

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Lent 3

Sunday, March 23, 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



OPEN DOOR POLICIES  
A Lent Series

**God's Surprising Strategies for Getting Sinners Back Home:** When a wayward child wanders far from home, how does a loving parent pursue them without driving them further away? One thing that parent does is let the child know that there is an ongoing open-door policy. The child knows they will always be welcomed back home. Likewise, when we wander from God, he always keeps his door open for us. But God doesn't just passively wait for us to return. He lovingly pursues sinners in ways that make them long for home.

In the Church Year, we have come to the season of Lent. The word Lent comes from an old English word for spring: "lengthen," when the days grow longer. For over 1400 years the Church has set aside the 40 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter as a time of repentance and renewal. In this 40-day journey to the cross and tomb, we will see the surprising strategies our heavenly Father uses for getting sinners back home, close to him and the loving care he offers.

Our journey through the Lent season follows this path:

03-09 One Stands; Everyone Else Sits

03-30 Grace Instead of Condemnation

03-16 No Detours Allowed

04-06 Hiding Treasure in the Trash

**03-23 Always Present, Always Patient**

**ALWAYS PRESENT, ALWAYS PATIENT** The heavenly Father is always present in the lives of his children. He sees every sorrow we endure. He also sees every sin that we commit, even if it's only in our thoughts. He is always present. Yet, he is also always patient. God does not snap at us the second we turn from him. He gives us time to see the error of our ways. He assures us that the door back to him remains always open. By giving us room to share our struggles and shortcomings, he works in us the very repentance he desires and saves us from the judgement that would otherwise be ours.

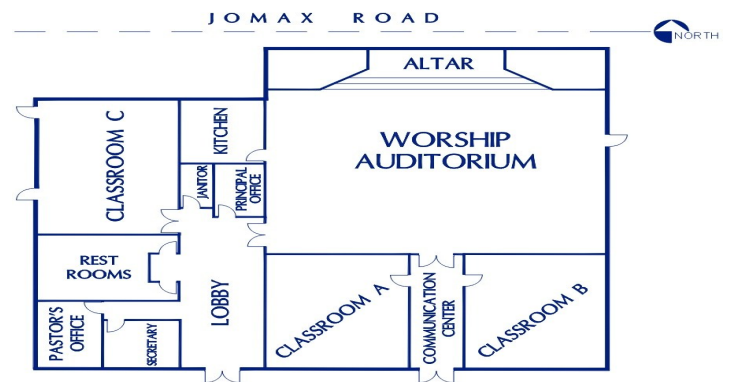
## VISITOR INFORMATION

**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!

# Service of the Word

## Opening Hymn: I Run to Christ

CWH 833



1 I run to Christ when chased by fear and find a ref - uge  
 2 I run to Christ when worn by life and find my soul re -  
 3 I run to Christ when stalked by sin and find a sure es -



sure. "Be - lieve in me," his voice I hear; his words and  
 freshed. "Come un - to me," he calls thro' strife; fa - tigue gives  
 cape. "De - liv - er me," I cry to him; temp - ta - tion



wounds se - cure. I run to Christ when torn by grief and  
 way to rest. I run to Christ when vexed by hell and  
 yields to grace. I run to Christ when plagued by shame and



find a - bun - dant peace. "I too had tears," he  
 find a might - y arm. "The dev - il flees," the  
 find my one de - fense. "I bore God's wrath," he



gent - ly speaks; thus joy and sor - row meet.  
 Scrip - tures tell; he roars but can - not harm.  
 pleads my case— my ad - vo - cate and friend.

Text: Chris Anderson, b. 1971 Tune: Greg Habegger, b. 1973  
 Text and tune: © 2010 Church Works Media (adm. at IntegratedRights.com). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716



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)

## Greeting

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



The greeting used by  
 St. Paul perfectly sum-  
 marizes Christianity.

## Confession and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child.



"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.



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because Jesus is our victorious Savior.

**But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

### Prayer and Praise

*(Spoken by Minister; Sung response by Congregation)*

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

O taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take  
 ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it  
 stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con -  
 tin - ues for - ev - er. O taste and see that the  
 Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

### Prayer of the Church

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**M:** O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**



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



*The Lord reveals his presence to Moses as flames within a bush—fire that warms and gives light yet does not consume.*

<sup>1</sup>Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup>There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup>So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

<sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!”

And Moses said, “Here I am.”

<sup>5</sup>“Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” <sup>6</sup>Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup>So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. <sup>9</sup>And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. <sup>10</sup>So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

<sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

<sup>12</sup>And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

<sup>13</sup>Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

<sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

<sup>15</sup>God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

“This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me  
from generation to generation.



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."

## Psalm

Psalm 85A

### Refrain



### Tone



**You, LORD, forgave the iniquity of your / people  
and covered / all their sins.**

**You set aside / all your wrath  
and turned from your fierce / anger.**

**Show us your unfailing / love, LORD,  
and grant us your sal- / vation. Refrain**

**I will listen to what God the / LORD says;  
he promises peace to his / people.**

**Surely his salvation is near those who / fear him,  
that his glory may dwell / in our land.**

**Love and faithfulness meet to- / gether;  
righteousness and peace kiss each / other.**

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

Text: Hal H. Hopson Tune: Hal H. Hopson Setting: Kermit G. Moldenhauer  
Text and tune: © 2008 Birnamwood/MorningStar Music Publishers (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716  
Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

## The Children's Sermon

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



God revealed his presence among the nation of Israel. Instead of his presence leading to repentant faith, with a sense of false security the Israelites set their hearts on evil.

## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

<sup>1</sup>For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. <sup>2</sup>They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. <sup>3</sup>They all ate the same spiritual food <sup>4</sup>and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup>Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: “The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.” <sup>8</sup>We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. <sup>9</sup>We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. <sup>10</sup>And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

<sup>11</sup>These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall! <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.



A verse from the holy scriptures is usually spoken in preparation for the reading of the Gospel which is read as the second reading or as part of the sermon.

## Gospel Acclamation

2 Peter 3:9

M: He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

## Sermon Hymn: O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace

CWH 591



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, grant us grace that we our  
 2 Help us that we your sav - ing Word in faith - ful  
 3 Then when our earth - ly race is run, death's bit - ter



Lord and Sav - ior in faith and fer - vent love em - brace  
 hearts may trea - sure; let e'er that bread of life af - ford  
 hour im - pend - ing, may your good work in us be - gun



and tru - ly serve him ev - er, so that when death is  
 new grace in rich - est mea - sure. Make us to die to  
 con - tin - ue till life's end - ing, un - til we glad - ly



near at hand we at his cross may  
 ev - 'ry sin; each day cre - ate us  
 may com - mend our souls in - to our



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



firm - ly stand and there find our sal - va - tion.  
new with - in that fruits of faith may flour - ish.  
Sav - ior's hand to rest in peace e - ter - nal.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–1599; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1535, ed. Joseph KlugText 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

## Security When Towers Are Falling

Luke 13:1–9

<sup>1</sup>Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? <sup>3</sup>I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

<sup>6</sup>Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. <sup>7</sup>So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’

<sup>8</sup>“‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. <sup>9</sup>If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”

## 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,**



*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.*



the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Song of the Season: Not What My Hands Have Done

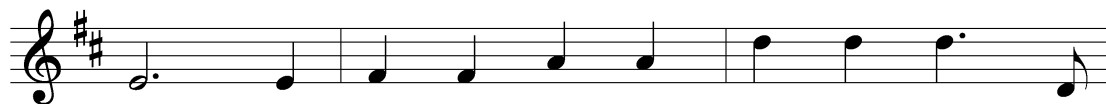
CWH 572



*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.*



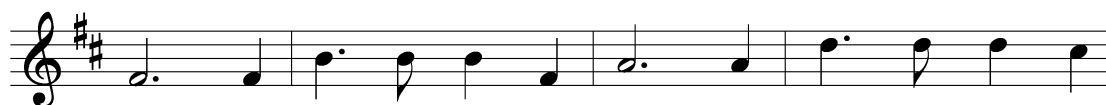
1 Not what my hands have done can save my guilt - y  
2 Thy work a - lone, O Christ, can ease this weight of  
3 I bless the Christ of God, I rest on love di -  
4 I praise the God of grace, I trust his truth and



soul, not what my toil - ing flesh has borne can  
sin, thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, can  
vine, and with un - fal - t'ring lip and heart I  
might. He calls me his, I call him mine, my



make my spir - it whole. Not what I feel or  
give me peace with - in. Thy love to me, O  
call this Sav - ior mine. His cross dis - pels each  
God, my joy, my light. My Lord has saved my



do can give me peace with God, not all my prayers and  
God, not mine, O Lord, to thee can rid me of this  
doubt; I bur - y in his tomb each thought of un - be -  
life, and free - ly par - don gives; I love be - cause he



sighs and tears can bear my aw - ful load.  
dark un - rest and set my spir - it free.  
lief and fear, each lin - g'ring shade of gloom.  
first loved me, I live be - cause he lives.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889, abr. Tune: George W. Martin, 1828-1881, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

## 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.*



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



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

## The 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.**

## 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.**



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.

## Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)

**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.**



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort  
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx - ious soul. Day by day, the bless - ings, Lord, you  
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will



send me draw me near - er to my heav'n - ly goal.  
hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.



Love di - vine, be - yond all mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the  
Day by day, no mat - ter what be - tide me, you will hold me



bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior, lead me to the home I  
ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior, with your pres - ence here to



trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.  
guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005 Tune: Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882  
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## Lent by Candlelight

Lent by Candlelight is a program for women and girls to enjoy a quiet time of reflection and meditation during the busy season of Lent. Please join the women of Cross of Glory for an afternoon of reflection this Lenten season. Lent by Candlelight will be held Sunday, March 30, at 3:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. A light luncheon and tea will be provided. Please use the QR code to RSVP.



Worship Volunteers	March 23rd	March 30th	April 6th
Counters	Nancy Murphy Maggie Stevenson	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Michael Ryan
Communion			Andrea
Cleaners	Casper/Cape	Kelley/Sterns	Coates/Simkauskas
Greeters	Ditter Family	Van Poppelen Family	Ryan Family
Ushers	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson Grant Stern	Cody Hall Joel Ditter	Pedro Contreras Tanner Plizuweit Paul Borkovec
Sunday Refreshments	Mary Berggren Shannon Gullerud	Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson Sugirtha Samuel	Stacy Cornell Diana Piepenbrink Liz Henkel
A/V	Stacey Aguilar Rene Koutia	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson	Shannon Gullerud Aaron Gullerud

Weekly QR Code -



**Cross of Glory**  
Lutheran Church & School  
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.*