

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Easter Dawn
Sunday, April 20, 2025

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.



It is easy to become so engrossed in the details of historical events—who, when, where—that we miss their significance. For example, consider World War II. There are many compelling stories. Lots of dates and data to remember. However, for a moment, set all that aside, and just imagine the Allies had lost. How would the world be different today? What would life be like for those of Jewish heritage? Would freedom exist in Europe? Would we be speaking German? With historical events, you miss out if you focus only on the details: who, when, where. You also need to focus what that historical event means. The Allies won. That means something!

In this season of Easter, it is good we review the details: who, when, where. That reminds us that the resurrection of Christ is not fairytale or fable. It is a historical event. . . the historical event. However, we do ourselves a disservice if we simply recall the historic details of Easter without thinking long and hard about Easter's significance. Jesus won. That means something! It is our privilege and pleasure to use the fifty days of Easter to discuss this fact: because he lives, not only is our eternity secure, but we have abundant resources to face the present.

Death can sting in many ways. First, death can sting by casting a shadow over every moment of life. No matter what earthly joy you are experiencing, death guarantees it won't last. Second, death can sting by separating loves. There are no phone calls or hugs from the dead. Third, death can sting by instilling fear of what follows. Deep down, every human being senses that after death there is some sort of reckoning. . . a judgement. Yes, death can sting in many ways. Note that word can. Because he lives, death has lost its sting for those who put their faith in the living Lord. Because Christ lives, we have all the proof we need that God accepted Jesus' death as the complete and final payment for all our sin. Those who are in Christ need no judgment. There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ. More, Christ's resurrection is the assurance that our Christian loved ones are not lost. We will see them again in the resurrection. For Christ's resurrection means we will rise to a world of incomprehensible and unending joy. Death remains unnatural. But Christ has defeated death. So, while death may still cause tears, death does not cause dread. Because he lives, death has lost its sting.

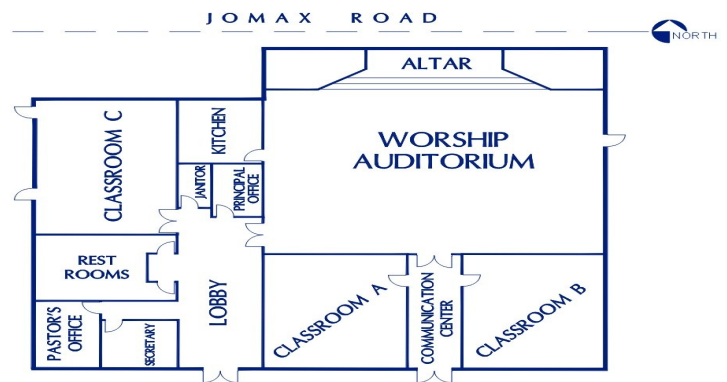
VISITOR INFORMATION

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 Easter breakfast.

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



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!

Easter Dawn Service

Opening Hymn: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

CWH 465



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 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to - day!" saints on
 2 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, fought the
 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has
 4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King! Where, O

earth and an - gels say. Raise your joys and
 fight, the bat - tle won. Lo, our sun's e -
 burst the gates of hell. Death in vain for -
 death, is now your sting? Once he died our

tri - umphs high; sing, O heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
 clipse is o'er; lo, he sets in blood no more.
 bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
 souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, abr., alt. Tune: P. ierre de Corbeille, d. 1221; adapt. Richard Redhead, 1820–1901 Text and tune: Public domain

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Easter Proclamation

Text adapted from the ancient Easter Vigil service

M: Rejoice now, all you heavenly choirs of angels! Rejoice now, all creation!

C: **Sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King.**

M: Rejoice, all the earth, in the radiance of the light now poured upon you and made brilliant by the brightness of the everlasting King.

C: **Know that the ancient darkness has been forever banished.**

M: Rejoice, O Church of Christ, clothed in the brightness of this light.

C: **Let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing, with the praises of all God's faithful people.**

M: This is the day when all who believe in Christ are delivered from bondage to sin and are restored to life and immortality.

C: **This is the day when Christ, the Life, arose from the dead. The seal of the grave is broken and the morning of the new creation breaks forth out of night.**



We call upon God to be present with us. We worship the triune God, remembering our Baptism in his name.

