## Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School



623-224-8839 • www.crossofglory.org

Thursday, April 17, 2025

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**



REFLECTION ON REPENTANCE "The Lord is not slow to do what he promised. . . . Instead, he is patient for your sakes, not wanting anyone to perish, but all to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). Martin Luther began his famous debate theses noting that Scripture's call to repentance is intended as a way of life. Using David's great penitential Psalm 51, penned following his affair with Bathsheba and the murder of Uriah, this series of Lenten reflections explores the depths of our sinful depravity, the brokenness of our relationship with God, our dire need for rescue, and the good news of forgiveness, cleansing, and rejoicing in our restored relationship with God and the promise of eternal life through Jesus our Savior.

**Stripping of the Altar** The Holy Thursday service concludes with the stripping of the altar. The practice dates from the 7th century and originally served the practical purpose of cleaning the sanctuary in preparation for Easter, when all things are made new. In time, however, the practice became ceremonial in its own right. In silence, communion vessels, table cloths, pulpit and lectern hangings, candles, and all other decorative and liturgical objects are removed, thus dramatizing the abandonment and darkness of the passion and death of our Lord. The sanctuary remains bare until the beginnings of the Easter celebration. The church remains in semi-darkness, and all exit in silence. Symbolically, Christ, stripped of his power and glory, is now in the hands of his captors.

#### **VISITOR INFORMATION**

**New to Cross of Glory?** We are so glad you joined us today!

Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

- Using the friendship register at the end of each row to connect with us today.
- Emailing us at church. secretary@crossofglory.org

# CHURCH MAP JOMAX ROAD ALTAR WORSHIP AUDITORIUM REST ROOMS ROBERT ROOMS ROME ROBERT ROOMS ROBE

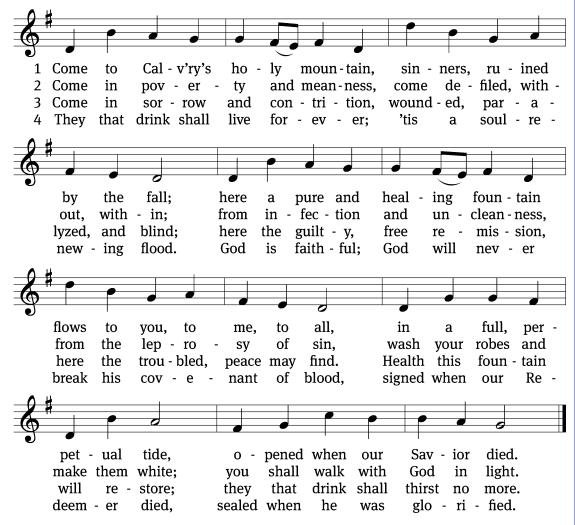
#### **FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN**

- 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. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!

#### **Holy Thursday Service**

#### Opening Hymn: Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

CWH 394





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."

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

#### Greeting

M: Jesus Christ is the light of the world,

C: the light no darkness can overcome.

M: Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,

C: and the day is almost over.

M: Be our light and scatter the darkness,

C: and hear our evening prayer and praise.



This evening prayer dialogue acknowledges Jesus Christ as the "light of the world" and a request for him to remain present and dispel the darkness with his light during the evening hours.



The Old Covenant could only modify behavior. The New Covenant transforms people's hearts and minds.

#### Reading

Jeremiah 31:31–34

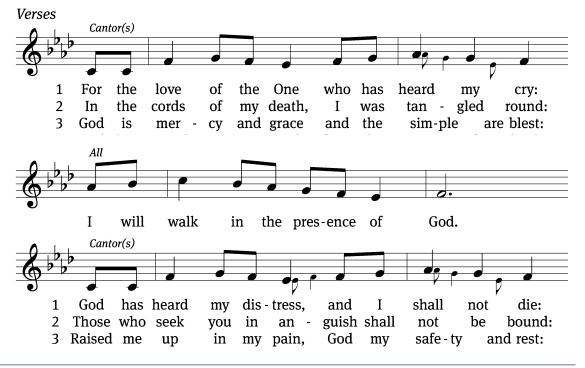
<sup>31</sup>"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. <sup>33</sup>"This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God. and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness

