

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Pentecost 14
Sunday, September 14, 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.

Worship Focus



Not all wounds are bad. A skilled surgeon takes a deadly sharp scalpel and cuts through flesh and muscle. The result of that wound: not harm, but healing. In the same way, we often say that words cut us to the heart. Words can wound. Sometimes, however, those painful words provide the very healing we need.

“Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem” (Luke 13:22). Jesus knows that when he gets to Jerusalem, he is going to die. So, with a sense of extreme urgency, Jesus shares truths we need to hear, even though it hurts to hear them. In this series, we might not like everything that Jesus says. Yet, to ignore what Jesus teaches is to court eternal death. Hard as it may be, let us listen and take all that Jesus says to heart. For while Jesus speaks words that wound us, his intent is to heal our very soul.

Our worship follows this pattern:

Aug 17 God's Word Divides

Aug 24 The Door is Very Narrow

Aug 31 Those who Exalt Themselves Will be Humbled

Sep 7 Count the Cost

Sep 14 The Found are Left; the Lost are Found

Sep 21 No One Can Serve Two Masters

Sep 28 What Helps in Life Fails in Death

Oct 5 Increased Faith Increases Duty

THE FOUND ARE LEFT; THE LOST ARE FOUND “He’s lost.” We use that term not only to refer to someone who is bewildered about where they are but also to refer to someone who is in a helpless, hopeless state. Mankind’s natural state is one of complete spiritual helplessness, a profound lostness. It manifests itself in countless ways. The one who simply wants God to leave him alone: lost. The one who feels she can handle life on her own: lost. The one who thinks he has the right to repent of his sins on his own timetable and terms: lost. The one who thinks God owes her in some way: lost. Wandering around physically lost can lead to winding up in bad places. Jesus’ wounding words this week teach that wandering around spiritually lost puts you in the worst place of all. Fortunately, Jesus does not leave us in our lostness. He relentlessly seeks us. He involves the rest of the Christian community in seeking the lost and rejoicing over the found.

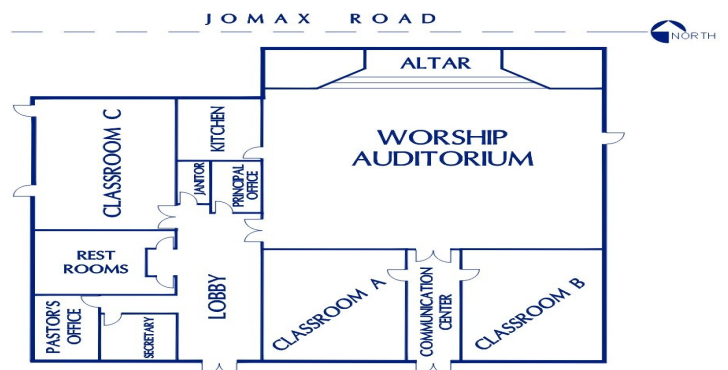
VISITOR INFORMATION

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

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 Worship and Praise

Opening Hymn: Just As I Am

CWH 814



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 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not to rid my
5 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come,
6 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me and that thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each
par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be -
ev - 'ry bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea thine a -

thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868 Text and tune: Public domain

We Gather in God's Name

(Read/Sung Responsively)

M: We gather for worship the same way we were baptized: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: As believers in Christ we are called to repent of our sins and forgive one another. In the book of James we are told, “Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for one another so that you may be healed.” As one body in Christ, we unite our hearts in prayer:

C: Lord, I pray to you because I am suffering. I have cut myself off from you and others by the sin in my life. I need your forgiveness so that I may find healing for my wounded life and for the wounds I have caused others. Today in the name of Jesus I pray, forgive me; and by the power of your Holy Spirit, renew my heart. Amen.



