Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Pentecost 25

November 15, 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 cartoon character holds a sign saying, "The End Is Near." For Christians, this is not a message of fear. Instead, it is a message of watchful hope. Scripture teaches that the End Times began with Christ's first coming, especially his death and resurrection. Christ will come again on judgment day. Now we live in that in-between time, when salvation has been won, but full glory is still to come. It's the beginning of the end. Jesus himself makes clear that no one knows the day or hour of his return. This uncertainty is not meant to trouble us, but to keep us spiritually awake. Each day becomes an opportunity to live in repentance and faith, turning from sin and trusting fully in Christ's finished work for us. Our preparation for the end is not about trying to predict signs or earn God's favor. Instead, it is about remaining rooted in Jesus: hearing the Word, receiving the sacraments, and trusting the promises of forgiveness. These are God's ways of keeping us ready. "**The Beginning of the End**" reminds us that history is moving toward our own death and toward Christ's return. For believers, that end is truly a beginning.

Our path through the last weeks of the church year is:

Oct 4	Speak Truth to Power	Nov 1	Focus on the Future
Oct 11	Invite the Unworthy	Nov 8	Watch for the Final Events
Oct 18	Give to God What is God's	**Nov 15**	**Put Your Affairs in Order**
Oct 25	Stay Steadfast	Nov 22	Hope for the best

When you know that your death is approaching, you try to put your affairs in order for the sake of others. When you know that the second coming of Christ is approaching, what is the appropriate response? We are not to be sedentary. Jesus has not yet returned because there is still work to be done. And Jesus carries out his good work through us. So until he comes again and says, "Stop!" we will be busy with faithful service. It's the beginning of the end, and we use our gifts and talents in an orderly way for God's glory.

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.

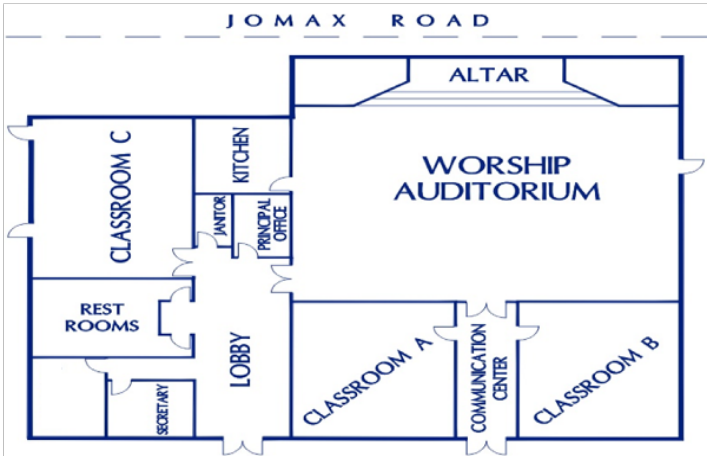
Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

