

Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Pentecost 14
Sunday, August 30, 2026

623-224-8839 ♦ www.crossofglory.org

Sunday 9am Worship

Pastor Zachary Pudlo
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal



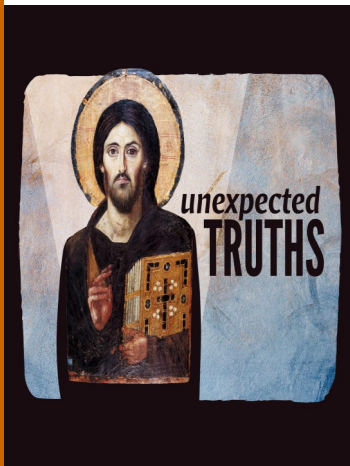
Growing in Faith — Living in Grace — Sharing His Glory

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



The opening lines of the United States Declaration of Independence boldly assert that certain truths are “self-evident”—truths accessible to human reason and widely recognized by observation of the world. Among these are that all people are created equal and possess unalienable rights such as life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The founders appealed to principles they believed reasonable people could recognize simply by reflecting on human nature and justice. These truths were meant to be obvious, clear to the mind, and persuasive in the public square. Lutherans, however, note that the most important truths revealed in the Bible are not self-evident at all. In fact, they frequently appear surprising or even contrary to human expectations. Scripture teaches that humanity is not naturally good but deeply sinful. It declares that salvation cannot be achieved through human effort but comes entirely by God’s grace. Most unexpected of all is the message that God brings forgiveness and eternal life through the suffering and death of Jesus Christ. Biblical truth is revealed by God rather than discovered by reason alone. While some truths may seem obvious to human judgment, the truths of the Bible are often unexpected.

Our path through this Pentecost set of services are:

Aug 16 The Church is for All People

Aug 23 The Son of Man is God

Aug 30 Cross Comes Before Crown

Sep 6 I Am My Brother’s Keeper

Sep 13 Forgiveness is for Me

Sep 20 Grace is Amazing

Sep 27 Real Repentance Looks Different

CROSS COMES BEFORE CROWN Some churches teach that if a person follows God, God responds by granting prosperity and peace, as would only be expected. Today we see how that is nonsense. The Bible explains that if we are part of the Church of God, we will have bear crosses. Believers suffer in this world, sometimes just because they are believers. Why bother? We carry our crosses in gratitude for Jesus carrying his cross, one too heavy for us because it was weighted down with our sin. We carry our crosses because we know that in those moments of struggle, we are forced to turn to Christ and rely on his strength. This is the unexpected path, the one Jesus himself walked: the cross comes before the crown.

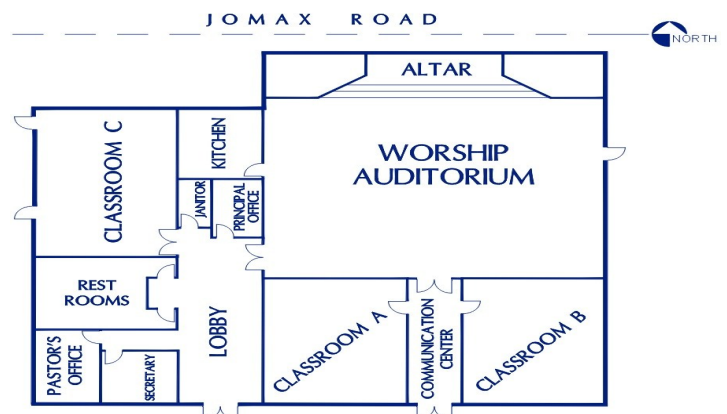
VISITOR INFORMATION

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

Opening Hymn: Your Days and Ways to God Surrender

CWH 806



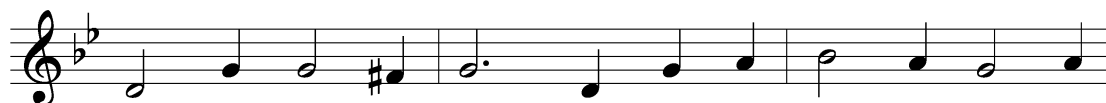
Hymn of praise, prayer, or reflection on the season of the church year.

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 Your days and ways to God sur - ren - der, and let his
2 Why do you wal - low in this wor - ry? Why tight - ly
3 Wait for his hand to write your sto - ry, his gra - cious
4 Then wake with joy and ex - pec - ta - tion, for God is



wis - dom be your light. He stands be - side you, strong but
clutch this pain and fear? Do you for - get that on this
will, your des - ti - ny. What looks like gloom he turns to
good and heav'n is sure. Sing, pray, and work in your vo -



ten - der, and guides your steps thro' storm and night. Up - on a
jour - ney you're not a - lone? Your God is near! The man - y
glo - ry; what's hid - den now he will re - veal. Who holds your
ca - tion, and sleep in peace, your heart se - cure. Sur - ren - der



rock you build your life when you re - ly on Je - sus Christ.
mid - night tears you spill just make the dark - ness dark - er still.
fu - ture and your past knows what you need be - fore you ask.
all to his good grace; he keeps you safe in his em - brace.

