Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School



Thanksgiving

November 25, 2026

623-224-8839 www.crossofglory.org

Pastor Zachary Pudlo
Mr. Andrew Aguilar, Principal

Thanksgiving 7pm 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



"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." *(Psalm 100)*

As we celebrate another thanksgiving tonight, we direct our thanks to the triune God—source of all we need to keep our body and life, the one who in perfect grace and love took on human flesh, paying the price for our sins and securing our redemption, and creator of our faith in his holy Word.

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.

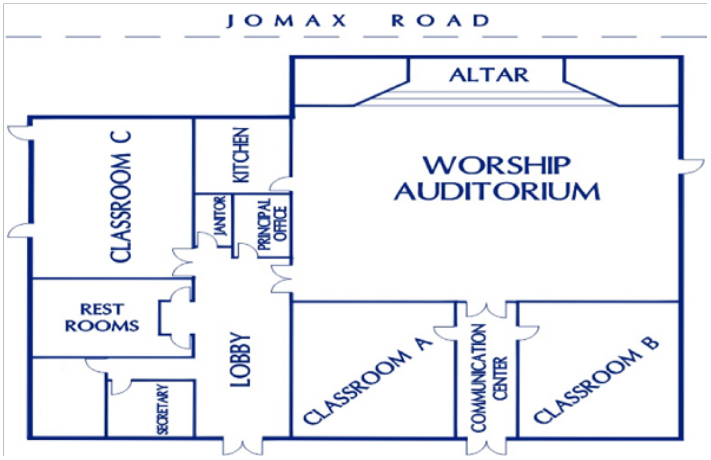
Would you like to learn more about us? We'd love to get to know you better as well. Connect with Cross of Glory by either:

