

# Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



**Lent 1**

**Sunday, February 22, 2026**

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



"I didn't know I needed that" is a common expression of surprise and realization. It suggests that something, whether it's a piece of information, a lesson learned, or a newfound understanding, has come to light and is now recognized as being essential or valuable, even if it wasn't previously apparent.

Lent is the season of the Church Year when I recognize my greatest needs. During Lent, I realize that in Christ all my greatest needs are met. God knows what I need even when I don't have any idea. The Holy Spirit makes it clear, week after week, that if I lack Christ, I have nothing. But if I have Christ, I have exactly what I need.

Our journey through Lent follows this path:

02-22 A Champion

03-15 Sight

03-01 Faith

03-22 Life

03-08 Water

**CHAMPION** I recognize my inability to defend myself against spiritual enemies. The world is against me, but I look for ways to imitate it. I try to master my own sinful flesh, but I recognize desires in myself that war against my soul. And when it comes to the devil, I fall into temptation again and again. My impending death proves that I have sinned.

I realize that what I really need is a champion. God the Father realized it too. He sent his Son to be my Savior. Through the obedience of the Son of God, I have victory over my enemies.

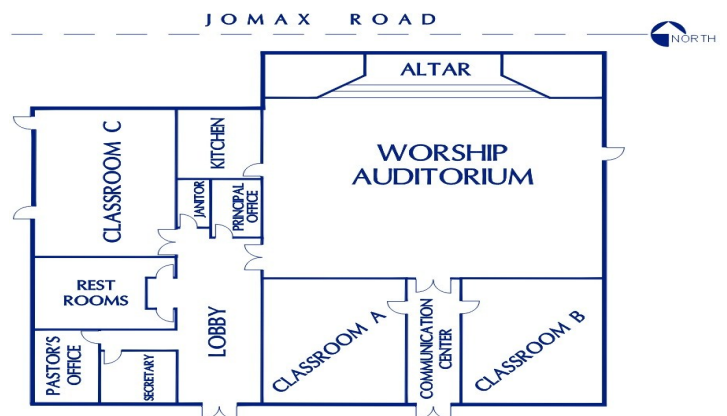
### VISITOR INFORMATION

**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 Celebration and Reverence

### Opening Hymn: Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

CWH 315



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 Let the earth now praise the Lord, who has tru - ly  
2 What the fa - thers most de - sired, what the proph - ets'  
4 Sav - ior, hear my wel - come cry— loud ho - san - nas  
5 Crush for me the ser - pent's head that, set free from

kept his word and at last to us did send  
heart in - spired, what they longed for man - y\_a year  
lift - ed high! King of glo - ry, en - ter in;  
doubt and dread, I may cling to you in faith,

Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
cleanse my soul of ev - 'ry sin.  
safe - ly kept through life and death,

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–1659, abr.; (sts. 1–2, 5): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Christian Worship, 2021

Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter

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### We Approach God

(Spoken; Sung Responsively)

M: O Creator, to you darkness is light, and a thousand years is as a day. Before we speak, you know our thoughts.

C: **There is no place we can flee from your sight.**

M: O most holy Lord, our relationship with you requires a personal integrity we do not have. We are cut to the heart to realize that you judge every thought, word and action.

C: **We have been arrogant to challenge your laws. We have been foolish to excuse our lust for more as a basic human need. We have blamed our unhappiness on others. Our self-centeredness is the worst affliction on earth and we no longer deny it.**

M: O God of wisdom, we have wandered from your ways. We do not deserve leniency. The only thing we possess is our guilt.

