

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Easter Festival Service**  
**Sunday, April 20, 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



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.

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.

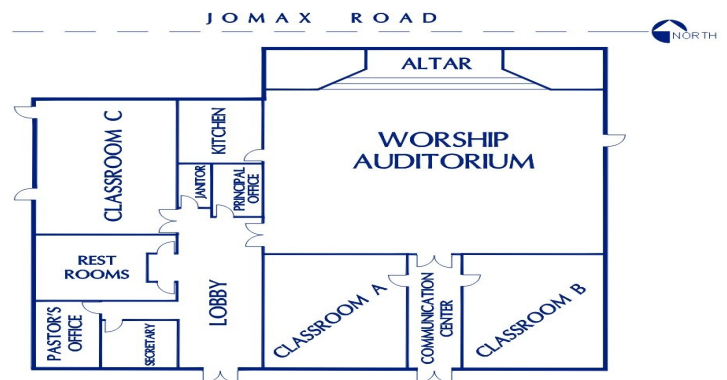
### VISITOR INFORMATION

**New to Cross of Glory?** We are so glad you joined us today! We invite you to stay after the service to chat.

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!

# Easter Festival Service

Choir

Christ is Risen

*Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson and Nigel Hendroff*

## Easter Acclamation

*(Spoken Responsively)*

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

**C: Amen.**

M: The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!

**C: God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.**

M: He has made him ruler over the works of his hands;

**C: He has put everything under his feet.**

M: Christ Jesus, the same yesterday, today, and forever, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and the Omega.

**C: He shall reign forever and ever!**

M: Alleluia! Christ has destroyed death!

**C: And has brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel.**

M: The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed!

**C: God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor!**

M: Rejoice now, all you heavenly angels; rejoice now, all creation; sound forth, trumpet of salvation, and proclaim the triumph of our King.

**C: Rejoice, O Church of Christ; let all this house of God ring out with rejoicing.**

M: On this most holy day our Savior, Christ, the Lord, broke the power of death and by his resurrection brought life and salvation to all creation. Let us praise the Lord, for he truly keeps his word. The sun of righteousness has dawned on those sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death.



*In the greeting this  
Easter morning, we  
proclaim the salvation  
won by our risen Sav-  
ior.*



Six weeks ago, on Transfiguration Sunday we processed the Alleluia banner out of the sanctuary, signifying the beginning of the season of Lent, a time of somber reflection where we refrained from singing Alleluia during services.

As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and his triumph over the grave—securing our salvation—we return the Alleluia banner to the sanctuary symbolizing the joy of our salvation!

## Opening Hymn: Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

CWH 466

*Alleluia banner is processed into the sanctuary*

1 Christ has a - ris - en, al - le - lu - ia.  
2 For three long days the grave did its worst  
3 The an - gel said to them, "Do not fear!  
4 "Go spread the news: he's not in the grave;

Re - joice and praise him, al - le - lu - ia.  
un - til its strength by God was dis - persed.  
You look for Je - sus who is not here.  
he has a - ris - en this world to save.

For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,  
He who gives life did death un - der - go,  
See for your - selves the tomb is all bare,  
Je - sus' re - deem - ing la - bors are done.

e - ven from death, dis - pel - ling its gloom.  
and in its con - quest his might did show.  
on - ly the grave - clothes are ly - ing there."  
E - ven the bat - tle with sin is won."

*Refrain*

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy;  
death's fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.  
Our sin for - giv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!  
Je - sus is liv - ing, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010 Tune: Tanzanian  
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## Confession of Sins and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)



**M:** Upon the hill the cross now stands empty. Morning light breaks upon the tomb.  
As we come before our God and King, let us confess our sins.

**C:** Lord God, I humbly come before you. I confess that I am sinful in thought, word, and deed. I daily fail to do what you command, and continually do what you forbid. Lord, I am sorry for my sins. I believe that for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ, you will have mercy on me.

**M:** Upon this your sincere confession, by Christ's command and authority, I assure you that your sins are all forgiven. The vacant cross and the empty grave are God's signs to you that he has accepted the sacrifice of his one and only Son. Whoever believes this simple truth of Scripture has eternal life. The Lord is gracious and righteous!