Scanning this QR Code

--OR--

Emailing us at church. secretary@crossofglory.org

CHURCH MAP

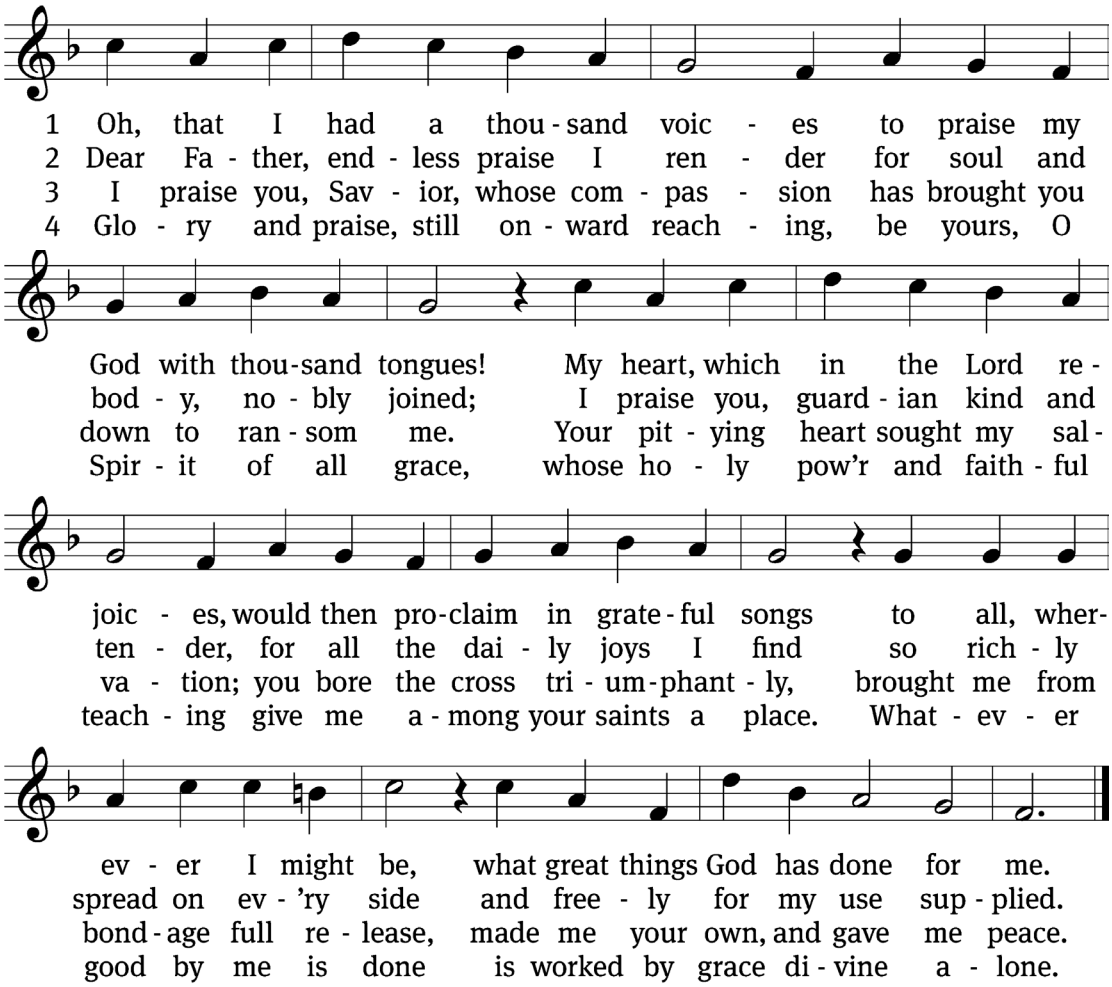


FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

- **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. Let's work together to bring up the next generation in the Word of the Lord!**

Opening Hymn: Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices

CWH 484



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Dialogue of Praise

(Spoken Responsively)

M: Heavenly Father, Creator of all things, you give us all that we need for body and life.

C: Every good and perfect gift comes from you, the Father of the heavenly lights. *(James 1:17)*

M: Lord Jesus Christ, by your suffering and death you have opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

C: We approach your throne, O God, with confidence, for mercy and grace in our time of need. *(Hebrews 4:16)*

M: Holy Spirit, counselor and guide, you have raised us from death by your powerful Word.

C: You, O Spirit of God, have made us. Your breath, almighty One, gave us life. *(Job 33:4)*

M: Lord, fill our hearts with thanksgiving for your mercy and love.

C: Move us with our hearts to believe and with our mouths to confess your saving name. Amen. *(Romans 10:10)*



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)



We begin our service of thanksgiving calling upon the triune God to be present with us.