The Easter Vigil is a liturgy held in traditional Christian churches as the first official celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. It is held in the hours of darkness between sunset on Holy Saturday and sunrise on Easter Day and is the first celebration of Easter. The responsive reading declares the joy that salvation is ours through Christ's victory over death.

M: How holy is this day when all wickedness is put to flight and sin is washed away.

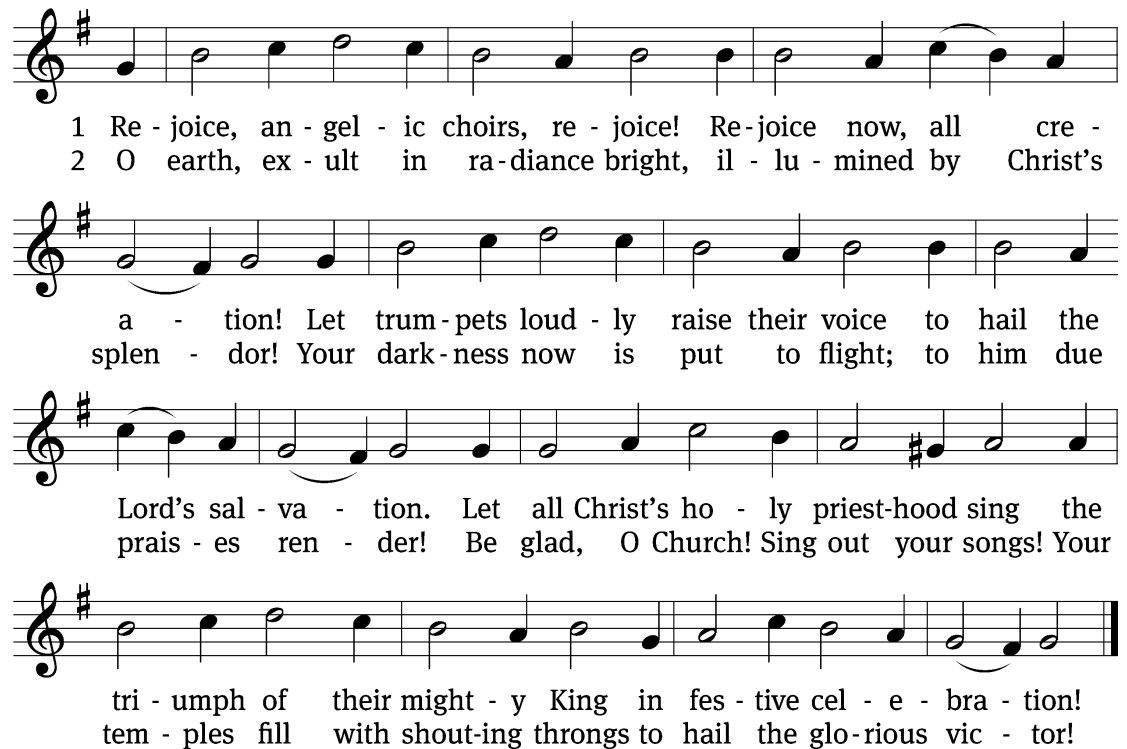
C: How holy is this day when innocence is restored to the fallen and joy is given to those downcast.

M: How blessed is this day when man is reconciled to God in Christ.

C: Let Christ, the true Light and Morning Star, shine in our hearts, he who gives light to all creation.

Hymn of Response: Rejoice, Angelic Choirs, Rejoice!

CWH 957



1 Re - joice, an - gel - ic choirs, re - joice! Re-joyce now, all cre -
2 O earth, ex - ult in ra-diance bright, il - lu - mined by Christ's
a - tion! Let trum-pets loud - ly raise their voice to hail the
splen - dor! Your dark-ness now is put to flight; to him due
Lord's sal - va - tion. Let all Christ's ho - ly priest-hood sing the
prais - es ren - der! Be glad, O Church! Sing out your songs! Your
tri - umph of their might - y King in fes - tive cel - e - bra - tion!
tem - ples fill with shout-ing throngs to hail the glo-rious vic - tor!

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990 Tune: plainsong, 10th cent.; adapt. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain



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



The Lord destroyed Egypt's army in the waters of the Red Sea. In saving them, the Lord gave the Israelites a new identity—not slaves of Egypt, but God's special people and chosen nation.

