

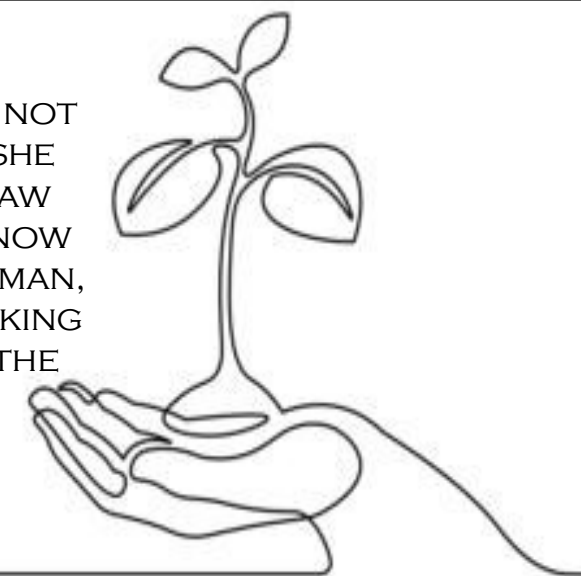
The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

a Wildfire Congregation

April 2022

“THEY HAVE TAKEN AWAY MY LORD, AND I DO NOT KNOW WHERE THEY HAVE LAID HIM.” WHEN SHE HAD SAID THIS, SHE TURNED AROUND AND SAW JESUS STANDING THERE, BUT SHE DID NOT KNOW THAT IT WAS JESUS. JESUS SAID TO HER, “WOMAN, WHY ARE YOU WEeping? WHOM ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?” [FOR SHE HAD SUPPOSED] HIM TO BE THE GARDENER.” -JOHN 20:13-15



Cross of Glory
office hours: M-W 10-2
www.crossofglory.us
763-533-8602

WORSHIP WITH US!

In-person – Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for safely-distanced worship in the sanctuary.

Zoom – Tune in to services in live-time via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. For further information about how to connect to Zoom by computer or phone, visit www.crossofglory.us.

Recorded services - We record weekly worship so that you can worship from anywhere, anytime.

Visit our home page, or Service Library page, at www.crossofglory.us for service recordings!

Bulletins – Bulletins are mailed to those who have requested continued mailings. Please contact the church office at 763-533-8602 or office@crossofglory.us if you'd like to be added to/removed from this weekly mailing list. Electronic bulletins will be posted to our website weekly as well.

As we continue to move through the pandemic, we give thanks that the Spirit continues to guide, inspire, and enliven us in our worship, however you choose to take part!

JOURNEY WITH CROSS OF GLORY THIS HOLY WEEK...

Palm Sunday - April 10

9:30 am worship onsite & online (including activity for kids in Fellowship Hall)

Maundy Thursday - April 14

7 pm - Worship with communion onsite & online

Good Friday - April 15

12 pm - Tenebrae worship services onsite only

4-6 pm - Stations of the Cross art exhibit at Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church.

See more information on page 3.

7pm—Tenebrae worship service onsite and online

Easter Sunday - April 17

7:30 - Easter Morning Prayer in the Garden a short service of song + prayer in the Cross of Glory courtyard—enter through the main front door

8:00 - Easter Breakfast *sign-up requested

9:30 - Easter Worship onsite & online (including activity for kids in Fellowship Hall)

10:30 - Easter Breakfast *sign-up requested

*To sign up for one of our two Easter Breakfast times (8:30 and 10:30), please sign up on the sign-up sheet at the ushers station, or email Rachel in the church office at office@crossofglory.us or call at 763-533-8602 on M-W by April 10th.

Cross of Glory Staff:

Lead Pastor:

Rev. Ali Tranvik
atranvik@crossofglory.us

Bookkeeper:

Mike Edstrom
medstrom@crossofglory.us

Pianist/Worship Leader/Tech Dir.:

Mark Trease
mltrease@comcast.net

Choir Director:

Keith Williams
williams@csp.edu

Office Manager/ CLC :

Rachel Marquardt
office@crossofglory.us

Custodian/ Facilities Manager:

Matt Steven

Tech Ministry:

Ryan Bailey



PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Ali is available for pastoral care, conversation, and prayer. You can reach her by phone and email throughout the week. Her designated office hours for pastoral care and conversation--virtual or in-person--are Tuesdays from 10:30-1:30 and Wednesdays from 2-5, and home/care facility visitation hours are Thursdays from 3-5. Please reach out to schedule a time to connect!

Home Communion

If you are unable to commune in person-at Cross of Glory, Pastor Ali would love to come visit you and bring you communion. Please reach out to her if you'd like to schedule a time.

A LENTEN SOUNDTRACK

The other morning, I was flipping through radio stations and landed on some jazz. The piece that was playing featured piano, bass, saxophone, and drums. It was fast-moving and hard to follow. I struggled to make sense of what I was hearing, but kept listening because I was struck by something--the freedom of jazz. While it could be said of other musical genres, jazz in particular is unbound to structure. It often plays with key signatures and time signatures. It experiments with harmonies that may not sound particularly harmonic, and with melodies that may be impossible to replicate.

This Lent, we've been exploring the themes of captivity and freedom. Our "soundtrack" this Lenten season has included the haunting melodies of Holden Evening Prayer each Sunday during worship, as well as the southern folk music of The Conviction Band. As we continue to ponder themes of captivity and freedom--and as we turn toward the Easter season where freedom is realized on a cross and in an empty tomb--I invite you to add some jazz to your "playlist" this Lent (88.5 is a great place to start!).

