

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Advent 2
Sunday, December 8, 2024

623-224-8839 ♦ www.crossofglory.org

Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Zachary Pudlo
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal



Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

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.*

Advent Service & Lord's Supper

Opening Hymn: Creator of the Stars of Night

CWH 323



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 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night, your peo - ple's
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse should doom to
3 When earth drew on to dark - est night, you came, but
4 At your great name, ma - jes - tic now, all knees must
5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the



ev - er - last - ing light, O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
death a u - ni - verse, you came to save a ru - ined race
not in splen - dor bright, not as a king, but as the child
bend, all hearts must bow; all things on earth with one ac - cord
Spir - it, Three in One, praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



we pray you, hear us when we call.
with heal - ing gifts of heav'n - ly grace.
of Mar - y, vir - gin moth - er mild.
join those in heav'n to call you Lord.
from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

Text: tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.; Latin, c. 9th cent.
Tune: plainsong, c. 9th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

C: Amen.



In this season of Advent, we call upon the triune God to be present with us as we worship and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Confession

(Spoken Responsively)

M: God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.

C: **Humble yourselves before the LORD, and he will lift you up.** James 4:6,10

M: Dear friends, the season of Advent is a time of preparation as we await Christ's second coming on the Last Day. We prepare our hearts to meet him as we humbly seek his forgiveness.

C: **Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with**



"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)

his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God have mercy on me, a sinner.

~ Silence for meditation and reflection ~

M: If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand?

C: **But with you there is forgiveness; therefore, you are feared.** Psalm 130:3,4

Congregation sings

(CWH 975)



This hymn of response is the Magnificat—Mary's hymn of praise she spoke on her visitation to her cousin Elizabeth.

(Luke 1:46-55)

1 My soul will mag - ni - fy the Lord; I re - joice in God my
Sav - ior, in the won - der of his fa - vor.
For he has done great things for me, he was mind - ful
of his ser - vant; ev - 'ry age shall call me bless - ed.
The hope of A - bra - ham come in the
giv - ing of a Son; for he who prom - ised is
might - y in re - mem - ber - ing his mer - cy.

Absolution

M: God's promise to Abraham and his descendants was fulfilled in the coming of his Son. Jesus Christ humbled himself by submitting to God's law. He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross. God promises to lift up the humble and fill the hungry with good things because of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich. *2 Corinthians 8:9*

M: Even as we await Christ's second coming, he comes to us here and now in the words he gives his messengers to speak: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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.

Congregation sings

(CWH 975)

2 My soul will mag-ni-fy the Lord for his grace to those who
fear him through ev-'ry gen-er-a-tion.
The proud he scat-ters to the wind as the rul-er's
strength is bro-ken, and the rich are left with noth-ing.
The hum-ble lift-ed high, and the
hun-gry sat-is-fied; our por-tion and our
treas-ure, our hope and help for-ev-er.



The Advent wreath is a symbol of victory, for a garland wreath was often placed on victors in contests or conquests. So naturally, a Christian can think of the crown of life that Jesus has won for us. The four candles in an Advent wreath emphasize the four week period of penitence and preparation during Advent as we eagerly await the coming of the Light of the world to bring new life and hope.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

M: We light two Advent candles, remembering Jesus, who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.

C: **We remember Jesus, who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.**

M: We hear his call to repent.

C: **We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.**

M: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C: **Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blest.**

Congregation sings

(CWH 975)

1 My soul will mag - ni - fy the Lord; I re - joice in God my
Sav - ior, in the won - der of his fa - vor.

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Text and tune: © 2005 Thankyou Music, admin. CapitolCMGPublishing.com. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

The Word

Prayer of the Day

M: Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming, give us strength in our conflicts, and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; 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

Malachi 3:1-7b

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty.

²But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. ³He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD



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



Through God’s Word and the messengers who proclaim it, the Lord encourages his people to return to him in humble repentance.

will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

⁵“So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the LORD Almighty.

⁶“I the LORD do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. ⁷Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them.

Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the LORD Almighty.

Choir

Prepare Ye

Words and Music by Marc A. Robinson

The Children's Sermon

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

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3–11

³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.



God began his good work in us at our baptism, empowering us to love, to demonstrate discernment, and to produce fruits of repentance.