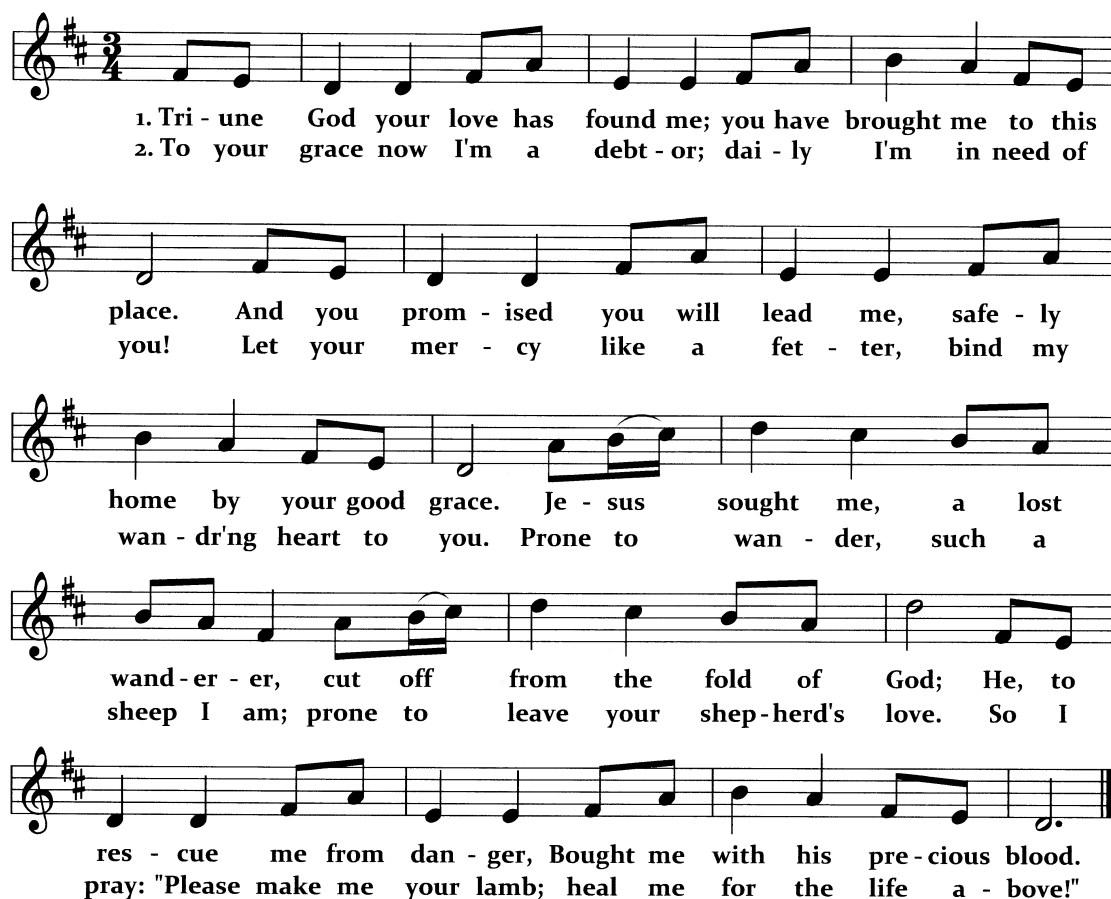
C: **O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we can speak your name only because you are the God of grace. Jesus came to be the sacrificial Lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. Because you have gathered all the lost, we plead: “Be our Shepherd.”**



We are able to ap-  
proach the eternal,  
almighty Triune God  
because he is the God  
of undeserved love—  
the God of Grace.

We confess our sins to  
God confident he will  
forgive us because he  
has promised, “If we  
confess our sins, he  
[God] is faithful and  
just and will forgive us  
our sins and purify us  
from all unrighteous-  
ness” (1 John 1:9).

(Sung by Congregation)



1. Tri - une God your love has found me; you have brought me to this  
 2. To your grace now I'm a debt - or; dai - ly I'm in need of

place. And you prom - ised you will lead me, safe - ly  
 you! Let your mer - cy like a fet - ter, bind my

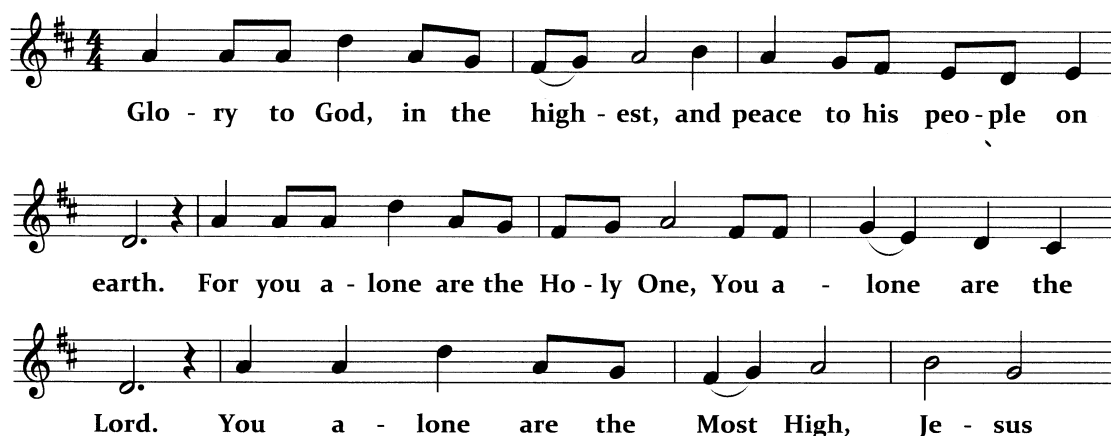
home by your good grace. Je - sus sought me, a lost  
 wan - dr'ng heart to you. Prone to wan - der, such a

