

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Epiphany 1**  
**Sunday, January 12, 2025**

623-224-8839 ♦ [www.crossofglory.org](http://www.crossofglory.org)

**Sunday 9am Worship**

Pastor Zachary Pudlo  
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal



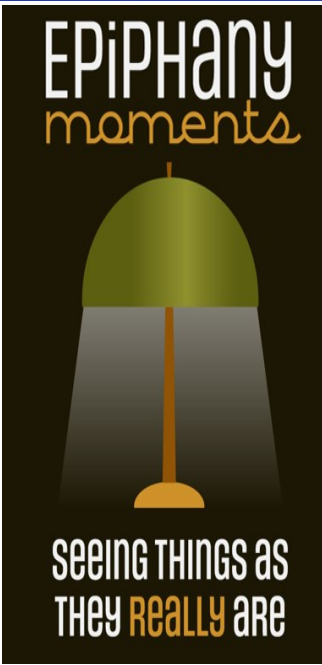
**Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory**

**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.*

# Worship Focus



“Epiphany” comes from a Greek word that means “reveal.” When someone has an epiphany, it’s not that reality changed. The way they see that reality is what changed, for a deeper truth has been revealed. An epiphany is an “a-ha!” moment causing us to look at things very differently.

In the Church Year, Epiphany is the season where we see Jesus begin his ministry, revealing the reason the Son of God came to earth. In this season we will come to understand that when we have Jesus in our lives, it does not always mean our reality drastically changes. It simply means that we see reality differently (and better). Jesus always provides an abundance of epiphany moments.

Our journey through the Epiphany season follows this path:

01-12	<b>Baptism Is the Cure for an Identity Crisis</b>	02-09	The Least Qualified Are the First Sent
01-19	God Delivers More than We Ask, Not Less	02-16	Blessings Are Cursed; Curses Are Blessed
01-26	Rejection Is Not Proof of Failure	02-23	Love Your Enemies, Overcoming Evil with Good
02-02	Popularity Is Not Proof of Success	03-02	Glory Is Hidden in Order to Be Revealed

**BAPTISM IS THE CURE FOR AN IDENTITY CRISIS** “Who is Jesus?” For the longest time, people thought the answer to that question was, “Mary and Joseph’s son” or “a carpenter from Nazareth.” While true enough, those answers do not adequately describe Jesus. But when Jesus was baptized, God the Father spoke, declaring Jesus’ true identity. Jesus was the dearly loved Son of God, chosen to be the Savior of the world.

“Who are you?” someone asks. Perhaps you would answer by providing your name. Maybe you would add additional information—where you are from or what you do for a living. Perhaps, in some dark corner of your mind, you would answer negatively. “I’m no one.”

We need to understand that none of those things *really* describes who we are. To answer that question—Who are you?—we must look to our baptism. Baptism is the cure for an identity crisis. There, just like he did with Jesus, our Father declares us to be his dearly loved child. Moreover, in baptism God anointed us with power for a life of selfless service. May God grant us this epiphany moment!

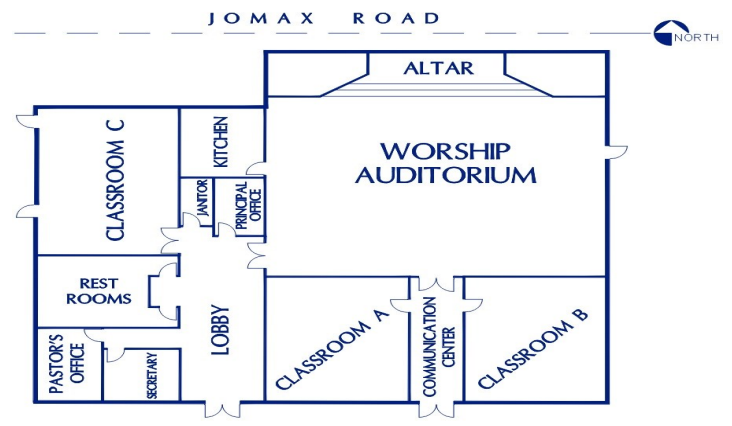
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**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.

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](mailto: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!

# Scripture and Song

## 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.  
(*Psalm 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*)



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

C: Amen.



“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”  
(1 John 1:9)

Christ said to his 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:



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!

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## Catechism Review: The Lord's Prayer Address and 1st Petition (Spoken Responsively)

M: Our Father in heaven.

*What does this mean?*

C: **With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that he is our true Father and that we are his true children, so that we may pray to him as boldly and confidently as dear children ask their dear father.**

M: Hallowed be your name.

*What does this mean?*

C: **God's name is certainly holy by itself, but we pray in this petition that we too may keep it holy.**

M: *How is God's name kept holy?*

C: **God's name is kept holy when his Word is taught in its truth and purity and we as children of God lead holy lives according to it. Help us to do this, dear Father in heaven! But whoever teaches and lives contrary to God's Word dishonors God's name among us. Keep us from doing this, dear Father in heaven!**



*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 eyes of the world, baptism appears to be just a religious ceremony. St. Paul explains baptism is so much more—a second birth that gives you the identity of God’s child and heir.



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.”



People wondered if John the Baptist was the Messiah. He was a powerful preacher who lived a unique life. But at his baptism, Jesus was identified by his Father as the Anointed One.