Confession, Absolution & Thanksgiving (Spoken Responsively)

"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)

M: As we this day offer our thanksgiving and praise, let us reflect upon our many sins and confess them before our God and LORD, asking Him to forgive us for the sake of Jesus, His Son:

C: "Lord, the eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing."

M: We come before You to confess our sins, including our ingratitude and lack of appreciation for all the blessings You have given us.

C: We confess to You, O Lord, that we have not given You thanks for all Your generous blessings; nor have we shown gratitude or appreciation, but too often we have grumbled and complained.

For these sins and all our other wicked thoughts, words, and actions, we deserve to be punished. But we appeal to Your mercy and ask You to forgive us for Jesus' sake. 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.

M: The LORD, our gracious Father has forgiven all our sins through the suffering and death of His one and only Son, Jesus; and with His resurrection from the dead has given us the hope of everlasting life. God in His Word has declared,

C: "the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from every sin."

M: He also assures us:

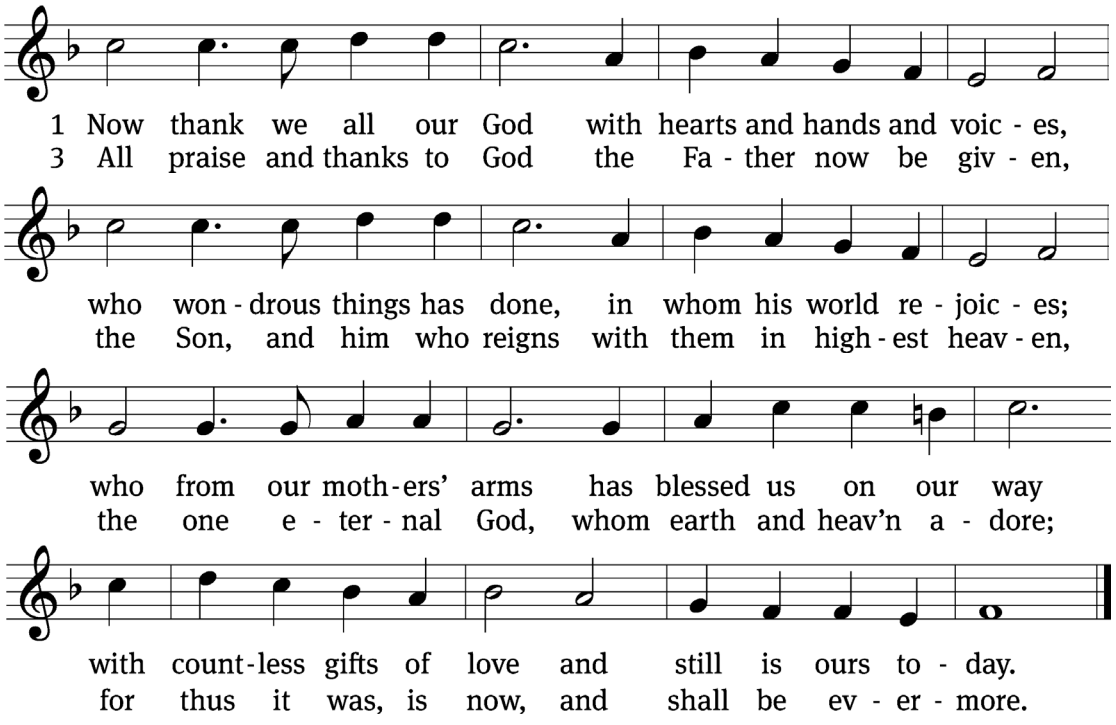
C: "You were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God."