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

Hymn of the Day: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

CWH 316



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin and fur - nished
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
 4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and lift us
 5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; come, then, and lis - ten,
 for a Guest with - in, and let us all our
 and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
 up to fall no more; O make your face on
 has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings good news a - bout the King of kings.
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 us to shine, and fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: tr. composite; Charles Coffin, 1676–1749
 Tune: Latin, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621 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).

Sermon

Luke 3:1–6

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—²during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
 ‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
 make straight paths for him.
⁵Every valley shall be filled in,
 every mountain and hill made low.
 The crooked roads shall become straight,
 the rough ways smooth.
⁶And all people will see God’s salvation.’ ”

Nicene Creed



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

The Nicene Creed was written in 325 A.D. to address false ideas about the divinity of Jesus Christ. That explains why the second article of the Nicene Creed is longer than its counterpart in the Apostles' Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



Song of the Season: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

CWH 322

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.

1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in

set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and
 all the earth thou art, dear de - sire of
 child and yet a king, born to reign in
 all our hearts a - lone; by thine all - suf -

sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
 us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Tune: Southern Harmony, New Haven, 1835, ed. William Walker
Text and tune: Public domain



Offering Prayer

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

If you brought a monetary gift today for the work of the church, please place your offering in the receptacle at one of the two entrances to the sanctuary either before or after the service.

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)

Prayer of the Church

(Spoken by Minister)

The Lord's Prayer



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

**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.

The Sacrament

Preface

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**


M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**


M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared when he called people to repentance and pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Sung by Congregation—Tune CWH 346)



1. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of hosts, all
 2. Bless - ed is the one who came, bring - ing love and



praise be giv'n! All your glo - ry fills the earth;
 light di - vine. Bless - ed is the king who comes



all in your pow - er and fills the heav'ns.
 in the bread and in the wine.

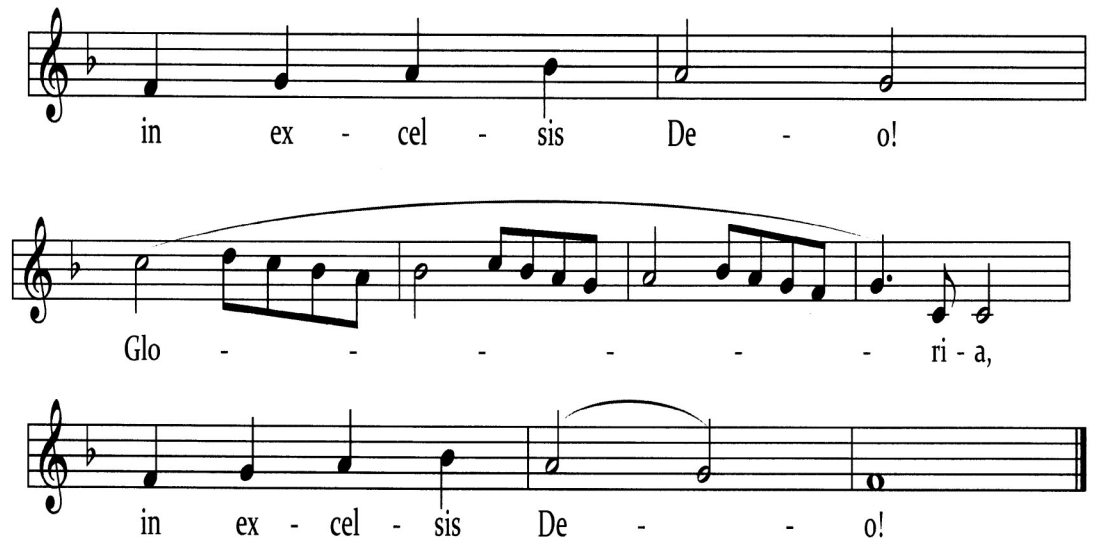


Glo - - - - - ri - a,

The pastor and people get ready to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation as how to celebrate the meal.



Sanctus is a Latin word meaning "Holy". The Sanctus contains words from Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3) and the crowd's response on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem (Matthew 21:9). We join them in spirit by singing their words as we anticipate Christ's coming in the sacrament.



Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

(Sung to tune: CWH 331)



The pastor speaks the words which Jesus spoke when he instituted the Supper with his disciples in the Upper Room. With these words the bread and wine are consecrated, that is, set apart for God's use in this special meal.



Agnus Dei is a Latin phrase meaning "Lamb of God". John the Baptist spoke these words as he pointed to Jesus coming toward him (John 1:29). As Christ comes to us in the Holy Supper, we recognize him as the Lamb of God sacrificed for us to free us from the bondage of sin and death.

