

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Easter Festival Service

Sunday, April 5, 2026

623-224-8839 ♦ www.crossofglory.org

Sunday 9:30am 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 can walk through a cemetery where loved ones are buried. What do I feel? Sadness as I think of their departure? Fear that I will soon join them? Without the resurrection of Jesus, I fear death and I continue to cry.

But he lives, and it makes a difference. Jesus is the resurrection first fruits for the harvest of humanity. Dead is not dead forever. Death is not final at all! My deceased Christian loved ones are not gone forever. I will see them again. Jesus will do what he promised. He dries my tears. He takes away my fears.

HE LIVES TO TAKE ME FROM DEATH TO LIFE Without the resurrection of Jesus, death would appear permanent. No one would have come back from the dead to explain what happens after death. Jesus told his disciples what would happen. But they were slow to believe the Easter truth. God ensured that his people had witnesses to assure that Jesus did not remain dead.

He lives, and it makes a difference! I too shall live. Death has become a pathway into paradise. Jesus has already made me spiritually alive by giving me faith in his resurrection. In every possible way, Jesus takes me from death to life.

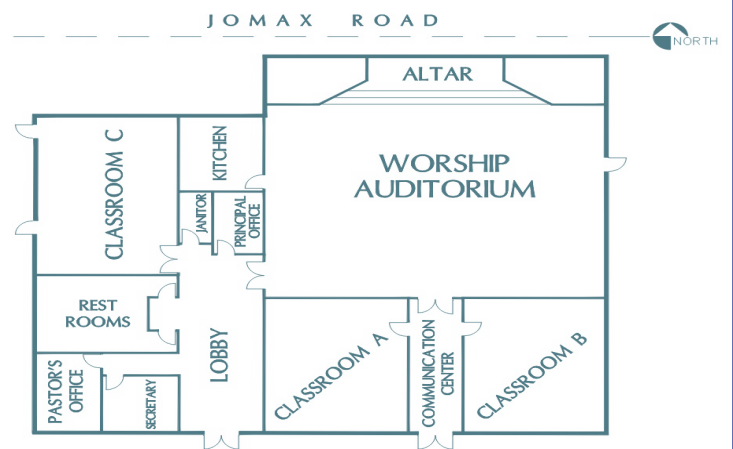
VISITOR INFORMATION

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**

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

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 Savior.

Opening Hymn: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

CWH 438

Alleluia banner is processed into the sanctuary



1	Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,	Al - le - lu - ia!
2	Hymns of praise then let us sing,	Al - le - lu - ia!
3	But the pains which he en - dured,	Al - le - lu - ia!
4	Sing we to our God a - bove,	Al - le - lu - ia!



	our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,	Al - le - lu - ia!
	un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King,	Al - le - lu - ia!
	our sal - va - tion have pro - cured;	Al - le - lu - ia!
	praise e - ter - nal as his love;	Al - le - lu - ia!



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!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text (sts. 1-3): Latin, 14th cent.; (sts. 1-3): tr. Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; (st. 4): Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
 Tune: Lyra Davidica, London, 1708 Text and tune: Public domain



*"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.

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.

Prayer and Praise

(Spoken by Minister;

Sung response by Ensemble and Congregation (CWH 455))

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



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.
 4 Je - sus lives! And thus, my soul, life is yours e - ter - nal - ly;



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.



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.
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.
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

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.



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

First Reading

1 Corinthians 15:1–11

¹Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. ²By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

³For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

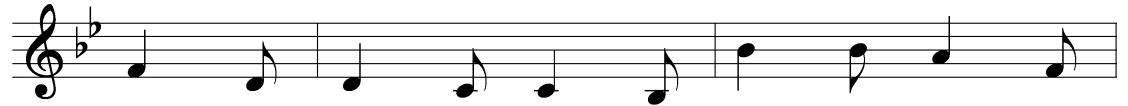
⁹For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. ¹¹Whether, then, it is I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.



Christ has indeed been raised from the dead.



1 How can it be, the One who died has borne our
 2 For joy a - wakes as dawn - ing light when Christ's dis -
 3 Where doubt and dark - ness once had been, they saw him
 4 Once bound by fear, now bold in faith, they preached the



sin through sac - ri - fice, to con - quer ev - 'ry
 ci - ples lift their eyes. A - live he stands, their
 and their hearts be - lieved. But blest are those who
 truth and pow'r of grace and pour - ing out their



sting of death? Sing, sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 2
 friend and King; Christ, Christ, he is ris - en!
 have not seen, yet sing "Hal - le - lu - jah!" v. 4
 lives they gained life, life ev - er - last - ing.



Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed! Oh, sing "Hal - le -



lu - jah!" Join the cho - rus, sing with the re - deemed:



"Christ is ris - en, he is ris - en in - deed." v. 3/v. 5

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ed Cash, b. 1971 Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ed Cash, b. 1971
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The Children's Sermon

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

Gospel

Matthew 28:1-10

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like



*The account of Christ's
 Easter victory.*

lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.”

⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Hymn of the Day: Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia

CWH 466



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

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.

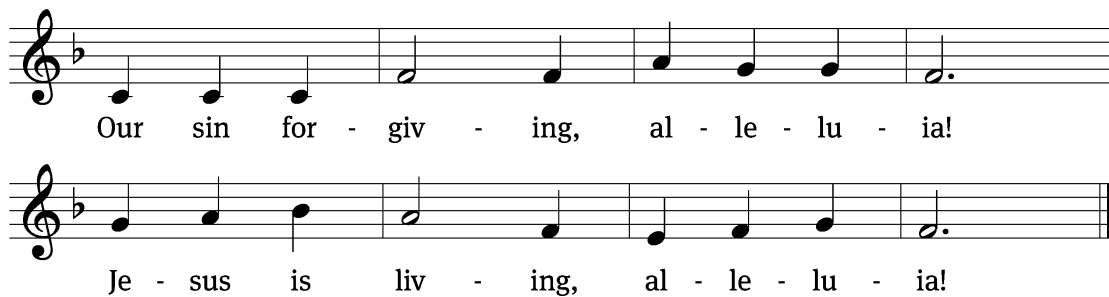
For our Re - deem - er burst from the tomb,
 He who gives life did death un - der - go,
 See for your - selves the tomb is all bare,
 Je - sus’ re - deem - ing la - bors are done.

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.”

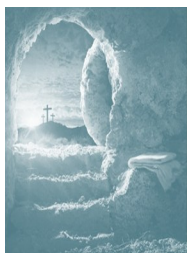
Refrain

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy;

death’s fear - ful sting he has come to de - stroy.



Text: Bernard Kyamanywa, b. 1938; tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922–2010 Tune: Tanzanian
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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

“An Easter Prayer”

Jonah 2:2–9

²He said:

“In my distress I called to the LORD,
and he answered me.

From deep in the realm of the dead I called for help,
and you listened to my cry.

³You hurled me into the depths,
into the very heart of the seas,
and the currents swirled about me;

all your waves and breakers
swept over me.

⁴I said, ‘I have been banished
from your sight;
yet I will look again
toward your holy temple.’

⁵The engulfing waters threatened me,
the deep surrounded me;
seaweed was wrapped around my head.

⁶To the roots of the mountains I sank down;
the earth beneath barred me in forever.

But you, LORD my God,
brought my life up from the pit.

⁷“When my life was ebbing away,
I remembered you, LORD,
and my prayer rose to you,
to your holy temple.

⁸“Those who cling to worthless idols
turn away from God’s love for them.

⁹But I, with shouts of grateful praise,
will sacrifice to you.

What I have vowed I will make good.

I will say, ‘Salvation comes from the LORD.’ ”



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.

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.

Song of the Season: I Know That My Redeemer Lives

Ensemble sings Vs. 1-2;
Congregation sings Vs. 3 & 5

*I know that my Redeemer lives. What hope this sweet assurance gives;
that he, who gave his life for me, arose with healing in his wings.*

Refrain:

My Redeemer lives. My Redeemer lives.

On heaven's throne and in my very soul, I know that my Redeemer lives.

He lives! The tomb is empty still. Redemption's promise he fulfilled.

No condemnation now remains, the stone of death is rolled away. (Refrain)

Congregation sings:



3. I know that my Re - deem - er lives,
5. I know that my Re - deem - er lives.



and all my life is bound to his. In
In life and death I trust in him. My



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.

realms a - bove he in - ter - cedes,
soul se - cure, my fu - ture safe,

our sin - less Sav - ior, per - fect Priest.
he'll not for - sake me to the grave.