**C:** When I was in great need, he saved me.

**M:** The Lord is my strength and my song;

**C:** He has become my salvation.

*"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.*

## Prayer and Praise

(Spoken by Minister;

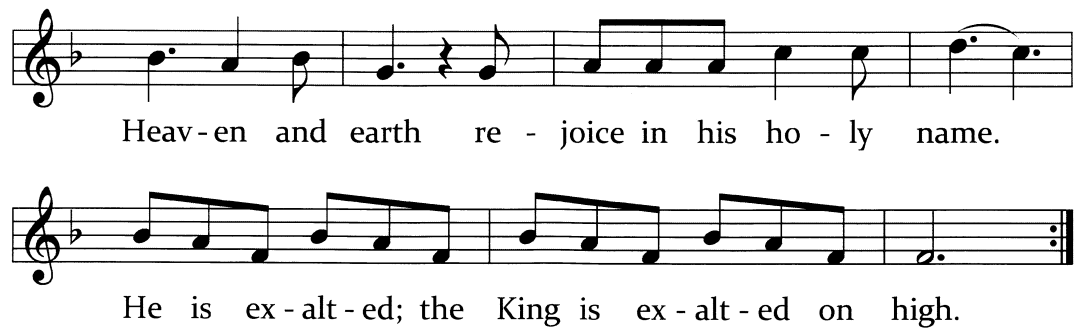
Sung response by Ensemble and Congregation)



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

He is ex - alt - ed; the King is ex -  
alt - ed on high. I will praise him.  
He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex -  
alt - ed, and I will praise his name!  
He is the Lord; for - ev - er his truth shall reign.

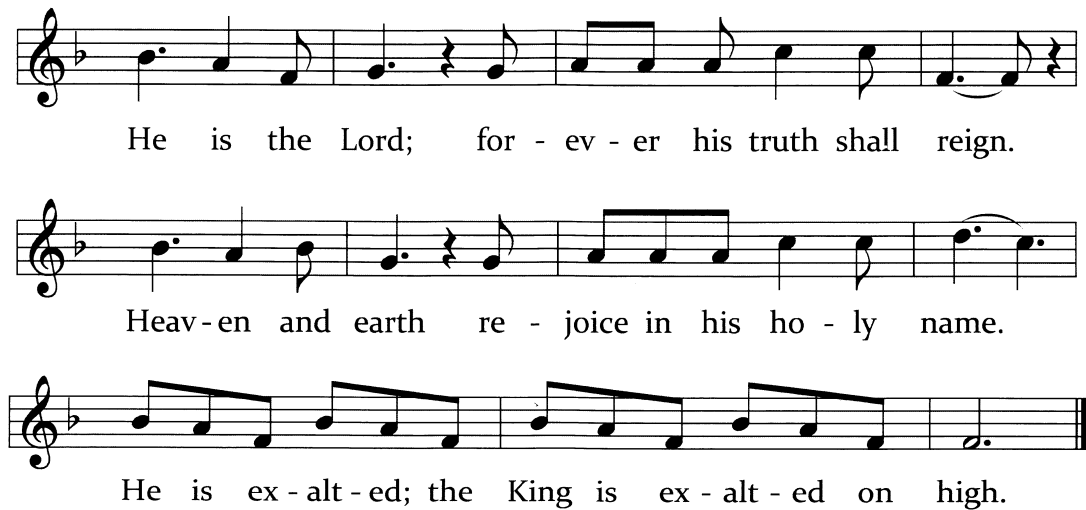
*This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because Jesus is our victorious Savior who has triumphed over sin.*



### Ensemble Sings:

*Jesus my Savior; he gave his life for me.  
On the cross he bled and died then rose victoriously.  
Praise his name. Praise his name. Praise his name.*

### Congregation Sings:



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



*The Lord has taken  
away our disgrace, torn  
up the shroud of death,  
and promised us an  
eternal feast of joy.*