Text: Georg C. Neumark, 1621–1681, abr.; tr. Laurie F. Gauger, b. 1965 Tune: Georg C. Neumark, 1621–1681
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Greeting

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and his Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.



The greeting used by St. Paul perfectly summarizes Christianity.

Confession and Absolution

(Spoken Responsively)

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**



“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.



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

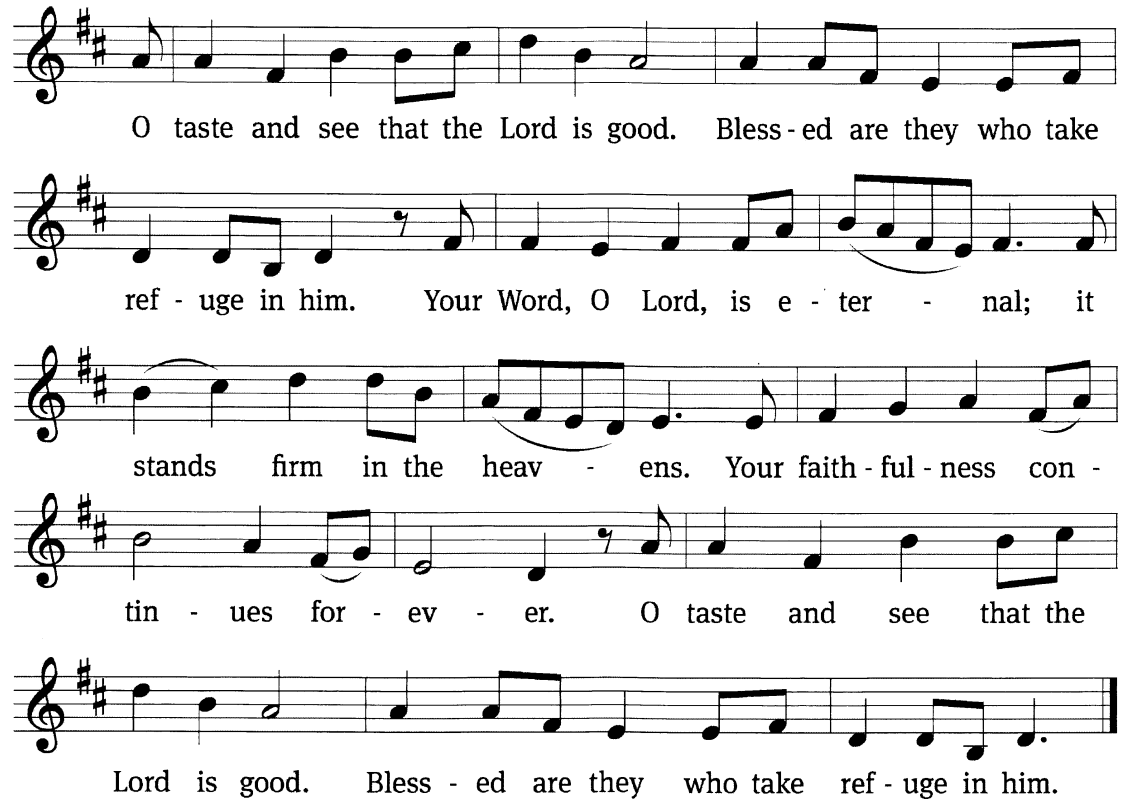
M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Prayer and Praise

(Spoken by Minister; Sung response by Congregation)

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



Text: n/a

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer, b. 1949



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

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



When Jeremiah complained about carrying his cross, the Lord called on him to repent and promised salvation.

First Reading

Jeremiah 15:15–21

¹⁵LORD, you understand;
remember me and care for me.
Avenge me on my persecutors.
You are long-suffering—do not take me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for your sake.

¹⁶When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name,
LORD God Almighty.

¹⁷I never sat in the company of revelers,
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand was on me
and you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and incurable?
You are to me like a deceptive brook,
like a spring that fails.

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says:

"If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless, words,
you will be my spokesman.
Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

²⁰I will make you a wall to this people,
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you
but will not overcome you,
for I am with you
to rescue and save you,"
declares the LORD.

^{21a}I will save you from the hands of the wicked
and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel."

Psalm

Psalm 31E

Refrain



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."