M: Therefore, give thanks to God for our salvation! You are forgiven. Go in peace.

C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise: Now Thank We All Our God CWH 597

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



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The Word

Part One: Give thanks to the Father!

Reading

Matthew 6:25-34

25For this reason I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will
eat or drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more
than food and the body more than clothing? 26Look at the birds of the
air. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns, and yet your heavenly
Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?
27Which of you can add a single moment to his lifespan by worrying?
28Why do you worry about clothing? Consider how the lilies of the
field grow. They do not labor or spin, 29but I tell you that not even Sol-
omon in all his glory was dressed like one of these. 30If that is how God
clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is
thrown into the furnace, will he not clothe you even more, you of little
faith?
31So do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?"
or "What will we wear?" 32For the unbelievers chase after all these
things. Certainly your heavenly Father knows that you need all these
things. 33But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and
all these things will be given to you as well. 34So do not worry about to-
morrow, for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble
of its own.

Explanation to the 1st Article of the Apostles' Creed

M: I believe that God created me and all that exists,

C: and that he gave me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my mind and all my abilities.

M: And I believe that God still preserves me

C: by richly and daily providing clothing and shoes, food and drink, property and home, spouse and children, land, cattle, and all I own, and all I need to keep my body and life.

M: God also preserves me by defending me against all danger,

C: guarding and protecting me from all evil.

M: All this God does only because he is my good and merciful Father in heaven,

C: and not because I have earned or deserved it.

M: For all this I ought to thank and praise, to serve and obey him.

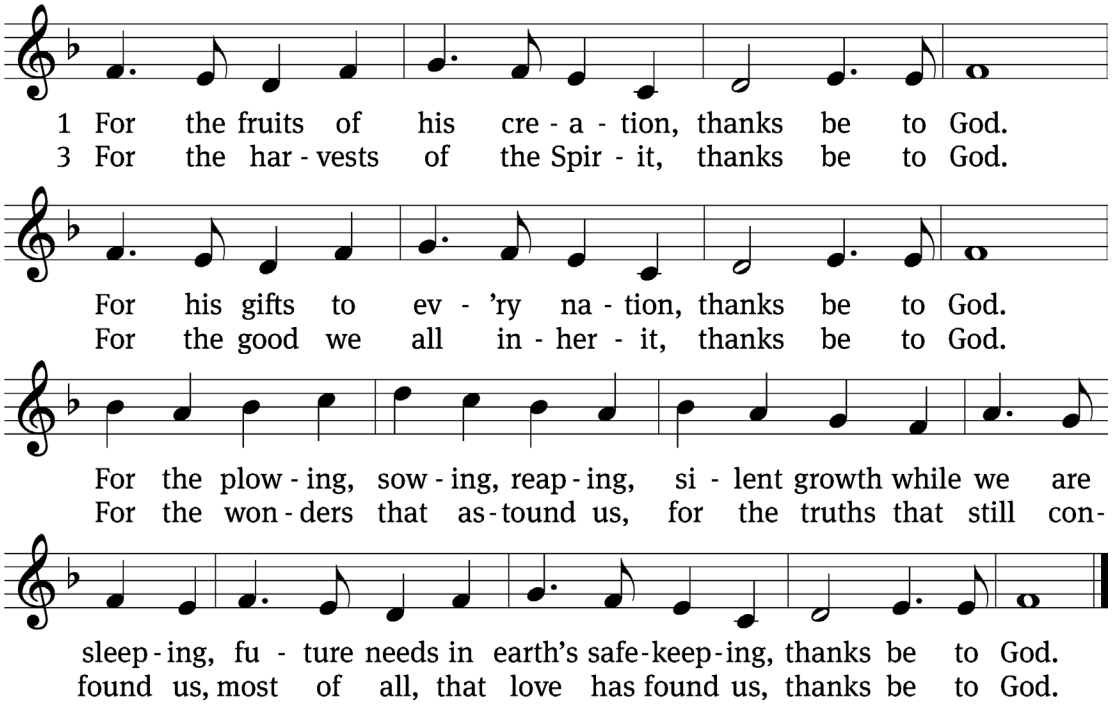
C: This is most certainly true.