Scanning this QR Code

--OR--

Emailing us at church. secretary@crossofglory.org

CHURCH MAP

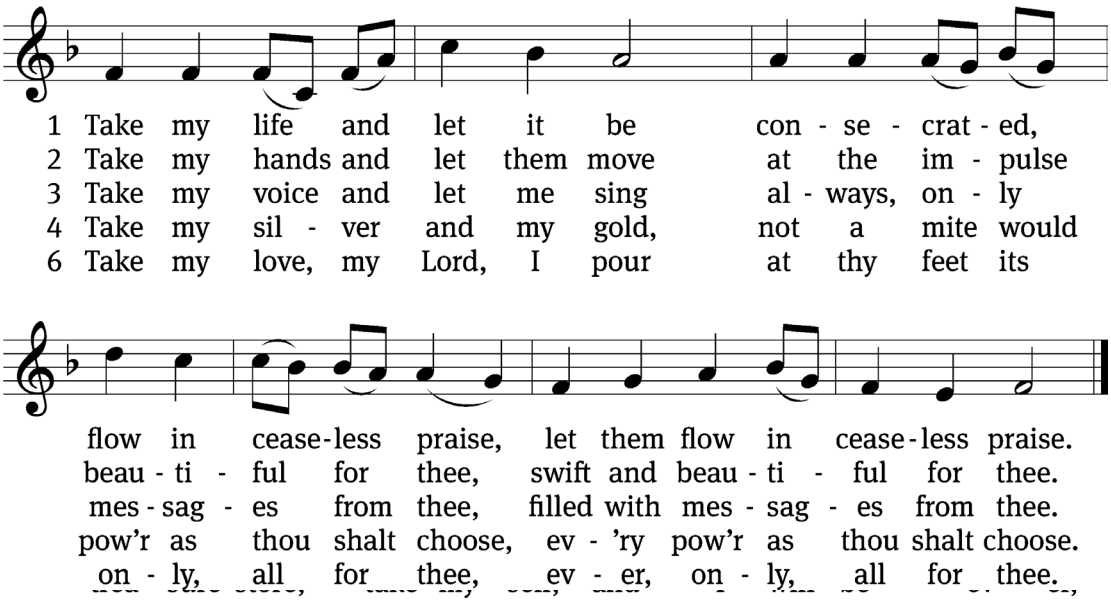


FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- **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!**

OPENING HYMN: TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

CWH 696



Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879 Tune: Henri A. C. Malan, 1787-1864 Text and tune: Public domain



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)

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.



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

CONFESSION

(SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY)

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.



"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. "

(I John 1:9)

ABSOLUTION

(SPOKEN RESPONSIVELY)

M: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his

only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

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.

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

(Spoken Responsively)

M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.



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

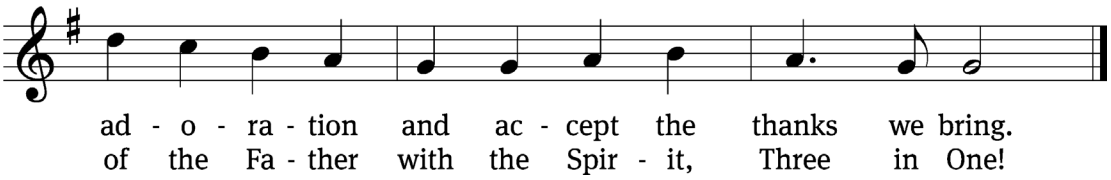
Glory to God in the Highest: Gloria

CWH 1042





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



Text: Michael A. Perry Text: © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: Public domain

The Word

Prayer of the Day

(Spoken by Minister)

M: Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before 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.



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

First Reading

Isaiah 1:10–18

10 Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah!
11 What do your many sacrifices mean to me? says the Lord.
I have more than enough rams as burnt offerings
and enough fat from well-fed animals.
I am not pleased with the blood of bulls
or the blood of lambs and male goats.
12 When you come to appear before me,
who has asked for this from your hands:
this trampling on my courts?
13 Stop bringing worthless offerings!
Your incense is an abomination to me.
I cannot stand your sinful assemblies
on the new moons, Sabbaths, and holy days.
14 Deep in my soul I hate your new moons and your appointed feasts.
They have become a burden to me.
I am tired of putting up with them.
15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you.
Indeed, even though you make many prayers, I will not hear.
Your hands are full of blood.
16 Wash yourselves. Purify yourselves.
Remove your evil deeds from my sight.
Stop doing evil. 17 Learn to do good.
Seek justice. Relieve the oppressed.
Seek justice for the fatherless. Plead for the widow.
18 Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord.