wand - er - er, cut off from the fold of God; He, to  
 sheep I am; prone to leave your shep - herd's love. So I

res - cue me from dan - ger, Bought me with his pre - cious blood.  
 pray: "Please make me your lamb; heal me for the life a - bove!"

M: The Triune God knows our needs. He remembers that we are dust. He gloried in doing for us what we do not deserve. Before we existed, the Father sent his one and only Son to trade places with a world of sinners. In the fullness of time, Jesus packaged his honor in humility and was born into our world. By His flawless life and innocent death, he ransomed the world from sin, Satan and damnation. The Holy Spirit raised him back to life to guarantee that we who trust these truths are God's children and heirs of heaven. Amen.

(Sung by Congregation)



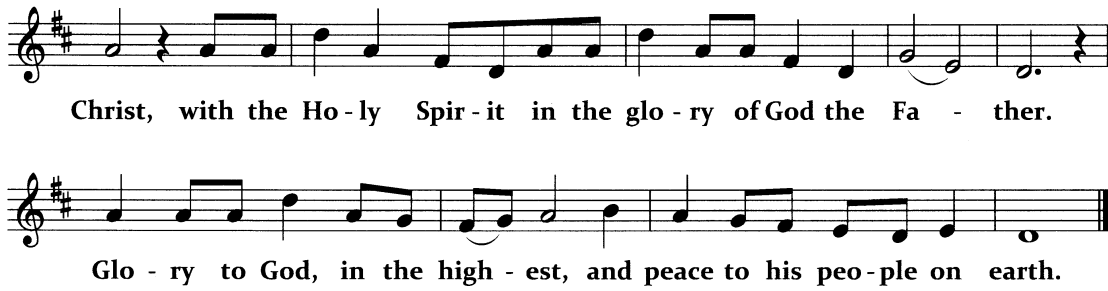
Glo - ry to God, in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on

earth. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the

Lord. You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus



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.



## Prayer of the Day

*(Spoken by Minister)*

M: Mighty God and Father, our Lord Jesus walked into the wilderness to face the devil's temptations, but he did not succumb to Satan's lies or falter in his resolve to save the world from the prison of hell. Bolster our faith by his mighty victory that we may battle against the forces of evil with courage and confidence; 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.*

## First Reading

*Genesis 3:1-15*

<sup>1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

<sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup>but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

<sup>4</sup>"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. <sup>5</sup>"For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

<sup>6</sup>When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

<sup>8</sup>Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"

<sup>10</sup>He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

<sup>11</sup>And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"



*God promised to send a champion to do what I could not, defeating my greatest enemy.*

<sup>12</sup>The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

<sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup>So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all livestock  
and all wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly  
and you will eat dust  
all the days of your life.

<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity  
between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will crush your head,  
and you will strike his heel.”

## LES Choir

## He Will Hold Me Fast

## The Children's Sermon

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

## Gospel

*Matthew 4:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

<sup>2</sup>After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.”

<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. <sup>6</sup>“If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written:

“ ‘He will command his angels concerning you,  
and they will lift you up in their hands,  
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’”

<sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. <sup>9</sup>“All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

<sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”

<sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.