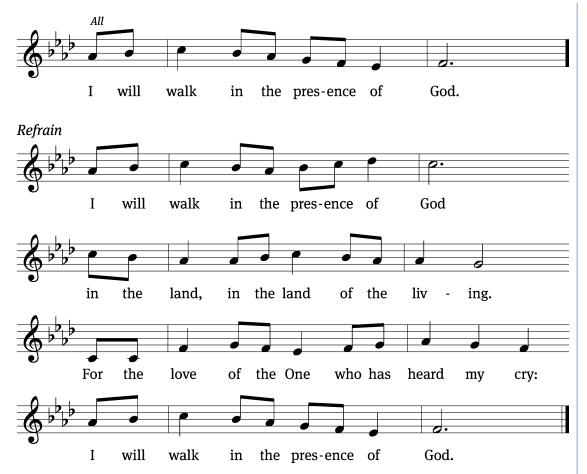
and will remember their sins no more."



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 116C





Text: Marty Haugen Text and tune: © 1995 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Gospel Luke 22:7–20

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

<sup>9</sup>"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

<sup>10</sup>He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, <sup>11</sup> and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>12</sup>He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there."

<sup>13</sup>They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

<sup>14</sup>When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. <sup>16</sup>For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

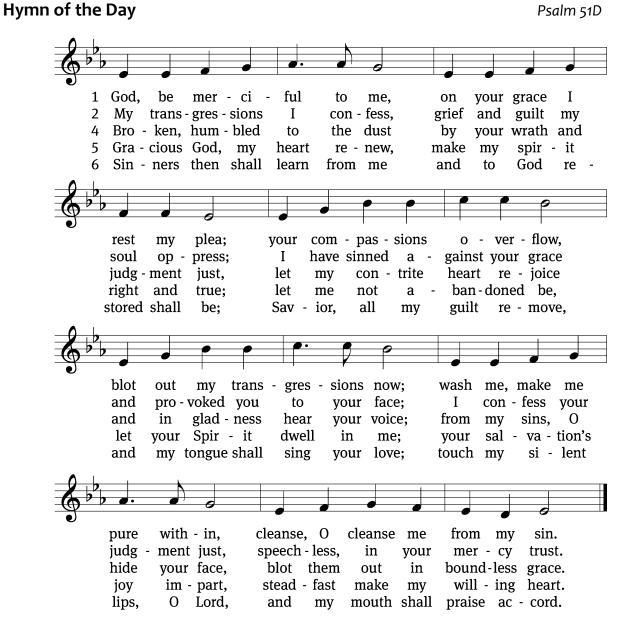
<sup>17</sup>After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. <sup>18</sup>For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

<sup>19</sup>And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."



Jesus institutes the meal of the New Covenant. In this sacrament his body and blood are the food and drink that satisfy our every spiritual need.

<sup>20</sup>In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.



Text: Psalter, 1912, alt. Tune: Richard Redhead Text and tune: Public domain

#### Sermon

#### Renewed Through the Gospel

Psalm 51:10-13

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).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup>Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>Then I will teach transgressors your ways, so that sinners will turn back to you.

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.

Choir Wash Their Feet

Words and Music by Pepper Chopin

#### **Confession for Holy Thursday**

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, in this Lenten season we have heard again how our Lord walked the path of suffering which led him to the cross for our salvation. We have also heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil—all that keeps us from loving God and one another. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of his Spirit to amend our lives continue with us because of his love for us in Jesus our Savior.

Within the family of the Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the absolution, we receive forgiveness as from God himself. This absolution we should not doubt but firmly believe that our sins are thus forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord. We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other, as Jesus became our servant.

In Holy Communion, first instituted on this night, the members of Christ's body participate most intimately in his love. Remembering our Lord's Last Supper with his disciples, we eat the bread and drink the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of his body and blood for forgiveness and participate in that new covenant that makes us one with him and one another. The Lord's Supper is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the joyous culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

As we begin the solemn celebration of our Lord's passion, let us confess our sins to him, receive his absolution, and be reconciled to God and each other in Christian love.

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



"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. " (I John 1:9) with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

#### **Absolution**

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

#### Reconciliation

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us, has reconciled us to God, and has promised us the power to forgive and love one another. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

C: Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.