Distribution of Sacrament

We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to today, you should speak with our pastor before the service. We would like to help you establish the unity which comes from a common confession of faith (1 Corinthians 10:17) before expressing that union together at the Lord's Table. It is not our intent to judge hearts, but to remain faithful to the truth of God's Word. Those who have established that connection as members of sister WELS or ELS congregations may register by checking the box in the attendance record book at the end of your row. Thank you for honoring our practice.

Distribution Hymn: Take and Eat

CWH 676

Ensemble sings verses; Congregation joins for refrains

Refrain

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my bod - y
giv - en up for you. Take and drink, take and drink,
this is my blood giv - en up for you.

*I am the Word that spoke and light was made;
I am the seed that died to be reborn;
I am the bread that comes from heav'n above;
I am the vine that fills your cup with joy. (Refrain)*

*I am the way that leads the exile home;
I am the truth that sets the captive free;
I am the life that raises up the dead;
I am your peace, true peace my gift to you. (Refrain)*

*I am the Lamb that takes away your sin;
I am the gate that guards you night and day;
you are my flock: you know the shepherd's voice;
you are my own: your ransom is my blood. (Refrain)*

*I am the cornerstone that God has laid;
a chosen stone and precious in his eyes;
you are God's dwelling-place, on me you rest;
like living stones, a temple for God's praise. (Refrain)*

Gluten-free wafers are available. If you point at the tray of wafers, you will be presented with a tray of gluten free wafers which you are invited to take.

Alcohol-free white grape juice can be taken from the wine tray.



This is a hymn sung by the congregation during the distribution of the Lord's Supper.

*I am the light that came into the world;
I am the light that darkness cannot hide;
I am the Morning Star that never sets;
lift up your face, in you my light will shine. (Refrain)*

*I am the first and last, the Living One;
I am the Lord who died that you might live;
I am the bridegroom, this my wedding song;
you are my bride, come to the marriage feast. (Refrain)*

Text: James Quinn, SJ, 1919–2010
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We close the service
with the words of Revelation 22:20, “Amen.
Come, Lord Jesus.”

The Dismissal

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Behold, He who was to come has come.

C: We welcome him with thankful hearts.

M: Behold, He who has come is coming again.

C: We wait for him with fervent faith.

M: He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon'

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

M: The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's people.

C: Amen.

Ensemble

Come to Us, O Promised One
Words and Music by Jan McGuire
Arranged by Lloyd Larson

Acknowledgments

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Personal Prayers for Communion

Before Communing

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

After Communing

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

Weekly News QR Code

Please use the QR code below to view the weekly Newsletter



Holiday Service Schedule

December 14th 10:00 a.m.	Preschool Christmas Program
December 15th 9:00 a.m.	K-4 Christmas Program
December 15th 2:00 p.m.	K-4 Christmas Program
December 24th 6:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service
December 25th, 10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Service
December 31st, 6:00 p.m.	New Years Eve Service

Advent by Candlelight

The women of Cross of Glory Lutheran Church invite you to participate in an afternoon of reflection, music, and fellowship celebrating the birth of Christ. This event is designed for women of all ages to share in the joy and meaning of the season. We hope you can join us!

Advent by Candlelight will take place this afternoon, at 3:00 p.m. It will be held in the church sanctuary. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.

Worship Volunteers	December 8th	December 15th	December 22nd
Counters	Nancy Murphy Maggie Stevenson	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Michael Ryan
Communion	Andrea		
Cleaners	Coates/Simkauskas	Koutia/Piepenbrink	Gullerud/Kugler
Greeters	Carl Henkel Liz Henkel	John Stevenston Maggie Stevenson	Ditter Family
Ushers	Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer Michael Ryan	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Grant Stern	Cody Hall Joel Ditter
Sunday Refreshments	Nicole Brown Leslie Contreras Tracy Ditter	Linda Stern Brenda Grams	Stacey Aguilar Karen Goelzer
A/V	Kelly Simpson Bentley Ryan	Christmas Program	Stacy Cornell Pedro Contreras

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

Diane Lawrence, as the carcinoma has spread so she will be undergoing treatments to shrink the tumor in her eye.

Dennis Lawrence, as he regains strength.

Drew Aguilar, who is recovering from a successful heart surgery.



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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.