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



“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)



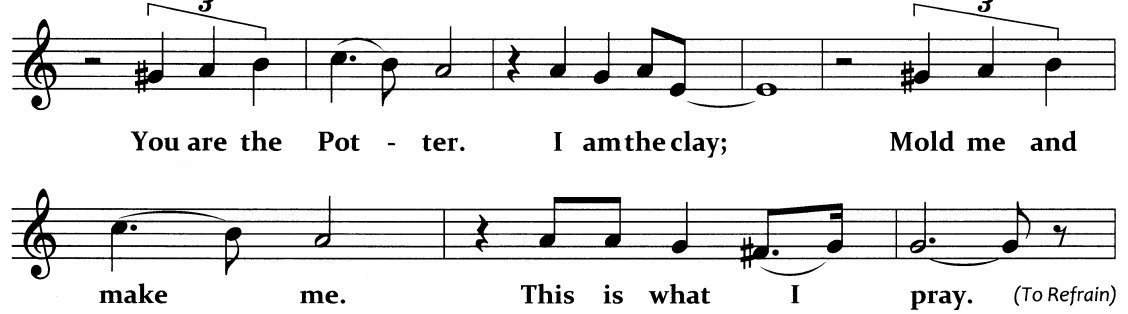
The song of confession is taken from Isaiah which reminds us that "all our righteous acts are like filthy rags", but along with Isaiah we acknowledge that through his Word our God is able to mold us into the humble servants he wants us to be.

Congregation Sings:

Refrain



Verse



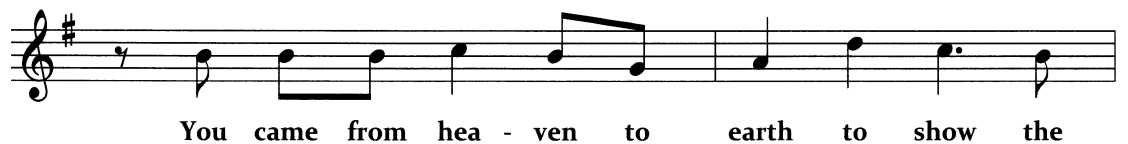
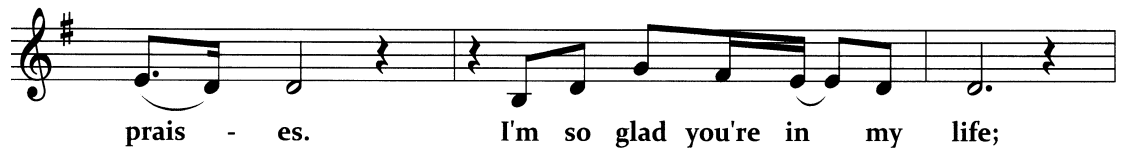
M: We take comfort and find confidence in the words of Jesus, "He sent me to announce forgiveness to the prisoners of sin, to restore sight to the blind, to bring mercy to lives shattered by sin, to announce the favor of the Lord." God gave his only Son, Jesus, to die for our sins and rise from death to give us eternal life. We are forgiven. We live in the favor of the Lord. We live in his power, energized to tell of his peace.