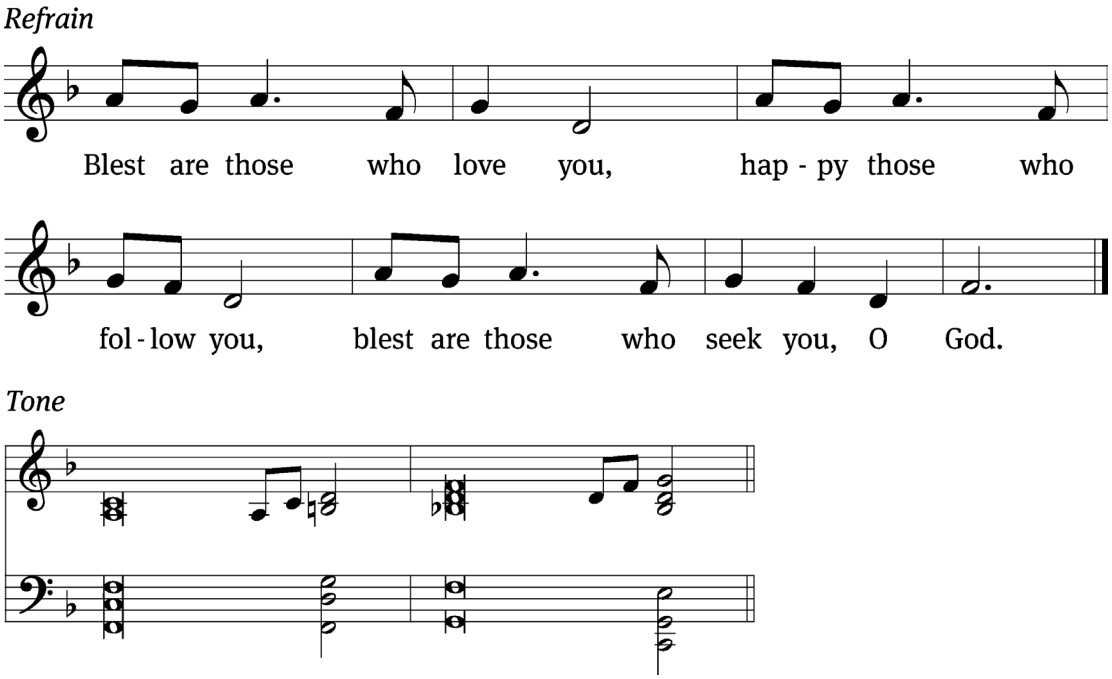


Although Old Testament Israel responded to God's gifts with grudging service, God remained faithful to his promises.

Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow.
Though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 128C





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."

Blessed are all who / fear the Lord,
who walk in obedi- / ence to him.
You will eat the fruit of your / labor;
blessings and prosperity / will be yours.
Your wife will be like a fruitful vine with- / in your house;
your children will be like olive shoots around your / table.
Refrain

Yes, this will be the / blessing
for the man who / fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from / Zion;
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days / of your life.
May you live to see your children's / children—
peace be on / Israel.
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: Marty Haugen Tune: Marty Haugen
Text and tune: © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc. (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716
Setting: © 2011 Faith Alive Christian Resources. Used by permission: License no. 130078101

The Children's Sermon (All children are invited to sit in front with Pastor)

Second Reading Romans 12:1-8



With God's mercy in view, we use God's gifts faithfully in joyful response.

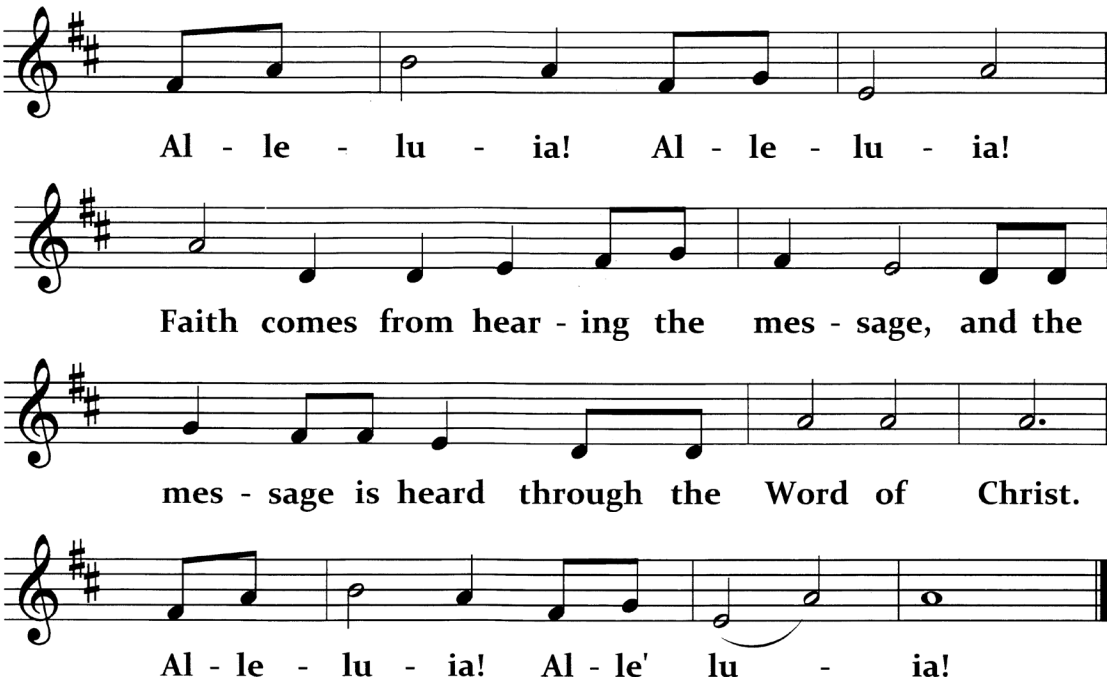
[1]Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your
bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your
appropriate worship. [2]Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern
of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that
you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing,
and perfect.
[3]So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of
yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in
sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you.
[4]For we have many members in one body, and not all the members
have the same function. [5]In the same way, though we are many, we
are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.
[6]We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If
the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. [7]If it
is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. [8]If it is encouraging,
then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be
diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

