

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Lent 4

Sunday, March 15, 2026

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



“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 | |

SIGHT I recognize that I am spiritually blind when I don't know Jesus. I cannot see the world as it really is. I am tempted to see what is harmful as good, and what is good as meaningless. I cannot see the danger that lurks behind every temptation. I realize that Jesus gave physical sight to the blind. But he also gives me spiritual vision. He said, “I am the light of the world.” He comes to shine his light into my darkened eyes so that I see him and live.

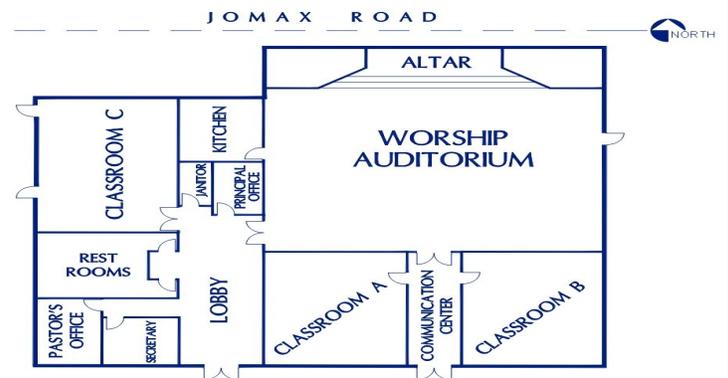
VISITOR INFORMATION

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 the Word and Sacrament

Opening Hymn: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

CWH 517



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.”

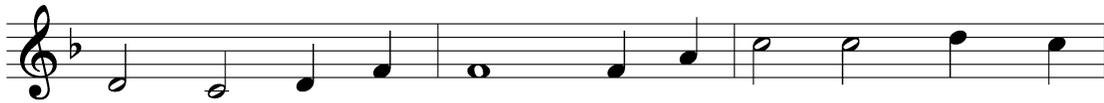
(Colossians 3:16)



1 Praise the one who breaks the dark - ness with a lib - er -
2 Praise the one who blessed the chil - dren with a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word in - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; praise the one who frees the pris - 'ners, turn - ing
gen - tle, word; praise the one who drove out de - mons with the
in our place; Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious that we



blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the one who preached the
pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool
may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, calm - ing
wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand; from this
glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done; let us



storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the Fa - ther's word of peace.
well comes liv - ing wa - ter, quen - ch - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, praise the one who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, alt. Tune: The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844
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Invocation

(Spoken Responsively)

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.**



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

Confession and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.



“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.



The title of this prayer is "Kyrie" in Greek meaning "O Lord". It is a cry to the Lord for help and strength.



This hymn of praise gives the congregation the opportunity to praise God and express joy because Jesus is our victorious Savior.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

(Spoken Responsively)

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord have mercy

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care.

C: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

(Spoken by Minister, Sung by Congregation)

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

Congregation sings:

Refrain

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa-ther, you crown our life

with your love. You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it;

you make us pure and ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your

Refrain
on-ly Son, but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,

how glo-rious is your name in all the earth. O Son of

God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther, you came to live with us;

you made your Fa-ther known; you washed us from our sins in

your own blood. You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!

Refrain
O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: O Lord Jesus Christ, by your almighty power you opened the eyes of the blind and showed yourself to them. Turn our eyes away from worthless things, and lead us to love you sincerely; for you live and reign with the Father 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.



God promises to lead the blind to safety and turn their darkness to light.

First Reading

Isaiah 42:14–21

¹⁴“For a long time I have kept silent,
I have been quiet and held myself back.
But now, like a woman in childbirth,
I cry out, I gasp and pant.
¹⁵I will lay waste the mountains and hills
and dry up all their vegetation;
I will turn rivers into islands
and dry up the pools.
¹⁶I will lead the blind by ways they have not known,
along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;
I will turn the darkness into light before them
and make the rough places smooth.
These are the things I will do;
I will not forsake them.
¹⁷But those who trust in idols,
who say to images, ‘You are our gods,’
will be turned back in utter shame.

