

CROSS OF GLORY

Lutheran Church & School



PENTECOST 16
September 13, 2026

623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org

Pastor Zachary Pudlo
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

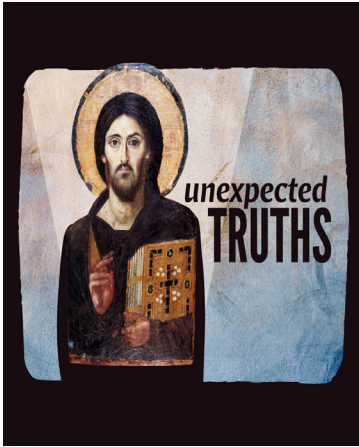
Sunday 9am Worship

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 is:

Aug 16	The Church is for All People	Sep 13	Forgiveness is for Me
Aug 23	The Son of Man is God	Sep 20	Grace is Amazing
Aug 30	Cross Comes Before the Crown	Sep 27	Real Repentance Looks Different
Sep 6	I am My Brother's Keeper		

Forgiveness does not come naturally to human beings. It is expected that humans will defend themselves, lash out when attacked, hold grudges, and bite back. So, when human beings hear that they are forgiven, they may even be suspicious or skeptical.

Jesus tells a parable that contrasts the forgiveness of God with our own unforgiving sinful nature. God forgives our huge debt. Who can comprehend such unexpected mercy? Certainly not unmerciful servants, who refuse to forgive small debts. Have mercy on us, Lord, and teach us to forgive like you!

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:

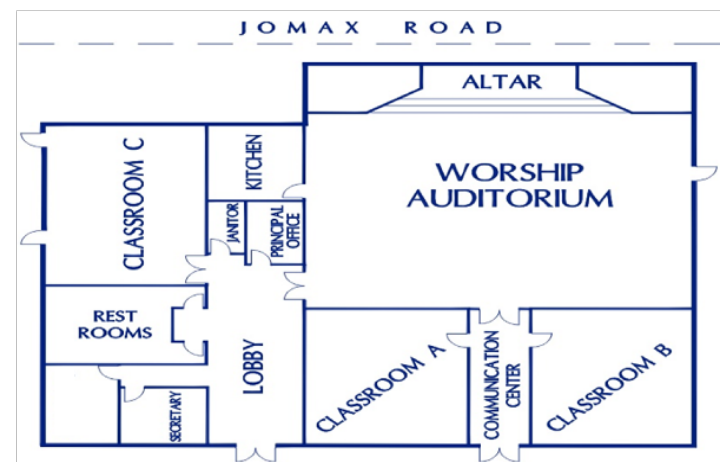


Scanning this QR Code

--OR--

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!

SCRIPTURE AND SONG (WORD)

GATHERING RITE ON THE WORD OF GOD

(CWH633 SUNG RESPONSES)

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: Oh, how I love your law!

C: I meditate on it all day long.

M: Your commands make me wiser than my enemies.

C: for they are ever with me.

M: I have more insight than all my teachers,

C: for I meditate on your statutes.

M: How sweet are your words to my taste.

C: sweeter than honey for my mouth.

SUNG BY CONGREGATION:



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you to re - ceive the food
of your ho - ly Word; take your truth, plant it
deep in us, shape and fash - ion us in your like - ness,
that the light of Christ might be seen to - day in our acts of
love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
fill in us all your pur - pos-es for your glo - ry.

M: All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness,

C: So that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.



God's people long to gather together for strength from him and for mutual encouragement. The beginning of this worship service focuses on the Word of God and its power to bring us to faith.

"And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe."

(1 Thessalonians 2:13)



"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)

M: Yet so often we have despised God's Word and failed to gladly hear and learn it. For this and all our sins, we bow before God and humbly ask his forgiveness.

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.

SUNG BY CONGREGATION:

2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly rev - er - ence,
true hu - mil - i - ty; test our thoughts and our
at - ti - tudes in the ra - di - ance of your pu - ri - ty.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see your ma - jes - tic
love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
nev - er fail, let their truth pre-vail o - ver un - be - lief.

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.

M: God gave his Word so "That you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, that by believing you may have life in his name. The Scriptures testify about Jesus, who lived a perfect life for you, died on the cross to pay for all your sins, and rose again to assure you of your salvation. 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.

SUNG BY CONGREGATION:



3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds, help us grasp the heights
of your plans for us, truths un - changed from the
dawn of time, that will ech - o down thro' e - ter - ni - ty.
And by grace we'll stand on your prom - is - es, and by faith we'll
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, till your
Church is built, and the earth is filled with your glo - ry.

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For five centuries, Martin Luther's Small Catechism has served as the basic instruction book for the church. It directs us to God's Word and points to the only source for spiritual life, the Means of Grace: the Word and Sacraments. As lifelong students of the Catechism, we review these important truths from God's Word as we continue to grow in a deep appreciation for all that Jesus has done as our Savior.