My Re - deem - er lives. My Re -
deem - er lives. On hea - ven's
throne and in my ver - y soul, I
know that my Re - deem - er lives.



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**



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

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 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.

Choir: On the Third Day

Words and Music by Benjamin Harlan

Congregation stands and joins for verses of "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

*On the third day at the rising of the sun,
There came those who loved him,
Seeking him who died, Christ the crucified,
On the third day, on the third day.*

*On the third day they found the stone was rolled away,
And they entered the tomb to see him,
Seeking him who died, Christ the crucified,
On the third day, on the third day.*

*And an angel said unto them, an angel said unto them;
Do not be afraid, do not be afraid.
He is not here for he is risen! He is not here for he is risen!
Jesus Christ, the crucified, Jesus is alive!*

Congregation sings



1. Crown him with man - y crowns, the
2. Crown him the Lord of love; be -



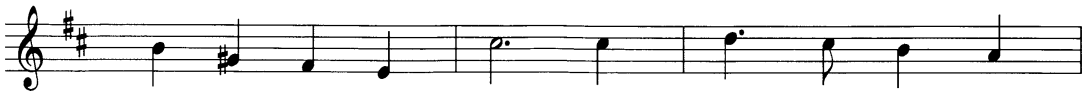
Lamb up - on his throne; Hark! how the heav'n - ly
hold his hands and side, those wounds, yet vis - i -



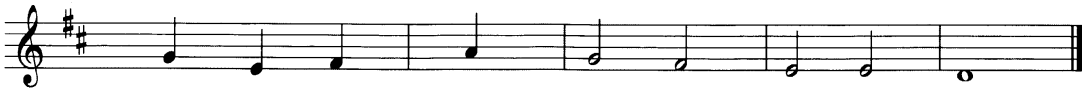
an - them drowns all mu - sic but its
ble a - bove, in beau - ty glor - i -



own: A - wake, my soul, and sing of
fied: All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For



him who died for thee, and hail him as thy
thou has died for us; thy praise and glo - ry



match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
shall not fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Choir: Amen, Amen!

Acknowledgments

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Ways To Serve

Worship Volunteers	April 5th	April 12th	April 19th
Counters	Maggie Stevenson Nancy Murphy	Becky Jahns Karin Hansen	Nick Nicholai Michael Ryan
Communion		Shannon	Sharon
Cleaners	Plitzuweit/Peterson	Aguilar/Sivey	Koutia/Piepenbrink
Greeters	Freeman Family	Henkel Family	Stevenson Family
Ushers	Cody Hall Timothy Hall David Conklin	Pedro Contreras Tanner Plitzuweit Paul Borkovec	Len Collyard Nick Nicholai Steve Semmann
Sunday Refreshments	Easter Breakfast	Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann	Linda Stern Sue Proeber Brenda Grams
A/V	Stacey Aguilar Andrew Aguilar	Shannon Gullerud Aaron Gullerud	Kelly Simpson Pedro Contreras

Weekly Newsletter

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



VBS Registration is Open

Get ready for an exciting week of faith, fun, and fellowship at Vacation Bible School! We warmly invite families to register their children for VBS, taking place **June 1-5 from 9:00-11:30 a.m.**

Each day, children will enjoy Bible stories, music, crafts, games, snacks, and hands-on activities that help bring God's Word to life. It is always a joyful week filled with learning, laughter, and opportunities to grow in faith alongside friends.

VBS is one of the highlights of our summer ministry, and we would love for your family to be part of it. Whether your child is returning or attending for the first time, all are welcome!

Be sure to register soon, and please help us spread the word by inviting friends, neighbors, and other families to join us for this special week.

We look forward to sharing this wonderful time together!

Please use this QR code to register:



We still need volunteers to help with the following:

- Be a leader or assistant at the craft, games, or snack station
- Decorate and set up
- Help with registration and hospitality

Please use this QR code to volunteer:





Our journey through the Easter season continues as we follow an 8-week path. Join us as we grow together in the hope and joy of the Resurrection.

Apr 12 He lives to give me proof and peace

Apr 19 He lives to restore my hope

Apr 26 He lives to be my Good Shepherd

May 3 He lives to be the only way to heaven

May 10 He lives to call me to live for him

May 17 He lives to rule all things for the Church

May 24 He lives to give me eager expectations of

May 31 He lives to pour out his Spirit



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.