#### Lord's Prayer

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.

#### **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."

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.





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.

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."

#### O Christ, Lamb of God Agnus Dei





#### **Distribution of Sacrament**

We follow the Scriptural practice of **CLOSE COMMUNION**. If you have not communed here prior to to-day, 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.



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.

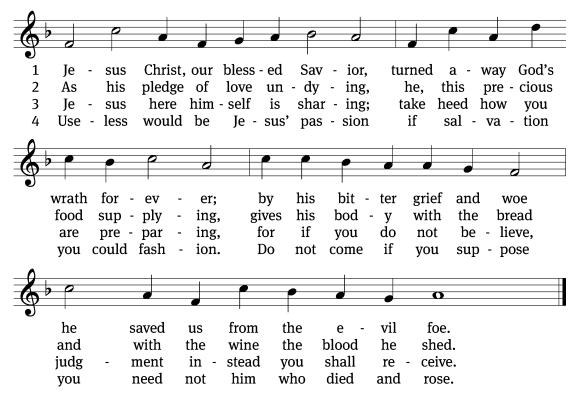
Gluten-free wafers are available. If you point at the tray of wafers, you will be presented with a tray of gluten free wafers which you are invited to take.

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



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

#### Distribution Hymn: Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior



Christ says, "Come, all you that labor, and receive my grace and favor; those who feel no pain or ill need no physician's help or skill."

Then hold fast with faith unshaken that this food is to be taken by the souls who are distressed, by hearts that long for peace and rest.

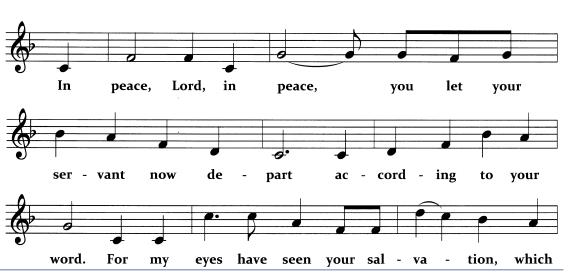
Praise the Father, who from heaven unto us such food has given and, to mend what we have done, gave into death his only Son.

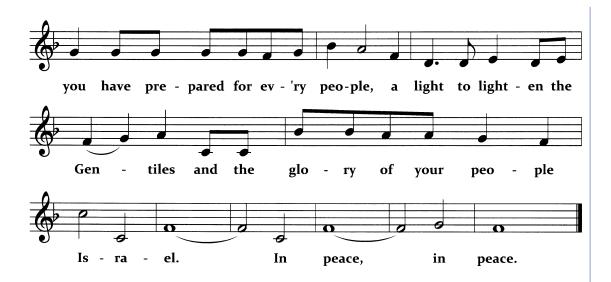
If your heart this truth professes and your mouth your sin confesses, surely you will be his guest and at his banquet ever blest.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, Wittenberg, 1533, ed. Joseph Klug, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

The Nunc Dimittis
("now dismiss") is also
known as the "Song
of Simeon" (Luke 2: 2932). Through God's
Word and Sacrament,
we too have seen
Christ, the Messiah. Like aged Simeon
who held the Christchild in his arms as God
had promised, we find
divine peace and comfort through faith in
the Savior.

#### Song of Simeon Nunc Dimittis

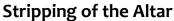




#### Blessing

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.



Lamb

of God.

CWH 403





We conclude the service with St. Paul's benediction of his 2nd letter to the Corinthians citing the persons of the trinity.

After the Lord's Supper is celebrated it is customary to "strip the altar," which symbolizes the abandonment of Jesus by his disciples and the stripping of Jesus by the soldiers before his crucifixion. It represents the humiliation of Jesus and the consequences of sin. Following the stripping of the altar, the congregation leaves the sanctuary in silence contemplating the great sacrifice of Jesus.

take a-way the world's sin,

Lamb of God, you



Text: traditional Agnus Dei, alt.; Psalm 103:11-13, para. Kenneth T. Kosche, b. 1947 Tune: Kenneth T. Kosche, b. 1947 Text and tune: © 1993 Art Masters Studios, Inc., admin. Lorenz Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

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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 for-giveness, 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.





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.