Prayer of the Day

M: Almighty God, through your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, you overcame death and opened the gate of everlasting life. We humbly pray that we may live before you in righteousness and purity forever; 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

Exodus 15:1–11

¹Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

“I will sing to the LORD, for he is highly exalted.

Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.

²⁴“The LORD is my strength and my defense;
he has become my salvation.

He is my God, and I will praise him,
 my father's God, and I will exalt him.

³The LORD is a warrior; the LORD is his name.

⁴Pharaoh's chariots and his army he has hurled into the sea.
 The best of Pharaoh's officers are drowned in the Red Sea.

⁵The deep waters have covered them;
 they sank to the depths like a stone.

⁶Your right hand, LORD, was majestic in power.
 Your right hand, LORD, shattered the enemy.

⁷"In the greatness of your majesty
 you threw down those who opposed you.
 You unleashed your burning anger;
 it consumed them like stubble.

⁸By the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up.
 The surging waters stood up like a wall;
 the deep waters congealed in the heart of the sea.

⁹The enemy boasted, 'I will pursue, I will overtake them.
 I will divide the spoils; I will gorge myself on them.
 I will draw my sword and my hand will destroy them.'

¹⁰But you blew with your breath, and the sea covered them.
 They sank like lead in the mighty waters.

¹¹Who among the gods is like you, LORD?
 Who is like you— majestic in holiness,
 awesome in glory, working wonders?

Hymn of Response: Jesus Lives! The Vict'ry's Won!

CWH 444

1 Je - sus lives! The vic - t'ry's won! Death no long - er
 3 Je - sus lives! For me he died; hence will I, to

can ap - pall me. Je - sus lives! Death's reign is done!
 Je - sus liv - ing, pure in heart and act a - bid,

From the grave Christ will re - call me. Bright - er
 praise to him and glo - ry giv - ing. All I

scenes will then com - mence; this shall be my con - fi - dence.
 need God will dis - pense; this shall be my con - fi - dence.

Text: Christian F. Gellert, 1715–1769, abr.; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain



The first appearance of Jesus after his resurrection was to Mary of Magdala. In that appearance, for the first time Jesus gives his followers this new identity: “my brothers.”

Gospel

John 20:1–18

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ²So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

³So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹(They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

¹¹Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹²and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?” “They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” ¹⁴At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

¹⁵He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”). ¹⁷Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

¹⁸Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!”

And she told them that he had said these things to her.



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

Hymn of the Day: Alleluia! Jesus Lives

CWH 455



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus lives! He is now the Liv - ing One;
2 Je - sus lives! Let all re - joice; praise him, ran-somed ones of earth.
3 Je - sus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and fre-quent sigh?
4 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life is yours e - ter - nal - ly;



from the gloom-y house of death forth the con-quer - or has gone,
Praise him in a no - bler song, cher - u - bim of heav'n-ly birth.
He who died our broth-er here lives our broth-er still on high,
joined to him, your liv - ing head, where he is, you too shall be;



bright fore - run - ner to the skies of his peo - ple, yet to rise.
 Praise the Vic - tor - King, whose sway sin and death and hell o - bey.
 lives for - ev - er to be - stow bless - ings on his Church be - low.
 you with him at his right hand vic - tor o - ver death shall stand.

Text: Karl B. Garve, 1763–1841, abr.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

1 Corinthians 15:51–57

⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵²in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

⁵⁵“Where, O death, is your victory?
 Where, O death, is your sting?”

⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 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.



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).



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 **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

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Awake, My Heart, with Gladness

CWH 443

1 A - wake, my heart, with glad - ness— see what to -
3 This is a sight that glad - dens— what peace it

day is done! Now, af - ter gloom and sad - ness, comes
does im - part! Now noth - ing ev - er sad - dens the

forth the glo - rious sun. My Sav - ior there was
joy with - in my heart. No gloom shall ev - er

laid where our bed must be made when to the
shake, no foe shall ev - er take the hope which

realms of light our spir - it wings its flight.
God's own Son in love for me has won.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; tr. John Kelly, 1833–1890, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

*Following the service, all are invited to breakfast
on the patio.*

Acknowledgments

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