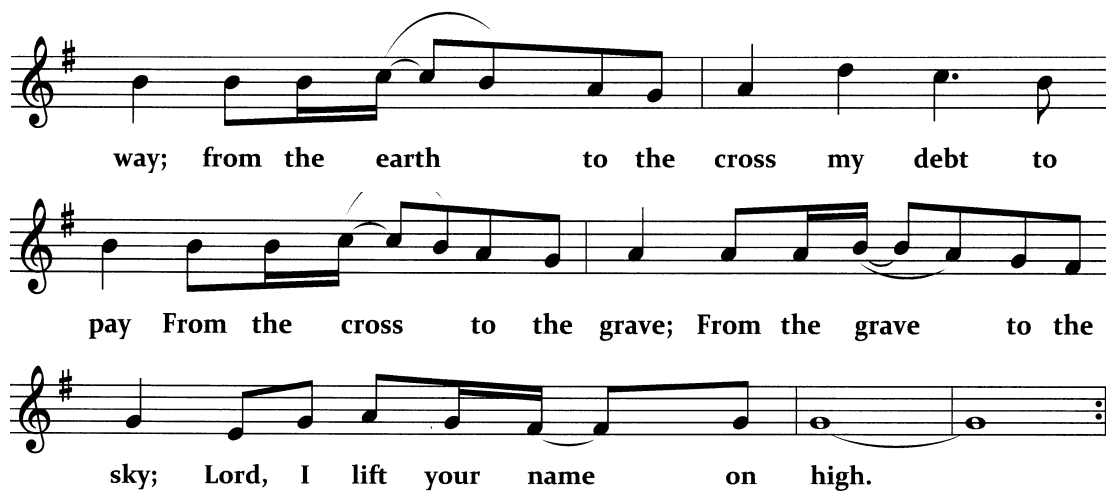
C: Amen.



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because our debt of sin was paid by Jesus, our victorious Savior.

Congregation Sings:





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 life-long 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.

Catechism Review: The Lord's Prayer (The Doxology) (Spoken Responsively)

M: For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

What does this mean?

C: We can be sure that these petitions are acceptable to our Father in heaven and are heard by him, for he himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Therefore we say, "Amen. Yes, it shall be so."

First Reading

2 Corinthians 2:5–11

⁵If anyone has caused grief, he has not so much grieved me as he has grieved all of you to some extent—not to put it too severely. ⁶The punishment inflicted on him by the majority is sufficient. ⁷Now instead, you ought to forgive and comfort him, so that he will not be overwhelmed by excessive sorrow. ⁸I urge you, therefore, to reaffirm your love for him. ⁹Another reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything. ¹⁰Anyone you forgive, I also forgive. And what I have forgiven—if there was anything to forgive—I have forgiven in the sight of Christ for your sake, ¹¹in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.



A member of the church in Corinth had been lost in sin, but through loving church discipline, had been moved to repent. Paul encourages the members to joyfully welcome him back.



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 51

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Have mercy on me, O God,

C: according to your unfailing love;

M: according to your great compassion

C: blot out my transgressions.

M: Wash away all my iniquity

C: and cleanse me from my sin.

M: For I know my transgressions,

C: and my sin is always before me.

M: Against you, you only, have I sinned

C: and done what is evil in your sight.

M: Surely I was sinful at birth,

C: sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

M: Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean;

C: wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

M: Hide your face from my sins

C: and blot out all my iniquity.

The Children's Sermon

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



Through two parables, Jesus rebukes those who consider themselves already found and not in need of repentance.

Gospel

Luke 15:1–10

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. ²But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³Then Jesus told them this parable: ⁴“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? ⁵And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders ⁶and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

⁸“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ ¹⁰In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”



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



1 "Come un - to me, ye wea - ry, and I will give you rest."
 2 "Come un - to me, ye wan - d'ers, and I will give you light."
 3 "Come un - to me, ye faint - ing, and I will give you life."
 4 "And who - so - ev - er com - eth, I will not cast him out."



O bless - ed voice of Je - sus, which comes to hearts op - pressed!
 O lov - ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to cheer the night!
 O cheer-ing voice of Je - sus, which comes to aid our strife!
 O pa - tient love of Je - sus, which drives a - way our doubt,



It tells of ben - e - dic - tion, of par - don, grace, and peace,
 Our hearts were filled with sad - ness, and we had lost our way,
 The foe is stern and ea - ger, the fight is fierce and long,
 which, though we be un - wor - thy of love so great and free,



of joy that has no end - ing, of love that can - not cease.
 but thou hast brought us glad - ness and songs at break of day.
 but thou hast made us might - y and strong - er than the strong.
 in - vites us ver - y sin - ners to come, dear Lord, to thee!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt. Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812-after 1857 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Our Cosmic Marriage

Hosea 3:1-5

¹The LORD said to me, "Go, show your love to your wife again, though she is loved by another man and is an adulteress. Love her as the LORD loves the Israelites, though they turn to other gods and love the sacred raisin cakes."