We confess the explanation of the first article of the Apostles' Creed taken from Luther's Small Catechism. It 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.

Hymn of Response: For the Fruits of His Creation

CWH 506



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Part Two: Give thanks to the Son!

Reading

Romans 5:1–2, 6–11

[1]Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. [2]Through him we also have obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand. And we rejoice confidently on the basis of our hope for the glory of God.

[6]For at the appointed time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for the ungodly. [7]It is rare indeed that someone will die for a righteous person. Perhaps someone might actually go so far as to die for a person who has been good to him. [8]But God shows his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

[9]Therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, it is even more certain that we will be saved from God's wrath through him. [10]For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, it is even more certain that, since we have been reconciled, we will be saved by his life. [11]And not only is this so, but we also go on rejoicing confidently in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received this reconciliation.

We confess the explanation of the second article of the Apostles' Creed taken from Luther's Small Catechism, which focuses on the second person of the Trinity, Jesus, and on the major elements of Jesus' story of our redemption – his birth, death and resurrection.

Explanation to the 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed

M: I believe that Jesus Christ,

C: true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

M: He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature,

C: purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil,

M: not with gold or silver

C: but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

M: All this he did that I should be his own,

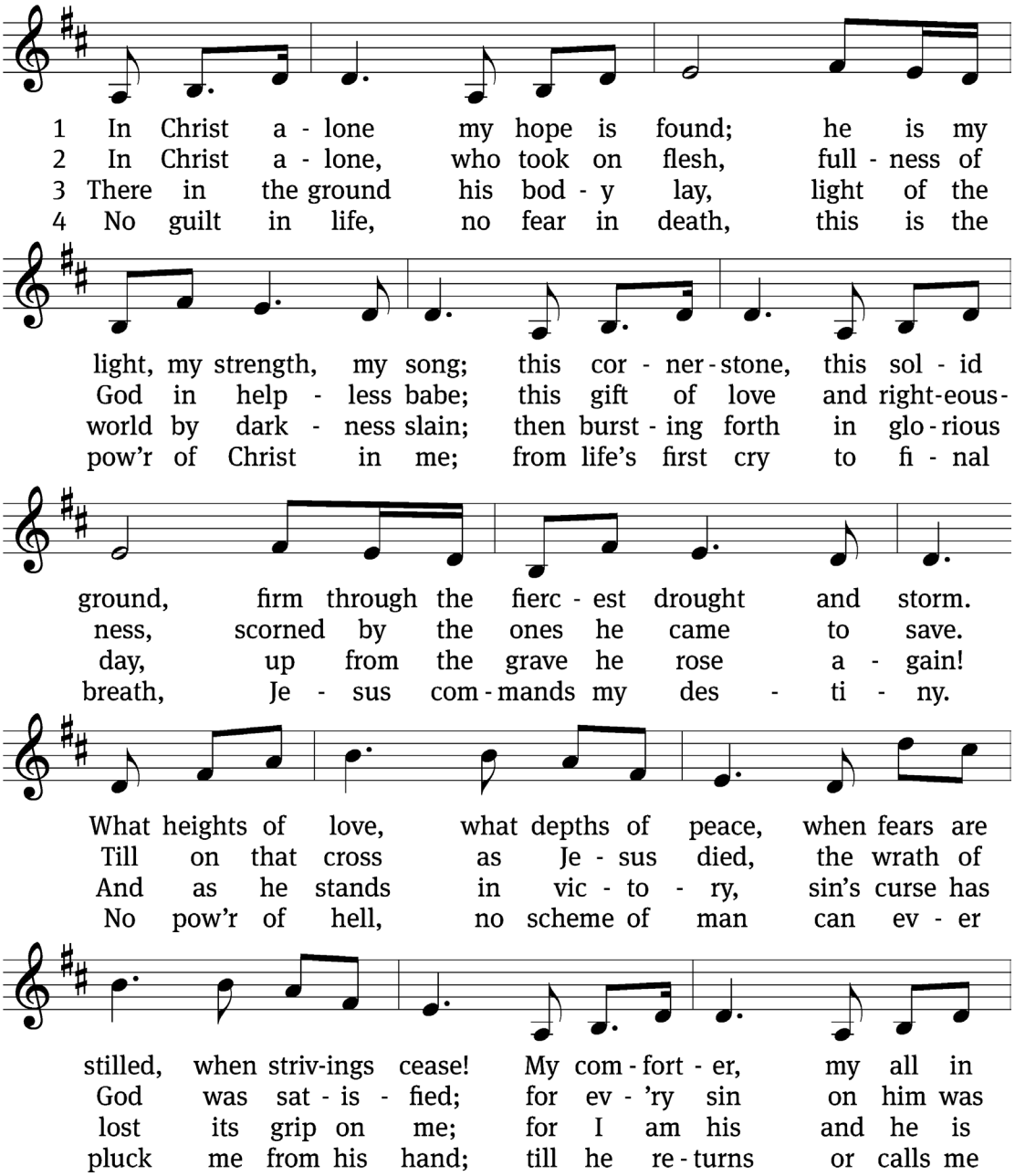
C: and live under him in his kingdom,

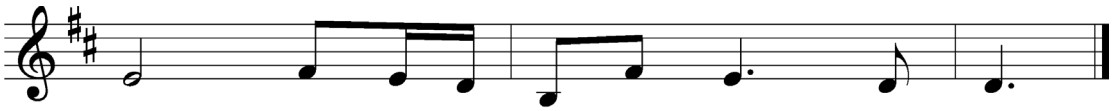
M: and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

C: just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.

Hymn of Response: In Christ Alone

CWH 510





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Part 3: Give thanks to the Holy Spirit!

Reading

Romans 8:5–17

5To be sure, those who are in harmony with the sinful flesh think about
things the way the sinful flesh does, and those in harmony with the
spirit think about things the way the spirit does. 6Now, the way the
sinful flesh thinks results in death, but the way the spirit thinks results
in life and peace. 7For the mind-set of the sinful flesh is hostile to God,
since it does not submit to God's law, and in fact, it cannot. 8Those who
are in the sinful flesh cannot please God.

9But you are not in the sinful flesh but in the spirit, if indeed God's Spirit
lives in you. And if someone does not have the Spirit of Christ, that per-
son does not belong to Christ. 10But if Christ is in you, your body is dead
because of sin, but your spirit is alive because of righteousness. 11And if
the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the
one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies
alive through his Spirit, who is dwelling in you.

12So then, brothers, we do not owe it to the sinful flesh to live in harmo-
ny with it. 13For if you live in harmony with the sinful flesh, you are go-
ing to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body,
you will live.

14Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. 15For
you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but
you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, "Abba, Fa-
ther!" 16The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God's
children.

17Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs
with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified
with him.

We confess the explanation of the third article of the Apostles' Creed taken from Luther's Small Catechism, which focuses on the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit who creates faith in our hearts through the gospel, keeps us in the faith and motivates us to do good works.

Explanation to the 3rd Article of the Apostles' Creed

M: I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.