Gospel Acclamation Revelation 2:10



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.

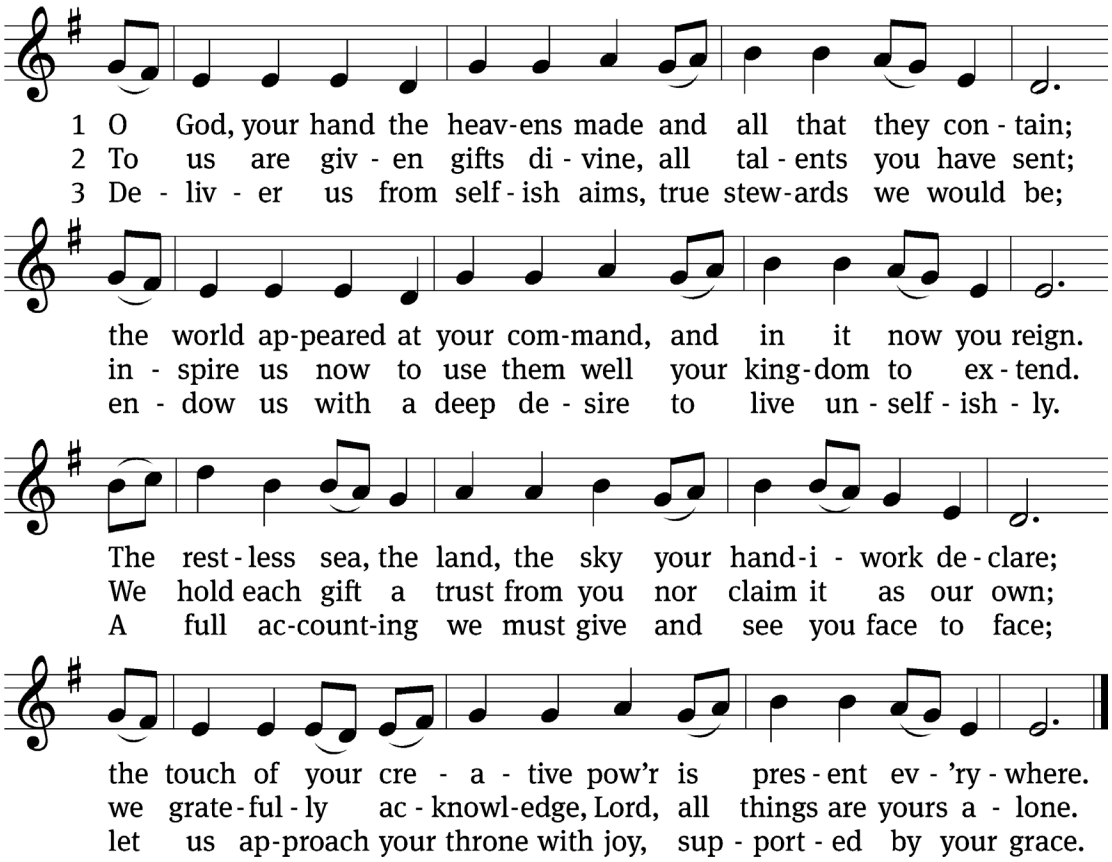
M: Alleluia. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as
your victor's crown. Alleluia.



Hymn of the Day: O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

CWH 751

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



Text: Frank L. Cross, 1904–2001 Tune: English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, alt.
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Sermon

Matthew 25:14–30

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).