¹⁸“Hear, you deaf;
look, you blind, and see!
¹⁹Who is blind but my servant,
and deaf like the messenger I send?
Who is blind like the one in covenant with me,
blind like the servant of the LORD?
²⁰You have seen many things, but you pay no attention;
your ears are open, but you do not listen.”
²¹It pleased the LORD
for the sake of his righteousness
to make his law great and glorious.



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.”

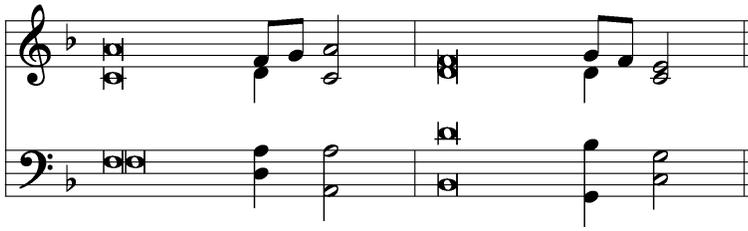
Psalm of the Day

Psalm 27C

Refrain

The LORD is my light and my sal - va - tion— of
whom shall I be a - fraid, of whom shall I be a - fraid?

Tone



Hear my voice when I / call, LORD;
be merciful to me and / answer me.
Do not hide your / face from me,
do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my / helper.
Do not reject me or for- / sake me,
God my / Savior. *Refrain*

Though my father and mother for- / sake me,
the LORD will re- / ceive me.
I remain confi- / dent of this:
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the / living.
Wait / for the LORD;
be strong and take heart and wait / for the LORD.
Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

Tune: David Haas Setting; Kermit G. Moldenhauer
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The Children's Sermon

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

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8–14

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹²It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴This is why it is said:

“Wake up, sleeper,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”



*Once I have seen the
light of Christ, I strive
to leave deeds of dark-
ness behind.*



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

Hymn of the Day: Christ Is the World's Light

CW 343

**Christ is the world's light, Christ and none other;
born in our darkness, he became our brother.
If we have seen him, we have seen the Father:
Glory to God on high!**

**Christ is the world's peace, Christ and none other;
no one can serve him and despise another.
Who else unites us, one with God the Father?
Glory to God on high!**

**Christ is the world's life, Christ and none other;
sold once for silver, murdered here, our brother.
He who redeemed us reigns with God the Father:
Glory to God on high!**

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).

Sermon

Jesus Gives Sight!

John 9:1-7,13-17,34-39

- **Why sight is needed.**
- **What does sight do?**
- **Who can only give it.**

¹As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

¹³They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided.

¹⁷Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

³⁴To this they replied, “You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!”
And they threw him out.

³⁵Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

³⁶“Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.”

³⁷Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.”

³⁸Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

³⁹Jesus said, “For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.”

The Nicene Creed

(Spoken in Unison)



After hearing the word of God, the worshiper responds with this confession of faith.

The Nicene Creed was written in 325 A.D. to address false ideas about the divinity of Jesus Christ. That explains why the second article of the Nicene Creed is longer than its counterpart in the Apostles' Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**



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.

Song of the Season: To See the King of Heaven Fall

Cantors sing Vs. 1;
Congregation joins for Vs. 2-3

*To see the King of heaven fall in anguish to his knees;
the Light and Hope of all the world now overwhelmed with grief.
What nameless horrors must he see, to cry out in the garden:
"Oh, take this cup away from me, yet not my will but yours;
yet not my will but yours."*

Congregation sings:



2. To know each friend will fall a - way, and
3. What took him to this wretch - ed place? What



hea - ven's voice be still, for hell to have its
kept him on this road? His love for A - dam's



venge - ful day up - on Gol - go - tha's hill.
cur - séd race, for ev - ery bro - ken soul.



No words de - scribe the Sa - vior's plight to
No sin too slight to ov - er look, no



be by God for - sa - ken till wrath and love are
crime too great to car - ry. All min - gled in this



sa - tis - fied, and ev - ery sin is paid, and
poi - soned cup, and yet he drank it all; the



ev - ery sin is paid,
Sa - vior drank it all.