²So I bought her for fifteen shekels of silver and about a homer and a lethek of barley.
³Then I told her, "You are to live with me many days; you must not be a prostitute or be intimate with any man, and I will behave the same way toward you."

⁴For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or household gods. ⁵Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

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, we respond with our confession of faith.

Today, we confess the third article of The Apostles' Creed, which focuses on the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit who creates faith in our hearts through the gospel, keeps us in the faith and motivates us to do good works.

The explanation is taken from Luther's Small Catechism.



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.

The 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed (Sanctification) *(Spoken Responsively)*

M: 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.

What does this mean?

C: I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

M: In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

C: On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

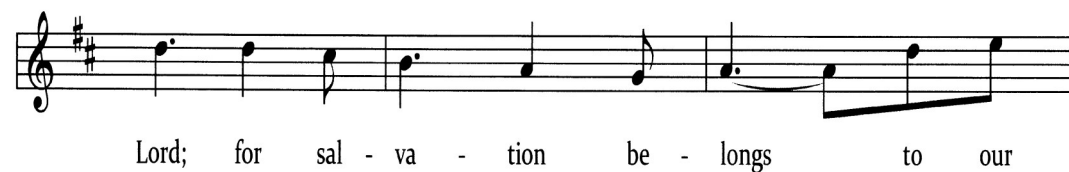
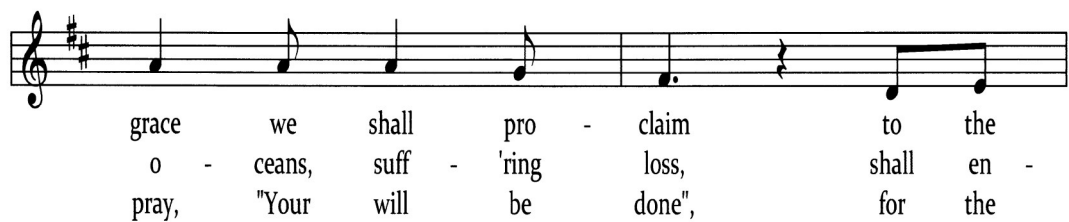
Song of the Season: Let the Nations Be Glad

1. Let the glo - ry of the Lord for -
 2. Through the a - ges gone be - fore, through the
 3. As your ho - ly church goes forth in the

ev - er be our joy; may re - demp - tion be the
 tri - al and the sword, man - y saints and mar - tyrs
 Ho - ly Spir - it's pow'r, with the glo - ries of the

theme of our song. For by
 con - quered though they died. Still we,
 gos - pel to ex - claim; now we

grace we have been saved and by
 hold - ing out the cross, cross - ing
 pray, "your king - dom come", and we



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.



We sing the **Apostolic Blessing** today. This is the blessing which the apostle Paul spoke as he concluded his second letter to the church at Corinth.
(2 Corinthians 13:14)