CATECHISM REVIEW: RECEPTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY)

M: *Who, then, is properly prepared to receive this sacrament?*

C: Fasting and other outward preparations may serve a good purpose, but he is properly prepared who believes these words: "Given" and "poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins."

But whoever does not believe these words or doubts them is not prepared, because the words "for you" require nothing but hearts that believe.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(SPOKEN BY MINISTER)

M: Lord God, heavenly Father, you graciously forgive us all our sins and abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us confidence in your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we willingly forgive all people, and judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives to your glory; 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.



Joseph was quick to forgive his brothers.

FIRST READING

GENESIS 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him."

¹⁶They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, ¹⁷'You are to tell Joseph, "Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants."

¹⁹Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God?

²⁰You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. ²¹Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.



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 103

(SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY)

M: Praise the LORD, my soul;

C: all my inmost being, praise his holy name—

M: who forgives all your sins

C: and heals all your diseases,

M: who redeems your life from the pit

C: and crowns you with love and compassion,

M: who satisfies your desires with good things

C: so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

M: The LORD is compassionate and gracious,

C: slow to anger, abounding in love.

M: He does not treat us as our sins deserve

C: or repay us according to our iniquities.

M: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

C: so great is his love for those who fear him;

M: as far as the east is from the west,

C: so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

(ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO SIT IN FRONT WITH PASTOR)

SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 4:29-5:2

²⁹Do not let any unwholesome talk come from your mouths. Say only what is beneficial when there is a need to build up others, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear. ³⁰Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every



Kindness, compassion, and forgiveness are marks of God's Church.

kind of malice. ³²Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us.

¹Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. ²And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY: HIS MERCY IS MORE

CWH 579



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



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

The refrain for Vs. 3 is sung twice.

Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983 Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

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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).



After hearing the Word of God, we respond with our confession of faith.

Today, we confess the first article of The Apostles' Creed, which focuses on the first person of the Trinity, God the Father, the all-powerful creator of all things who is the provider of all we need. The explanation is taken from Luther's Small Catechism.

SERMON

MATTHEW 18:21-35

- ²¹Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, "Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?"
- ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. ²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. ²⁵Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt.
- ²⁶"Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, 'Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!' ²⁷The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.
- ²⁸"But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, 'Pay me what you owe!'
- ²⁹"So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!' ³⁰But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.
- ³¹"When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.
- ³²"Then his master called him in and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.
- ³⁵"This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart."

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: TEN THOUSAND REASONS

CWH 607



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.



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;



wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,



O my soul; I'll wor - ship your ho - ly name.



1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn - ing; —
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the



it's time to sing your — song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name — is — great, and your heart is kind. For all — your
end — draws — near, and my time has come; still — my



pass, — and what - ev - er lies be - fore me,
good-ness, I will keep — on — sing - ing—
soul will sing your praise — un - end - ing—



Refrain

let me be sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
ten thou-sand rea - sons for my heart to find.
ten thou-sand years and then for - ev - er - more.

Text: Jonas Myrin, b. 1982; Matt Redman, b. 1974 Tune: Jonas Myrin, b. 1982; Matt Redman, b. 1974
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Offering: The gifts of Gods people are a response to God's blessings. 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)



In the Blessing and Response, the minister speaks a summary of Ephesians 1. The congregation responds by singing the doxology (song of praise). Finally, the minister speaks the Apostolic Blessing. This is the blessing which the apostle Paul spoke as he concluded his second letter to the church at Corinth.

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

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.

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.**

BLESSING AND RESPONSE

(RESPONSE SUNG BY CONGREGATION)

M: We praise you, O God of heaven and earth, that you have so richly lavished us with your free love and unearned salvation, in Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord:

SUNG BY CONGREGATION:



Praise God from whom all bless - ings



flow; praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;



praise him a - bove, ye heav - en - ly host; praise



Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: OH, HOW GOOD IT IS

CWH 731



1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -
2 Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -
3 Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -



geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the
joy with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the
fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we



bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the
weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we
live as one we all share in the love of the



fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.
of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.
Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.

Refrain



So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,



and with one heart we'll live out his word,



till the whole earth sees the Re - deem - er has come,



for he dwells in the pres-ence of his peo - ple.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Ross Holmes, b. 1984; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, Stuart Townend

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Ross Holmes, b. 1984; Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980

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Worship Volunteers	September 13th	September 20th	September 27th
Counters	Karin Hansen Becky Jahns	Bob Decker Len Collyard	Mike Ryan Nick Nickolai
Communion		Dawn	
Greeters	Langum Family	Plitzuweit Family	Proeber Family
Ushers	Pedro Contreras Carl Deines Matthw Deines	Len Collyard Nick Nickolai Steve Semmann	Gary Jeffers Tyler Holzhueter Sharon Wilson
Sunday Refreshments	Rene Koutia Korrin Deines	Ashley Call Maggie Stevenson Paula Considine	Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann
A/V	Hailey Ditter Joel Ditter	Shannon Gullerud Aaron Gullerud	Elise Plitzuweit Pedro Contreras

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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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.