## Prayer of the Day

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Keep us who are baptized into Christ faithful in our calling as your children, and make us heirs with him of everlasting life; 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

*Titus 3:4–7*

<sup>4</sup>But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup>whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

## Psalm 2

*(Spoken Responsively)*

M: Why do the nations conspire

**C: and the peoples plot in vain?**

M: The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD

**C: and against his Anointed.**

M: The One enthroned in heaven laughs;

**C: the Lord scoffs at them.**

M: He rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,

**C: “I have installed my King on Zion, my holy mountain.”**

M: I will proclaim the LORD’s decree:

**C: He said to me, “You are my Son; today I have become your Father.”**

## The Children’s Sermon

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

## Gospel

*Luke 3:15–17,21-22*

<sup>15</sup>The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” <sup>21</sup>When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened <sup>22</sup>and the Ho-

ly Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

## Sermon Hymn: Christ, Your Footprints through the Desert

CWH 379



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



1 Christ, your foot - prints through the des - ert led to Jor - dan's  
2 Christ, you heard the stir - ring sum - mons as by Jor - dan's  
3 Son of God, the road from Jor - dan led at last to  
4 God, in Bap - tism you have made us one with Christ, our



flow - ing stream; there you heard the her - ald cry - ing  
bank you stood; bathed, though sin - less, with your peo - ple  
Cal - v'ry's hill. There up - on the cross for - sak - en,  
ris - en Lord, freed us, claimed us, cleansed, for - giv - en



Is - rael's old, pro - phet - ic dream: “He is com - ing! He is  
in the riv - er's cleans - ing flood. High a - bove, the heav - ens  
you ful - filled the Fa - ther's will. Lamb of God, we see you  
thro' the wa - ter and the Word. Help us hear your ur - gent



com - ing! He will cleanse the earth with flame! Sin - ners,  
o - pened; came the Spir - it as a dove; spoke a  
dy - ing, sin - less, yet for sin - ners slain. But where  
sum - mons, call - ing us to serve you now. Send us



plunge be - neath the wa - ters! Wash a - way your guilt and shame!”  
voice be - yond all hear - ing: “See my Son, the One I love!”  
death rose up to tri - umph, you be - gan your glo - rious reign!  
forth, your sons and daugh - ters, with the cross up - on our brow.

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## Sermon

## This is the One

1 Samuel 16:1–13

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you mourn for Saul, since I have rejected him as king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and be on your way; I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem. I have chosen one of his sons to be king.”

<sup>2</sup>But Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears about it, he will kill me.”

The LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’ <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what to do. You are to anoint

*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).*

for me the one I indicate.”

<sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD said. When he arrived at Bethlehem, the elders of the town trembled when they met him. They asked, “Do you come in peace?”

<sup>5</sup>Samuel replied, “Yes, in peace; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves and come to the sacrifice with me.” Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they arrived, Samuel saw Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed stands here before the LORD.”

<sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

<sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The LORD has not chosen this one either.” <sup>9</sup>Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The LORD has not chosen these.” <sup>11</sup>So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?”

“There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.”

Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.”

<sup>12</sup>So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features.

Then the LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.” <sup>13</sup>So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

## Apostles' Creed

*(Spoken in Unison)*



*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.*

**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 Begins

CWH 385

Vs. 1 & 2 sung by ensemble; congregation joins for Vs. 3 & 4



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.

*We stand and we watch on the bank, wide-eyed.*

*Water runs and all heaven opens wide,  
 and a voice like thunder replies. (Refrain)*

*Refrain:*

*Here's my Prophet, my Priest, my King, a light in the dark, Christ steps in;  
 here's my Savior, my God, my King, the time has come, Christ begins.*

*Mary's whispering, but it's not the time.*

*Yet six jars are filled with the finest wine.*

*Tell me, who is this by our side? (Refrain)*

### Congregation sings:

3 See the sun out - shined on the hill and hide.  
 4 We stand, gath - ered round on the moun - tain - side.

Clothes like light - ning white, heav - en  
 Watch the clos - ing clouds hide him

o - pens wide, and a voice like thun - der re - plies.  
 from our eyes; with a voice u - nit - ed we cry:

*Refrain*  
 Here's my Proph - et, my Priest, my King, a  
 light in the dark, Christ steps in; here's my Sav - ior, my  
 God, my King, the time has come, Christ be - gins.



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".

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



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)

## 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)

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

## 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 blessings  
flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly 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: To Jordan's River Came Our Lord

CWH 377



1 To Jor - dan's riv - er came our Lord, the Christ, whom  
2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— the Son of  
3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood and John bap -  
6 Now rise, faint hearts: be res - o - lute! This man is



heav'n - ly hosts a - dored, the God from God, the  
God in flesh dis - guised— to stand be - neath the  
tized the Lamb of God, the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
Christ, our sub - sti - tute! He was bap - tized in



Light from Light, the Lord of glo - ry, pow'r, and might.  
Fa - ther's will and all his prom - is - es ful - fill.  
heav'n - ly dove, de - scend - ed on him from a - bove.  
Jor - dan's stream, pro - claimed Re - deem - er, Lord su - preme.

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Worship Volunteers	January 12th	January 19th	January 26th
Counters	Nick Nicholai Michael Ryan	Nancy Murphy Maggie Stevenson	Nancy Murphy Maggie Stevenson
Communion		Sharon	
Cleaners	Coates/Simkauskas	Koutia/Piepenbrink	Gullerud/Kugler
Greeters	Jennifer Lee William Paul	Bill Brooks Shannon Brooks	Gary Jeffers Brenda Jeffers
Ushers	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer Michael Ryan	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Grant Stern
Sunday Refreshments	Mary Berggren Shannon Gullerud	Sharon Wilson Sugirtha Samuel	Stacy Cornell Diana Piepenbrink Liz Henkel
A/V	Kelly Simpson Rene Koutia	Stacy Cornell Pedro Contreras	Hailey Ditter Joel Ditter

## Weekly QR Code



**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 is 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.*

*For the Family of Rick Scott, who passed away on Wednesday.*



**Cross of Glory**  
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10111 W Jomax Road  
Peoria, AZ 85383

*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.*