

CROSS OF GLORY

Lutheran Church & School



PENTECOST 18
September 27, 2026

623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org

Pastor Zachary Pudlo

Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

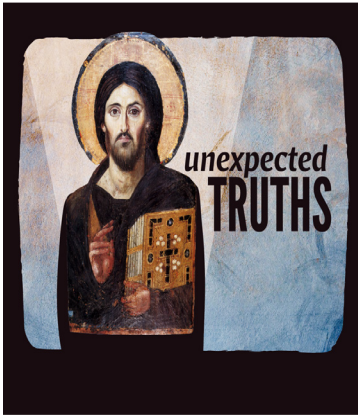
Sunday 9am Worship

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		

It might be expected for someone to look sorry when they are caught doing something wrong. You might even see tears and hear words of apology. But you might not be surprised if the shock of being caught wears off and so does the intensity of the repentance. Real repentance looks different. God doesn’t want us to simply go through religious motions like some sort of show. God’s desire is that our repentance would demonstrate sincere sorry over sin. It might be unexpected, but God wants us to see the grace and forgiveness he has shown us in Christ, and in response, to love him back deeply and sincerely.

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:

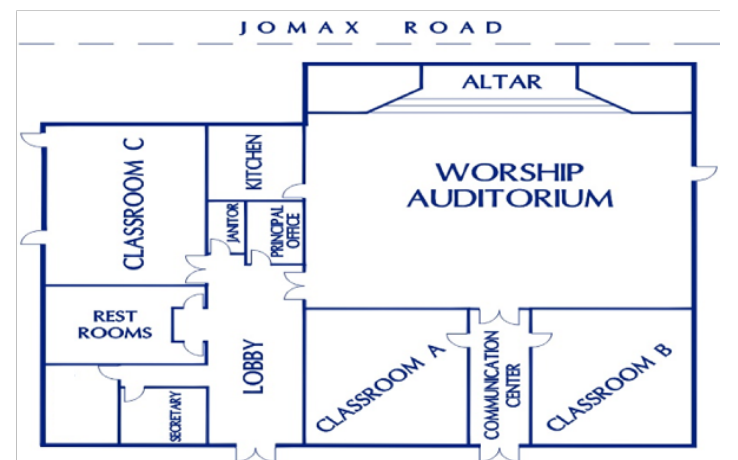


Scanning this QR Code

--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!

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN: LORD, HELP US WALK YOUR SERVANT WAY

CWH 737



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

*We follow the advice
of the Apostle Paul to
"teach and admon-
ish 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 Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher -
2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, but
3 No gold - en scep - ter but a towel you
4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride nor
5 Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher -



ev - er love may lead and, bend - ing low, for -
pow'r you laid a - side. You lived your years in
place with - in the hands of those who seek to
count our - selves a - bove the low - est place, the
ev - er love may lead and, bend - ing low, for -



get - ting self, each serve the oth - er's need.
ser - vant - hood, in low - li - ness you died.
fol - low you and live by your com - mands.
mean - est task that waits the gift of love.
get - ting self, each serve the oth - er's need.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: The Whole Book of Psalmes, London, 1562
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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 Christi-
anity.*

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.**

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.



*"If we confess our
sins, he is faithful and
just and will forgive
us our sins and purify
us from all unright-
eousness."*

(1 John 1:9)

*Christ said to his dis-
ciples, "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.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

(SPOKEN BY MINISTER; SUNG RESPONSE BY CONGREGATION)

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

O taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take
 ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it
 stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con -
 tin - ues for - ev - er. O taste and see that the
 Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(SPOKEN BY MINISTER)

M: Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



A strong warning to Christians who have grown dismissive of their sin.

FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 18:1-4,25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me:

²What do you mean, you who keep repeating this proverb concerning the soil of Israel, "Fathers eat sour grapes, and their sons' teeth are set on edge"? ³As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, you will never again use this proverb in Israel. ⁴Indeed, all souls are mine. The soul of the father is mine just like the soul of the son. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

²⁵But you say, "The Lord's way is not fair." Listen now, house of Israel. Is it my way that is not fair? Is it not your ways that are not fair? ²⁶If a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and practices unrighteousness, he will die because of it. Because of the unrighteousness that he has practiced, he will die.

²⁷But if a wicked man turns from his wickedness that he has done and

practices justice and righteousness, he will preserve his life. ²⁸Because he has seen and turned away from all the rebellious acts that he had committed, he will surely live, and he will not die. ²⁹But the house of Israel says, "The Lord's way is not fair." Is it really my ways that are not fair, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not fair?

³⁰Therefore, I will judge each one of you according to his ways, O house of Israel, declares the LORD God. Repent and turn away from all your rebellious acts, so that you will not set out a stumbling block that makes you guilty. ³¹Throw off from yourselves all your rebellious actions by which you have rebelled, and obtain a new heart and a new spirit for yourselves. Why should you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the LORD God. So repent and live!