## Prayer of the Day

*(Spoken by Minister)*

**M:** Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## First Reading

*Isaiah 25:6–9*

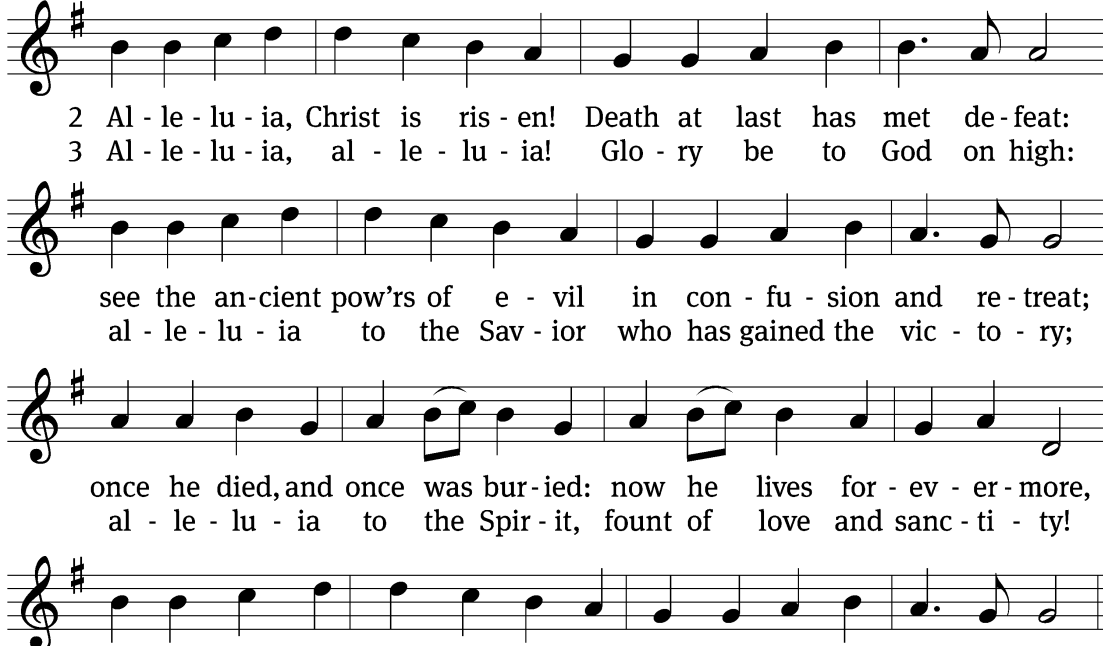
<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare  
a feast of rich food for all peoples,  
a banquet of aged wine—  
the best of meats and the finest of wines.

<sup>7</sup>On this mountain he will destroy  
the shroud that enfolds all peoples,  
the sheet that covers all nations;  
<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.  
The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears  
from all faces;  
he will remove his people's disgrace  
from all the earth.  
The LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>In that day they will say,  
“Surely this is our God;  
we trusted in him, and he saved us.  
This is the LORD, we trusted in him;  
let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

## Hymn of Response: Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven

CWH 460



2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:  
3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:  
see the an - cient pow'rs of e - vil in con - fu - sion and re - treat;  
al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior who has gained the vic - to - ry;  
once he died, and once was bur - ied: now he lives for - ev - er - more,  
al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!  
Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, whom we wor - ship and a - dore.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia to the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Text (st. 2): rev. Jubilate Hymns Ltd.; (st. 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885 Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867  
Text (st. 2): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Text (st. 3) and tune: Public domain

## The Children's Sermon

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

## Gospel

Luke 24:1–12

<sup>1</sup>On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup>They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup>but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup>While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning



*The account of Christ's  
Easter victory.*



stood beside them. <sup>5</sup>In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: <sup>7</sup>“The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.” <sup>8</sup>Then they remembered his words.

<sup>9</sup>When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. <sup>10</sup>It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup>But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. <sup>12</sup>Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.



