WELS in hopes of being assigned two Martin Luther College graduates.

Meet the Person Behind the Pulpit

Pastor Pudlo would love to get to know all the Cross of Glory members. We still have spots for you to sign up. You can choose the date, time and location of your choosing. Please scan the QR code to view availability

WinGS Update

The next WinGS meeting is planned for Saturday, May 4, at 9:00 a.m. at church. At this meeting we will vote on electing a president and secretary. If anyone is interested in either of these positions, please email me by April 13 so we can have you listed on the ballot! In regards to the WinGS field manual for different committees, this is still a work in progress, and as soon as we get that finalized, I will email it out to the group.

As always, please reach out to me with any questions!

"I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope" (Psalm 130:5).

Karin 712-660-0386

Hope Patterson and Kassi Aguilar

Hope Patterson and Kassi Aguilar, both members of Cross of Glory, are attending Martin Luther College (MLC) in New Ulm, Minnesota, to be trained for the teaching ministry in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We again have an opportunity to help them through our financial support for the next school year. The college will match Cross of Glory's gift, up to \$1,400 for each of them. It will go directly to their tuition accounts

If you wish to contribute, please use the **special envelope** located at each of the church's entrances. You may place it in the offering plate or mail it inside your own envelope to the church office. If you do not have access to the special envelope, please identify your gift on the check as going to the MLC tuition fund. Make your check out to **Cross of Glory Lutheran Church**. Gifts that total more than \$2,650 will add even more to Kassi's and Hope's tuition accounts. Funds will need to be submitted by the end of July.

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

Diane Lawrence, who is learning to walk again.

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

Angela Hall, who has started 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

The family of Norm Voigt, during this time of loss.

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.