Tone



In you, LORD, I have taken / refuge;
let me never be / put to shame.
Be my rock of / refuge,
a strong fortress to / save me.
Into your hands I commit my / spirit;
deliver me, LORD, my / faithful God. *Refrain*

My times are / in your hands;
save me in your un- / failing love.
How abundant are the / good things
that you have stored up for those who / fear you.
Be strong and / take heart,
all you who hope / in 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*

Text: The Draft Proposed Book of Common Prayer Tune: Jack Noble White Text: Public domain
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The Children's Sermon

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

Second Reading

Romans 8:18–25

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.



*No cross can compare
with the crown of glory
that is waiting.*



M: Alleluia. If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. Alleluia.

Congregation sings:

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

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

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

A verse from the holy scriptures is usually spoken in preparation for the reading of the Gospel which is read as the second reading or as part of the sermon.

The sung response is taken from John 20:31.

Hymn of the Day: Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

CWH 694



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, all to leave and
 2 Let the world de - spise and leave me; they have left my
 3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure! Come, dis - as - ter,
 4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry, armed by faith and

fol - low you; des - ti - tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, you on
 Sav - ior, too. Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; you are
 scorn, and pain! In your ser - vice pain is plea - sure, with your
 winged by prayer; all but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry, God's own

earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion,
 not, like them, un - true. And, since you have smiled up - on me,
 fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you Ab - ba, Fa - ther;
 hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry,

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



all I've ev - er hoped or known; yet how rich is
 God of wis - dom, love, and might, foes may hate and
 you my all in all shall be. Storms may howl, and
 swift shall pass the pil - grim days, hope soon change to
 my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!
 friends may shun me; show your face, and all is bright.
 clouds may gath - er, all must work for good to me.
 heav'n - ly glo - ry, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt. Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887 Text and tune: Public domain

In the sermon the Pastor proclaims God's Word and applies that word to modern life and problems. He stresses both what God demands of us (the Law) and what God does for us through Jesus Christ (the Gospel).



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

The Apostles' Creed, developed over hundreds of years in the early Christian church, is a brief and simple statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. Christians used it to tell others what they believed and also to confess their faith with one another as they met for worship.

Sermon

Matthew 16:21–26

²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

Apostles' Creed

(Spoken in Unison)

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Song of the Season:

Psalm 67F



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.

1 You have called us out of dark - est night in -
2 May our ev - 'ry breath re - tell the grace that
3 All the earth is yours and all with - in, each

to your glo - rious light, that we may sing the
broke in - to our strife with bound - less love and
har - vest is your own, and from your hand we

won - ders of the ris - en Christ. v. 2
deep - est joy, with end - less life. Refrain
give to you, to make Christ known. v. 4

Refrain

May the peo - ples praise you, let the na - tions be glad.

All your bless - ing comes that we may praise, may

2
praise the name of Je - sus.

May the seeds of mercy grow in us for those who have not heard.
May songs of praise build lives of grace to spread your Word. (Refrain)

This our holy priv'lege to declare your praises and your name
to ev'ry nation, tribe, and tongue, your church proclaim. (Final Refrain)

Guests and Members

We are so glad you worshipped with us today! Please use this QR code to let us know you joined us.



Offering: The gifts of
God's people are a re-
sponse to God's bless-
ings. If God has moved
you to thank him in this
way, you can use this
QR code to give an
offering.



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

**May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad.
All your blessing comes that we may praise,
may praise the name of Jesus.**

**May the peoples praise you, let the nations be glad.
All your blessing comes that we may praise,
may praise the name of Jesus.**

Text: Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend, Ed Cash, David Zimmer Tune: Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend, Ed Cash, David Zimmer
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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.**

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.

Blessing

(Spoken by Minister)



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.

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: God's Word Is Our Great Heritage

CWH 640

God's Word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for -
ev - er; to spread its light from age to age shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Thro' life it guides our way, in death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, we keep its
teach - ings pure through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, alt. Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924 Text and tune: Public domain

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Ways to Serve

Worship Volunteers	August 30th	September 6th	September 13th
Counters	Mike Ryan Nick Nicholai	Maggie Stevenson Nancy Murphy	Karin Hansen Becky Jahns
Communion		Andrea	
Greeters	Deines Family	Jeffers Family	Langum Family
Ushers	Zach Plitzuweit Tanner Plitzuweit Adam Pentz	Cody Hall Timothy Hall David Conklin	Pedro Contreras Carl Deines Matthw Deines
Sunday Refreshments	Jennifer Paul Rachel Plitzuweit	Shannon Gullerud Heidi Pudlo	Rene Koutia Korrin Deines
A/V	Kelly Simpson Chris Patterson	Stacey Aguilar Andrew Aguilar	Hailey Ditter Joel Ditter

Weekly 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



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.