*The champion of demons and the champion of mankind do battle. Jesus wins.*



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

1 Come to Cal - v'ry's ho - ly moun - tain, sin - ners, ru - ined  
 2 Come in pov - er - ty and mean - ness, come de - filed, with -  
 3 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, wound - ed, par - a -  
 4 They that drink shall live for - ev - er; 'tis a soul - re -

by the fall; here a pure and heal - ing foun - tain  
 out, with - in; from in - fec - tion and un - clean - ness,  
 lyzed, and blind; here the guilt - y, free re - mis - sion,  
 new - ing flood. God is faith - ful; God will nev - er

flows to you, to me, to all, in a full, per -  
 from the lep - ro - sy of sin, wash your robes and  
 here the trou - bled, peace may find. Health this foun - tain  
 break his cov - e - nant of blood, signed when our Re -

pet - ual tide, o - pened when our Sav - ior died.  
 make them white; you shall walk with God in light.  
 will re - store; they that drink shall thirst no more.  
 deem - er died, sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

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

## Sermon

Romans 5:12–19

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

<sup>13</sup>To be sure, sin was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who is a pattern of the one to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God's grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! <sup>16</sup>Nor can the gift of God be compared with the result of one man's sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification. <sup>17</sup>For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

*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>18</sup>Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. <sup>19</sup>For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

## The Apostles' Creed

(Spoken in Unison)



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.

**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.**

## Song of the Season: The Blood of the Lamb

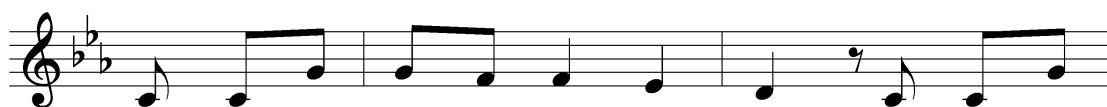
CWH 418

*Cantors sing Vs. 1-2; Congregations join for Vs. 3-6*

*The Father sees his children's chains. From Pharaoh's land they cry in pain.  
To rescue them, he makes a way: the blood of the lamb.*

*The lamb is slain as sun is set—a perfect lamb, without defect.  
They stain their doors with innocence: the blood of the lamb.*

### Congregation sings:

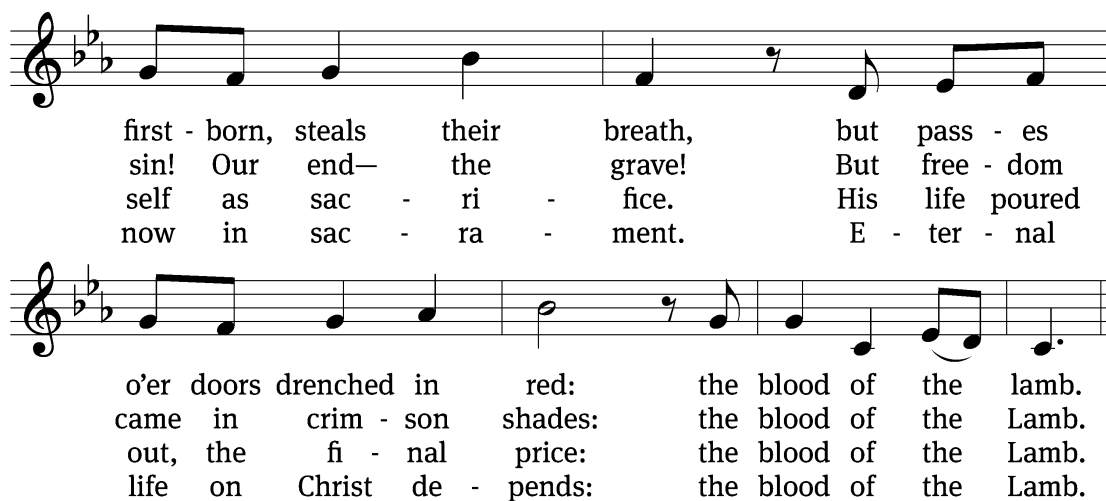


3 As mid - night looms, the hour of death, God seeks the  
4 Chil - dren of God, we too were slaves: our mas - ter—  
5 This per - fect Lamb is Je - sus Christ. He gave him -  
6 The blood he spilled, the life he spent, he gives us



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.





first - born, steals their breath, but pass - es  
 sin! Our end— the grave! But free - dom  
 self as sac - ri - fice. His life poured  
 now in sac - ra - ment. E - ter - nal

o'er doors drenched in red: the blood of the lamb.  
 came in crim - son shades: the blood of the Lamb.  
 out, the fi - nal price: the blood of the Lamb.  
 life on Christ de - pends: the blood of the Lamb.

Text: Laurie F. Gauger, b. 1965 Tune: Sarah R. Lambrecht, b. 1975  
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## Offering 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.*

## 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)*

## Installation of Chairmen

LES Choir

Guide Us, Lord

## 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

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.