SCHOOL CHOIR

THE LOVE OF CHRIST

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

SECOND READING

PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being united in spirit, and having one mind. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look carefully not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

⁵Indeed, let this attitude be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.

⁶Though he was by nature God, he did not consider equality with God as a prize to be displayed, ⁷but he emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant. When he was born in human likeness, and his appearance was like that of any other man, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.



Moved by Christ's love and empowered by the Spirit, we seek to imitate the humility of Jesus.



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.

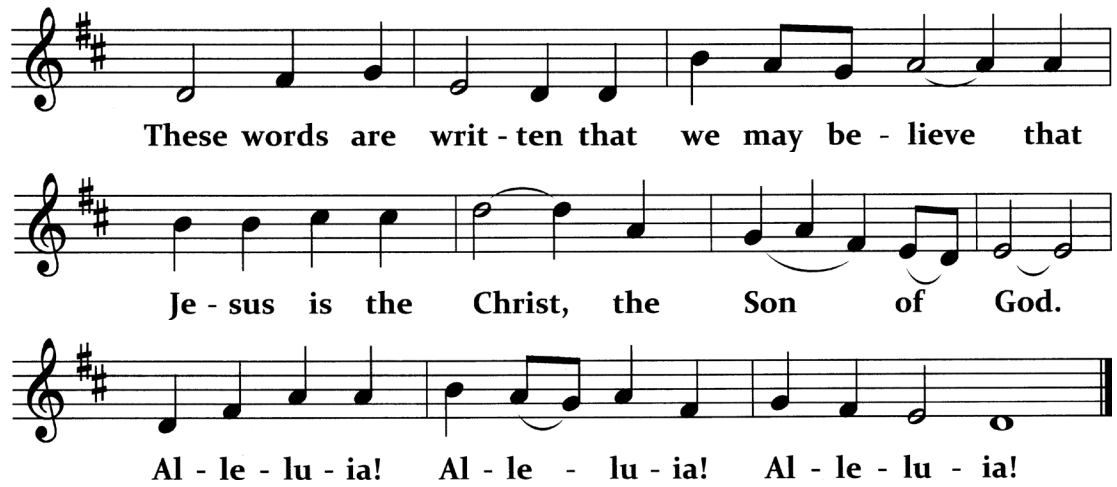
The sung response is taken from John 20:31.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

PSALM 51:17

M: Alleluia. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise. Alleluia.