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 pastor and people prepare to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation as how to celebrate the meal.

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

(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.**

The Sacrament of the Altar

Greeting

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right to give him thanks and praise.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song.

Holy, Holy, Holy Sanctus

(Sung by Congregation)



Sanctus is a Latin word meaning "Holy". The *Sanctus* contains words from Isaiah's vision of God (Isaiah 6:3) and the crowd's response on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem (Matthew 21:9). We join them in spirit by singing their words as we anticipate Christ's coming in the sacrament.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal - va -

tion. Ho - ly ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

Words of Institution

(Spoken by Minister)

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."

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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



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.



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.

O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*

(Sung by Congregation)

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us,
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

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.

Distribution of Sacrament

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



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



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to your ta - ble, for weak and
 2 O grant that I in man - ner wor - thy may eat and
 3 I should not be your sheep, dear Sav - ior; I stray in
 4 O let me loathe all sin for - ev - er as death and



wea - ry is my soul; O Je - sus, you a -
 drink and be re - stored, and, dwell - ing on your
 sin's ac - cursed ter - rain. And yet you par - don
 poi - son to my soul, that I through will - ful



lone are a - ble to sat - is - fy and make me whole.
 bound - less mer - cy, look on - ly un - to you, O Lord.
 my be - hav - ior; my faith - ful Shep - herd you re - main.
 sin - ning nev - er may see your judg - ment take its toll!



Lord, may your bod - y and your blood be for my soul the high - est good.

**Your holy heart has one obsession, one blessed thing it burns to do—
 to cleanse the sinner from transgression;
 so I, a sinner, come to you. (Refrain)**

**My soul is burdened; Lord, relieve me, by all this weight of sin oppressed!
 Though sinful, yet, in grace receive me
 and feed me as your grateful guest. (Refrain)**

**Within me, Lord, your vision traces a heart of deep humility
 that mourns its sin and yet embraces
 the merit you have earned for me. (Refrain)**

**By faith I call your holy table the testament of your deep love,
 for by your gift I now am able
 to know the heart of God above. (Refrain)**

**This meal with blessing is abounding:
 to poor ones wealth, to weak ones pow'r,
 to angels joy, to hell confounding,
 and life for me in death's dark hour. (Refrain)**

**My heart has now become your dwelling,
 O blessed, holy Trinity.**

**With angels I, your praises telling,
shall live in joy eternally. (Refrain)**

Text: Friedrich C. Heyder, 1677–1754, abr.; (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 3, 5–7): tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963
Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, Leipzig, 1756
Text (sts. 1, Ref, 2, 4, 8–10): © 1941 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 3, 5–7): © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716
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Closing Prayer

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)

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: Amazing Grace

CWH 576

1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— that
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
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.
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 Ballads, Richmond, 1790
Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829, ed. Benjamin Shaw; ed. Charles H. Spilman Text and tune: Public domain



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.

Ways to Serve

Worship Volunteers	March 15th	March 22nd	March 29th
Counters	Becky Jahns Karin Hansen	Zach Plitzuweit Nancy Schirripa	Nick Nicholai Michael Ryan
Communion Setup	Andrea		
Cleaners	Aguilar/Sivey	Gullerud/ Piepenbrink	Koutia/Kugler
Greeters	Langum Family	Plitzuweit Family	Proeber Family
Ushers	Michael Ryan Bentley Ryan Emily Proeber Jim Proeber	John Kull Dean Ellis	Brian Ehinger Trey Ehinger Kade Ehinger
Sunday Refreshments	Heidi Pudlo Korrin Deines	Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson Sugirtha Samuel	Stacey Aguilar Nancy Schirripa Elaine Borkovec
A/V	Bentley Ryan Pedro Contreras	Elise Plitzuweit Bentley Ryan	Kelly Simpson Bentley Ryan

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Cross of Glory Lutheran Church & School

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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.