C: But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel,

M: enlightened me with his gifts,

C: sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

M: In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth,

C: and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

M: In this Christian Church he daily and fully

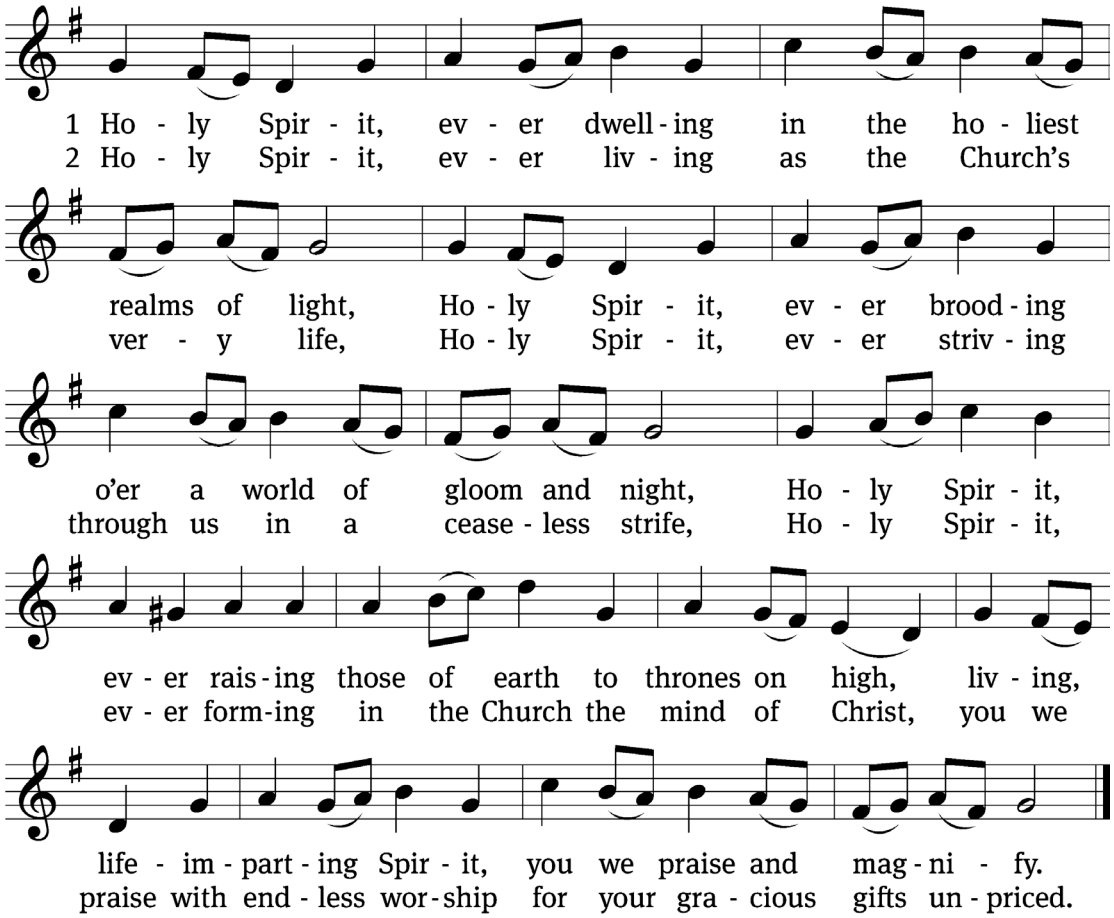
C: forgives all sins to me and all believers.

M: On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead

C: and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

Hymn of Response: Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

CWH 592



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Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Spoken Responsively)

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.

M: Father in heaven, we give you thanks. You gave us life and formed our bodies in the womb. You have preserved us over the years by providing for all our needs. You control the weather, ensuring ample supplies of food.

C: You give us family and friends. You keep our society stable through the various branches of our government. You protect and

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.

defend us day after day. Each of us offers private thanks for your many gifts.

Silent Prayer

M: Jesus, we give you thanks. True God from eternity, you put aside your heavenly glory to become human like us. You lived the kind of life we should, following perfectly all the commandments. You died the kind of death we should, receiving the total and just punishment for our sin.

C: What love you have shown us! We thank you for reconciling us to your Father through your holy, precious blood. We praise you for rising from the dead. We exalt you for winning for us the gift of eternal life. Each of us offers private thanks for your saving works.

Silent Prayer

M: Holy Spirit, we give you thanks. By our own thinking and choosing we cannot believe in Jesus Christ or come to him. By your powerful means of grace you called us to faith, revealing to us God's great love in Christ.

C: We praise you for the Holy Scriptures, inspired by you. We thank you for the sacraments. Through these means of grace, you begin and preserve faith in Christ.

M: You move and lead us to live in a sanctified way. We exalt you for sanctifying us to serve the Lord and our neighbor.