14 "You see, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. He
called his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. 15 To one he
gave five talents, to another two talents, and to still another one talent,
each according to his own ability. Then he went on his journey. 16 The
servant who had received the five talents immediately put them to
work and gained five more talents. 17 In the same way, the servant who
had received the two talents gained two more. 18 But the servant who
had received one talent went away, dug a hole in the ground, and hid
his master's money.

19 "After a long time the master of those servants came and settled
accounts with them. 20 The servant who received the five talents came
and brought five more talents. He said, 'Master, you entrusted five tal-
ents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.'

21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You
were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things.
Enter into the joy of your master.'

22 "The servant who received the two talents came and said, 'Master,
you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more tal-
ents.'

23 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You

were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.'

24"Then the servant who received one talent came and said, 'Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter seed. 25Since I was afraid, I went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'

26"His master answered him, 'You wicked and lazy servant! You knew that I reap where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter seed? 27Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers so that when I came I would get my money back with interest. 28Take the talent away from him and give it to the servant who has the ten talents. 29Because everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. 30Throw that worthless servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The Nicene Creed

(Spoken Responsively)

M: The world claims everything evolved by accident. But what do Christians believe?

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

M: The world claims Jesus was only a noble and novel man. But what do Christians believe?

C: 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.

M: The world claims all people have an inborn, godly spirit. What do Christians believe?

C: 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.



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.

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: Our God Will Go Before Us





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.

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.*

The Sacrament

Preface

(Spoken Responsively)

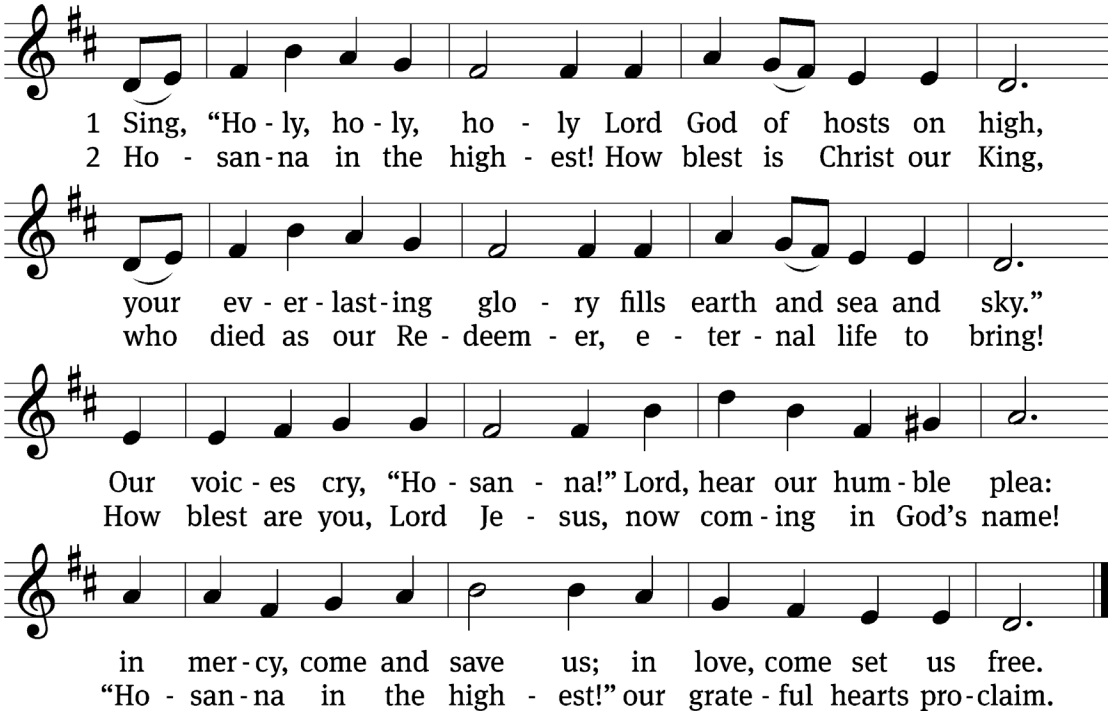
The pastor and people prepare to celebrate the Holy Meal by greeting each other and with an exhortation as how to celebrate the meal.

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 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 preserves his Church to the end of time, when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. 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)

Tune: MUNICH



Text: Michael D. SchultzTune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693
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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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

Words of Institution



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.