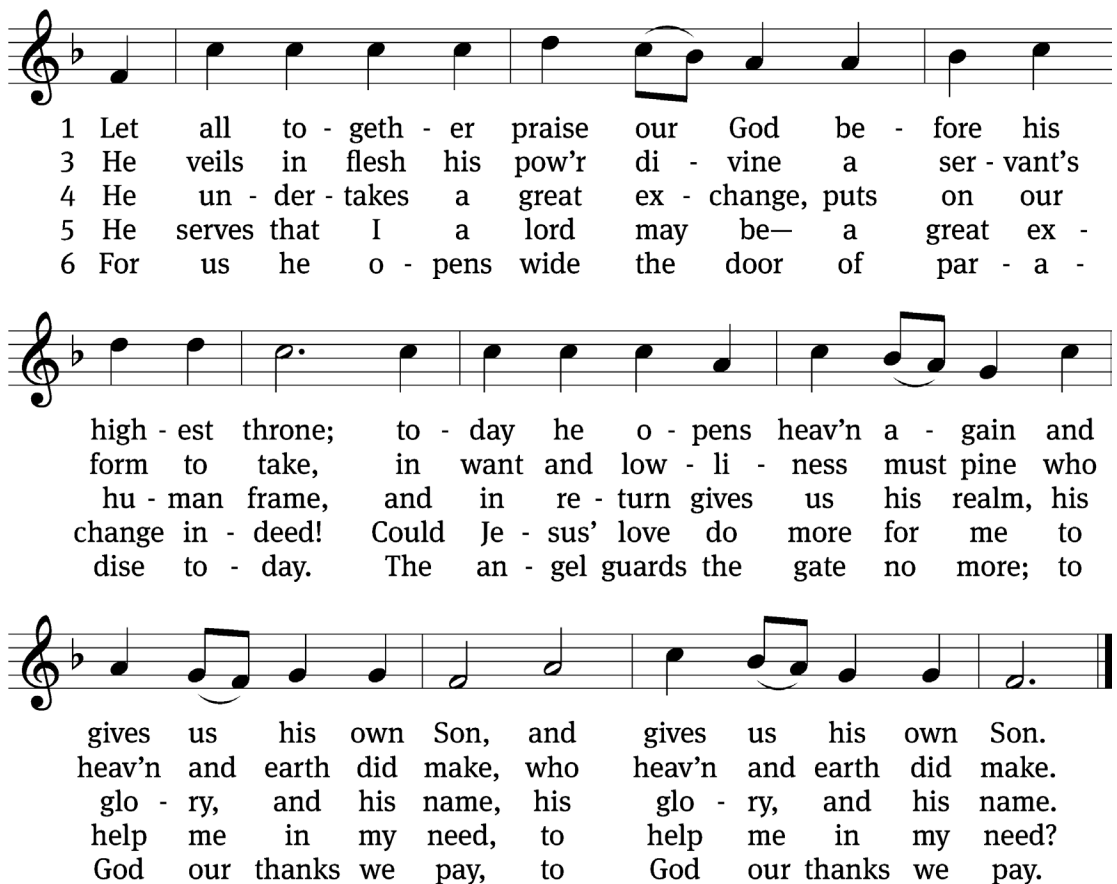




This hymn follows the theme of the readings and sets the stage for the sermon.

SERMON HYMN: LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD

CWH 355



Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561, abr.; (sts. 1, 3, 5-6); tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, sts. 1-3,5,6, alt.; (st. 4); tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001, st. 4 Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561 Text (st. 4); © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Text (sts. 1, 3, 5-6) and tune: Public domain

SERMON

MATTHEW 21:23-32

²³When Jesus went into the temple courts, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him while he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things?” and “Who gave you this authority?”

²⁴Jesus answered them, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer

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).

it, I will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, where was it from? From heaven or from men?"

They discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Then why did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From men,' we are afraid of the crowd, since they all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know."

He said to them, "Then I will not tell you by what authority I do these things."

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, 'Son, go work today in my vineyard.' ²⁹He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰He came to the second and said the same thing. The second son answered, 'I will go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?"

They said to him, "The first."

Jesus said to them, "Amen I tell you: The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him. Even when you saw this, you did not change your mind and believe him.

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.**



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

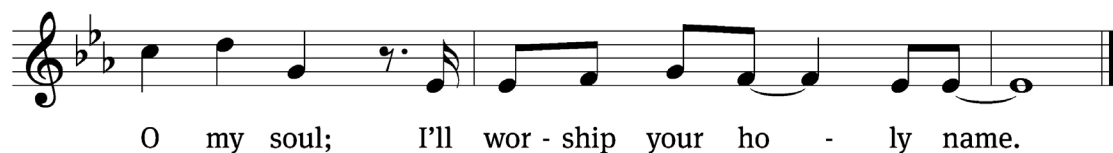
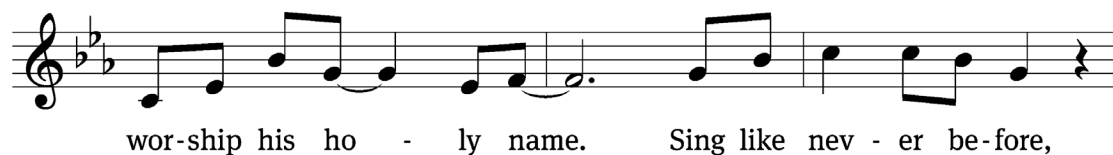
The Apostles' Creed, developed over hundreds of years in the early Christian church, is a brief and simple statement of gospel truths taught by the apostles. Christians used it to tell others what they believed and also to confess their faith with one another as they met for worship.



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: TEN THOUSAND REASONS

CWH 607



- 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—



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.

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)

*We speak to God as
our Father as Jesus
taught us.*

(Matthew 6)

**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)

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.



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.



1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
 2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; you are my own.
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
 I the Lord will smile up - on you and give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his
 I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and



ev - er. Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.
 glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
 Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren; I will keep you and give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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Cross of Glory Youth & Jr. Youth Groups Present:

2nd Annual VIDEO GAME TOURNAMENT

Double the Prizes, Double the Competition, Double the Fun



This afternoon

1pm-3pm: Jr. Youth Tournament

3pm-6pm: Youth Tournament

For more info and to register use the QR Code:



10111 W. Jomax Rd. Peoria, AZ. 85383



WAYS TO SERVE

Worship Volunteers	September 27th	October 4th	October 11th
Counters	Mike Ryan Nick Nickolai	Maggie Stevenson Nancy Murphy	Karin Hansen Becky Jahns
Communion		Dawn	
Greeters	Proeber Family	Freeman Family	Piepenbrink Family
Ushers	Gary Jeffers Tyler Holzhueter Sharon Wilson	Michael Ryan Bentley Ryan Emily Proeber Jim Proeber	John Kull Dean Ellis
Sunday Refreshments	Kathy Collyard Andrea Semmann	Clara Naber Connie Sauer	Ally Kelley Sharon Wilson
A/V	Chris Patterson Pedro Contreras	Stacy Cornell Bentley Ryan	Kelly Simpson 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.