C: You have guarded and defended the Christian church through the ages. We thank you for your many blessings to our congregation in the past year. Each of us offers private thanks for your many blessings.

Silent Prayer

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.

Blessing

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.

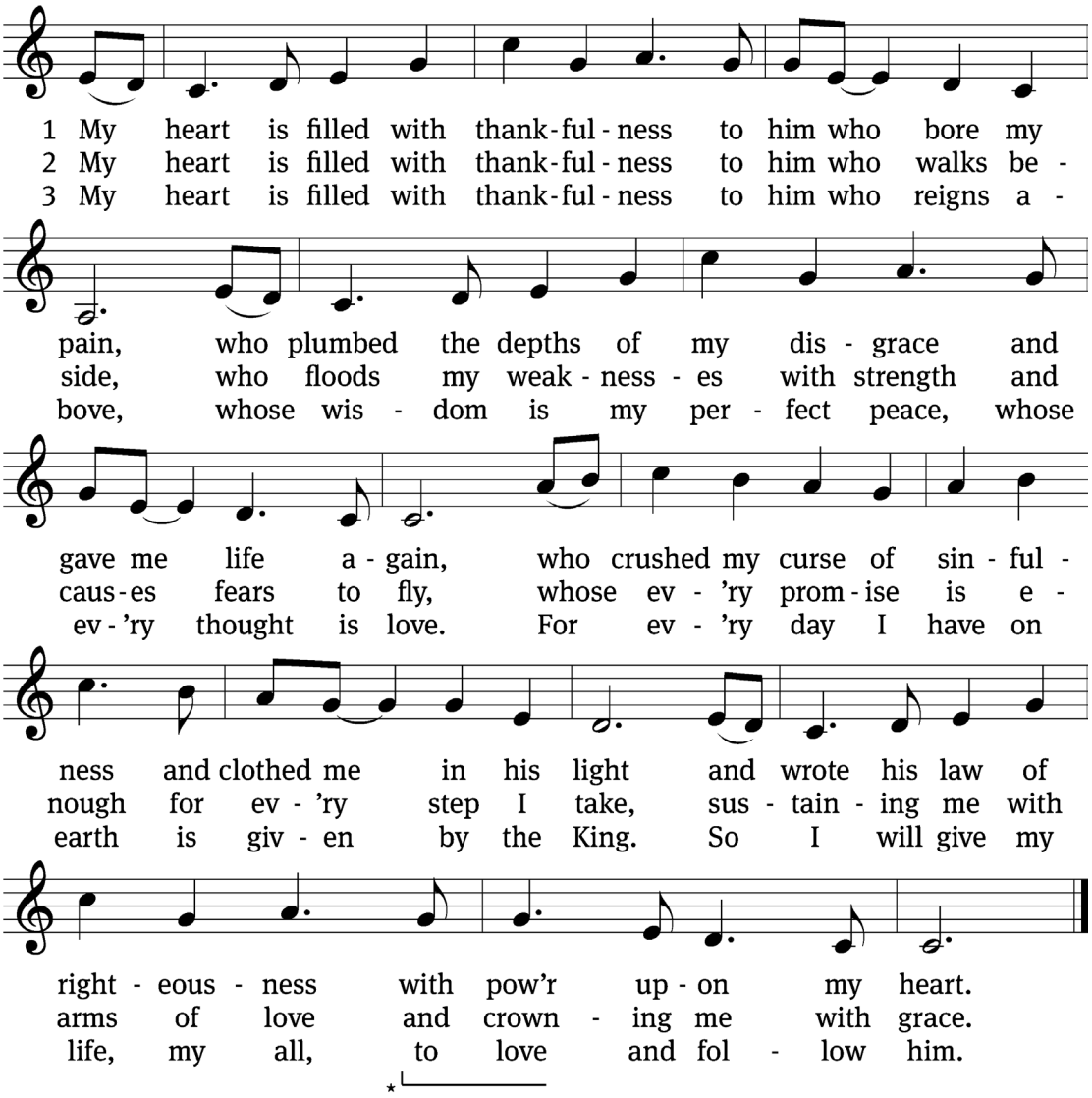
C: Amen.



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.

Closing Hymn

CWH 626



* *This phrase repeats at the end of st. 3.*

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Cross of Glory

Lutheran Church & School

10111 W Jomax Road
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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.