Blessing

Sung by Congregation

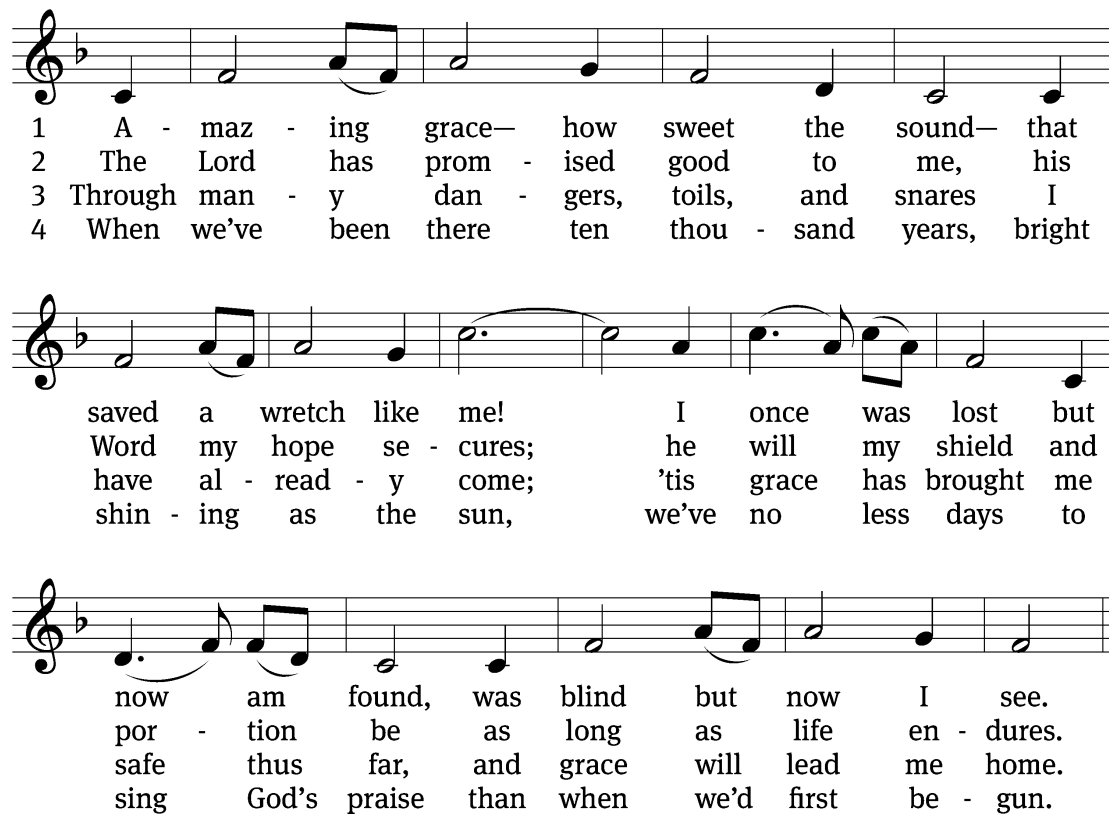
The Lord bless you, and keep you.
Make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

The Lord bless you, and keep you.
Make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.
May his favor be upon you, and a thousand generations
and your family and your children, and their children, and their children.

May his presence go before you, and behind you, and beside you. All
around you, and within you, he is with you, he is with you.
In the morning, in the ev'ning, in your coming, and your going.
In your weeping, and rejoicing. He is for you, he is for you.
Amen, amen, amen. Amen, amen, amen.

The Lord bless you, and keep you.
Make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that
 2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, his
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but
 Word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1–3): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 4): A Collection of Sacred
 Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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Ways to Serve

Worship Volunteers	September 14th	September 21st	September 28th
Counters	Joel Ditter Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nickolai Michael Ryan	Maggie Stevenson Nancy Murphy
Communion		Sharon	
Greeters	Henkel Family	Stevenson Family	Ryan Family
Ushers	Brian Ehinger Trey Ehinger Kade Ehinger	Jon Naber Rich Kugler Kelly Simpson	Dave Goelzer Karen Goelzer Zach Plitzuweit
Sunday Refreshments	Clara Naber	Linda Stern Sue Proeber Brenda Grams	Stacey Aguilar Leslie Contreras
A/V	Rene Koutia Gus Koutia	Chris Patterson Isaac Patterson	Hailey Ditter Joel Ditter

Weekly Newsletter QR Code

Please scan the QR code below to access our weekly newsletter.

If you would like to receive the monthly /weekly newsletter by email, please email Tracy at:

church.secretary@crossofglory.org



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.