## Closing Hymn: O Church, Arise

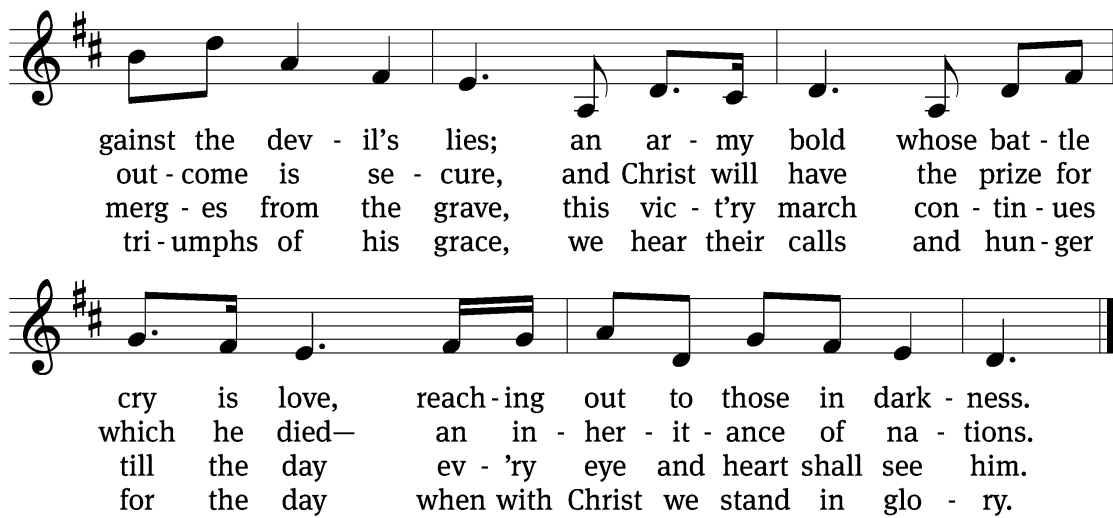
CWH 870

1 O Church, a - rise and put your ar - mor on; hear the  
2 Our call to war— to love the cap - tive soul, but to  
3 Come see the cross, where love and mer - cy meet, as the  
4 So Spir - it come, put strength in ev - 'ry stride, give —

call of Christ our cap - tain. For now the weak can say that  
rage a - gainst the cap - tor; and with the sword that makes the  
Son of God is strick - en; then see his foes lie crushed be -  
grace for ev - 'ry hur - dle, that we may run with faith to

they are strong in the strength that God has giv - en.  
wound - ed whole we will fight with faith and val - or.  
neath his feet, for the Con - quer - or has ris - en!  
win the prize of a ser - vant good and faith - ful.

With shield of faith and belt of truth we'll stand a -  
When faced with trials on ev - 'ry side, we know the  
And as the stone is rolled a - way, and Christ e -  
As saints of old still line the way, re - tell - ing



gainst the dev - il's lies; an ar - my bold whose bat - tle  
out - come is se - cure, and Christ will have the prize for  
merg - es from the grave, this vic - t'ry march con - tin - ues  
tri - umphs of his grace, we hear their calls and hun - ger

cry is love, reach - ing out to those in dark - ness.  
which he died— an in - her - it - ance of na - tions.  
till the day ev - 'ry eye and heart shall see him.  
for the day when with Christ we stand in glo - ry.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Stuart Townend, b. 1963

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## Ways To Serve

Worship Volunteers	February 22nd	March 1st	March 8th
Counters	Zach Plitzuweit Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Michael Ryan	Maggie Stevenson Nancy Murphy
Communion		Sharon	
Cleaners	Koutia/Piepenbrink	Gullerud/Kugler	Plitzuweit/Peterson
Greeters	Van Poppelen Family	Piepenbrink Family	Jeffers Family
Ushers	Len Collyard Nick Nickolai Steve Semmann	Gary Jeffers Tyler Holzhuetter Sharon Wilson	Bill Brooks Jed Langum Grayson Langum
Sunday Refreshments	Clara Naber Connie Sauer	Paula Considine Maggie Stevenson	Rene Koutia Dolly Ehinger
A/V	Hailey Ditter Joel Ditter	Stacey Aguilar Andrew Aguilar	Shannon Gullerud Aaron Gullerud

## Monthly QR Code

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

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

[church.secretary@crossofglory.org](mailto: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.*