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

## Hymn of the Day: I Know That My Redeemer Lives

CWH 441

1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
 4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
 5 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to

this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives all - glo - rious  
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my

once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
 in the sky; he lives ex - alt - ed there on high.  
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

**He lives, all glory to his name!**

**He lives, my Jesus, still the same.**

**Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:**

**I know that my Redeemer lives!**

Text: Samuel Medley, 1739–1799, abr. Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, 1710–1793 Text and tune: Public domain



<sup>51</sup>Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—  
<sup>52</sup>in 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. <sup>53</sup>For the perishable must  
 clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. <sup>54</sup>When the per-  
 ishable 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.”

<sup>55</sup>“Where, O death, is your victory?  
 Where, O death, is your sting?”

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

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

## Hymn of Response: His Battle Ended There

Ensemble sings verses;  
 Congregation joins on refrain

*His battle ended there, death was overcome.  
 Jesus, alive again, wore the victor's crown.  
 Clearly sin had failed; goodness had prevailed.*



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).



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.

### Congregation sings:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*Dread pow'rs of death and sin had him in their hold.  
When Jesus rose again all their plans were foiled.  
Jesus lived again, triumphed over sin. **Refrain***

*Dead in the grave he lay, mourned by ev'ry friend.  
Those dark and fearful days then did reach their end.  
God raised him to life, victor in the strife. **Refrain***

*He burst the chains of sin, opened death's dark jail.  
God filled him with new life, life that could not fail.  
Right before their eyes Jesus did arise. **Refrain***



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".

(1 Timothy 2:1)

### 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 for Easter

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** Almighty and merciful God, on this glorious day we rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Increase our faith that the message of the empty tomb may fill our lives and make us glad each day.

**C:** **When we are weak, be our strength; when we are sad, be our song; and when we sin, be our salvation.**

**M:** Remove the hurt of death from all who mourn. In moments of grief call believers through the voice of our Good Shepherd and embolden us to follow his promises. In their hopelessness of despair turn the faithless to trust in the only Way, Truth, and Life.

**C:** **Wipe away tears born of death and give new birth to a living hope in the hearts of the lost and troubled. Use our witness as compassion and comfort for others in need of mercy.**

**M:** King of kings and Lord of lords, destroy all dominion, authority, and power that stands against you, whether seen or unseen. Whatever evil exerts itself against your saving will--false teaching or lukewarm faith, Satan's lies or worldly pleasures, empty worship or futile religion—rule it for the sake of the gospel's free course.

**C: Triumph over our enemies and empower the Church to fight the good fight to the end. Never leave us or forsake us.**

M: Walk among our churches, O Living One, as the faithful witness and firstborn from the dead. As your angel sent women with news of the risen Christ, call women in our church to announce, "He is risen!" As you sent your disciples with the breath of the Spirit, call those in our church full of the Spirit and wisdom to administer the keys of the kingdom.

**C: Wherever we live and whatever we do, help us to be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks us to give the reason for the hope that we have in Christ.**

M: Heavenly Father keep the baptized united with your Son in his resurrection. Put to death the fleshly urges of those caught in addictions, clothe in your righteousness anyone ashamed of good intentions which have fallen short, and assure those searching for purpose that their eternal identity as your dear children is sealed.

**C: Thank you for the power of baptism working in our lives, and for the certainty of its promises through the resurrection. Enrich us with everything we need for life and godliness.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*~Silent prayer~*

M: O Lord of life, you have done mighty things for us! We pray through him who is the Beginning and the End, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: His name is above every name, to the glory of God the Father! Amen.**

## 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.



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



The Easter blessing is a final responsive acclamation of God's glory followed by the words of Ephesians 1:17-19.

## Easter Blessing

(Spoken Responsively)

**M:** "Hallelujah! Praise our God, all you his servants,

**C:** **you who fear him, both small and great!"**

**M:** "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

**C:** **Let us rejoice and be glad, and give him glory."**

**M:** Now may the glorious Father, who by his power raised our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, give you the spirit of wisdom to know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

And may he preserve you in body, soul, and spirit until our own resurrection on the day of Christ Jesus.

**C:** **Amen.**

## Ensemble

## Redemption Story

*Words and Music by Michael Neal, Jordan Grizzard, and Jonathan Walker*

### Acknowledgments

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**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.*