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.

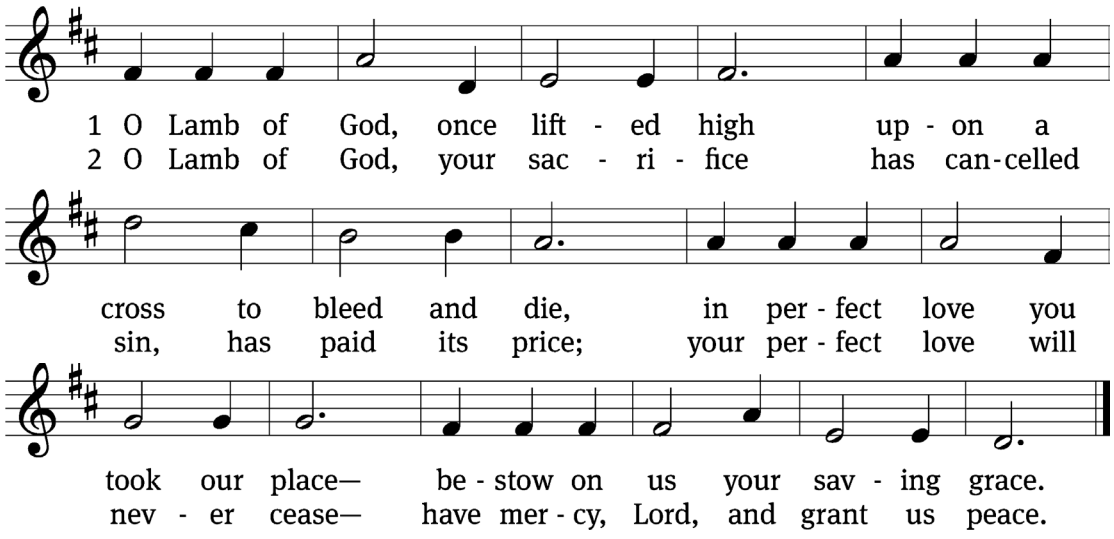
C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God Agnus Dei (Sung by Congregation)



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.*

Tune: ST. CRISPIN



Text: Michael D. Schultz Tune: George J. Elvey
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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 .*



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

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.

Distribution Hymn: Jesus Comes Today with Healing

CWH 668



Let me praise God's boundless favor,
whose own feast of love I savor,
bidden by his gracious call.
Wedding garments he provides me,
with a robe of white he hides me,
fits me for the royal hall.

Now have I found consolation,
comfort in my tribulation,
balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
cleanses me from sin and error,
makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808–1858; tr. David W. Rogner, b. 1960
Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758
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Thanksgiving and Proclamation (Spoken Responsively)

We offer our thanks and express our faith in what God has done for us and has promised to do for us in the future.

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
C: his mercy endures forever.
M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: Amen.

Blessing



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: 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: Voices Raised to You We Offer CWH 622



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: Carolyn Jennings, b. 1936 Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716 Tune: © 1996 Carolyn Jennings. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711716

Personal Prayers for Communion

Before Communing

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

After Communing

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

Worship Volunteers

November 15th	November 22nd	November 29th
Counters Bob Decker, Len Collayd	**Counters** Mike Ryan, Nick Nicholai	**Counters** Maggie Stevenson, Nancy Murphy
Communion Dawn	**Communion**	**Communion**
Greeters Jennifer Lee, Alyson, Nancy Murphy	**Greeters** Pentz Family	**Greeters** Deines Family
Ushers Cody Hall, Timothy Hall, David Conklin	**Ushers** Carl Deines, Matthew Deines	**Ushers** Gary Jeffers, Tyler Holzhueter, Sharon Wilson
Sunday Refreshments Jennifer Lee, Rachel Plitzuweit	**Sunday Refreshments** Thanksgiving Potluck	**Sunday Refreshments** Stacy Cornell, Diana Piepenbrink, Liz Henkel
A/V Emily Proeber, Gus Koutia	**A/V** Elise Plitzuweit, Chris Patterson	**A/V** Shannon Gullerud, Aaron Gullerud

Acknowledgments

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Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School

10111 W Jomax Road

Peoria, AZ 85383

WELS Christ's Love, Our Calling.

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.