Poet Michael O'Siadhail suggests that music is "pleasure, prayer, and praise" in one. May we experience the gift of all three as music continues to carry us through this Lenten season.

Pastor Ali

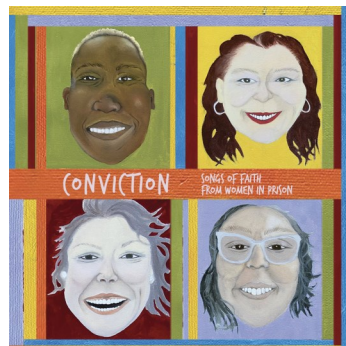
*Get ready for a Sunday full of jazz music on May 8th, when we'll be led in worship by Keith Williams' Dixieland Band!

For further reading:

- "Praying with Jazz this Lent" by Rose Marie Berger <https://sojo.net/magazine/february-2021/praying-jazz-lent>
- "Seeing God in Jazz" by Willie James Jennings [DivMag_Fall11_WEB.pdf\(duke.edu\)](http://DivMag_Fall11_WEB.pdf(duke.edu))

THE CONVICTION BAND: SONGS OF FAITH FROM WOMEN IN PRISON

This Lent, we've listened to the music of The Conviction Band each Sunday, a group of formerly-incarcerated women who write songs about captivity--and freedom. A few folks have asked about ways to learn more about & support their music. Their full album is publicly available at www.convictionongs.com. The project was made possible by the Interfaith Ministry for Women in Prison. You can learn more about their work and support them by visiting www.ipmforwomen.org/.



All are welcome to take part in Bible Study every Tuesday morning at 9:30 am as we study the word. We offer both an in-person and Zoom option (connect via Zoom using the same information as Sunday worship)



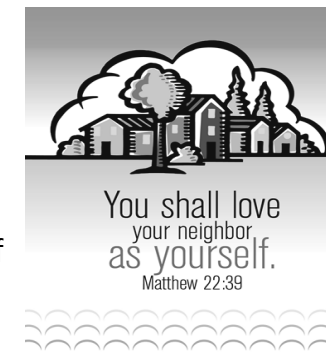
Who are the People in our Neighborhood?

I had the privilege of sitting down with a couple of the leaders of other groups here at 5929 Brooklyn Blvd. I was stunned by the amount of desire for connecting with others in this building. We briefly chatted about what their dreams of relationship and building could be. A few of the things that popped out were:

- Working together on a food drive or another service project
- Having a shared meal together
- Wanting people to see the world bigger than themselves
- Being a place of refuge for those who need social and emotional support

What do you think? How does this fit with Cross of Glory and our values? Where do we fit, how do these bullet points fit with what Jesus has called us to do— Love our neighbor.

Rachel Marquardt—Community Life Coordinator/ office manager



Community News



COMMUNITY NEWS

As the ground thaws and weather warms, we're looking forward to growing plants and produce in our church's backyard community garden plots this year. All are welcome to join COG members, Progeny Academy students, and Brooklyn Center neighbors for gardening this spring & summer. Reach out to Dan Jacobson if you're interested in learning more or taking part.

CAPI, the organization located across the street from COG that provides support services for immigrants and refugees in our community, has invited us to help support Afghani refugees who are currently being resettled in the metro area. They are currently collecting household and school supplies as families get settled. CAPI has created an online wishlist of items through Amazon. Visit <https://a.co/7LWz5BS> to view the list and donate an item.

Free senior luncheon every Tuesdays at noon at The Crossings at Brookwood. Lunch is followed by a fellowship time and a game. Tours of the facility are also available. To RSVP for a "Chat & Chowder" luncheon this month, call Diane at 763-561-7405. To celebrate Earth Day, Brooklyn Center is seeking hands to help with a Shingle Creek clean-up gathering on Saturday, April 23 from 9am -12pm. Meet at the Centennial Park Amphitheater (6301 Shingle Creek Pkwy). Gloves, bags, vests, and grabbers will be provided.

Local organizations are collecting food donations for MNFoodShare through April 10th. Drop donations off at the CAPI food shelf T-Th between 1-4 pm, at the CEAP food shelf M-F between 8:30 -4 pm, or the grocery cart located next to the Welcome Desk at COG M-W between 10-2 pm.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FOOD SHELF



TOP 10 MOST WANTED FOODS

MONETARY DONATIONS OR ANY NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS ACCEPTED





FAITH PRACTICES & NEIGHBORING PRACTICES
 Cross of Glory's Faith Practices and Neighboring Practices (FPNP) group continues to meet monthly with our Wildfire cohort as we explore our call to neighboring, and the faith practices that sustain it. The faith practices we're exploring include lectio divina (a way of praying through scripture--which the COG congregation has been doing together each

Wednesday during Lent!), visio divina (a way of praying through an image), and neighborhood prayer walks. The neighboring practices include 1:1 relational meetings, asset-mapping in our community, and preparing for a summer project, in which we hope to focus on meal sharing and storytelling. We're grateful for the ongoing learning, and are excited to keep sharing more with you as the journey continues. -Abby Kelley, Nathan Paulson, Isak Tranvik, Mike McClanahan, and Pastor Ali Tranvik

VISION & VOCATION TEAM

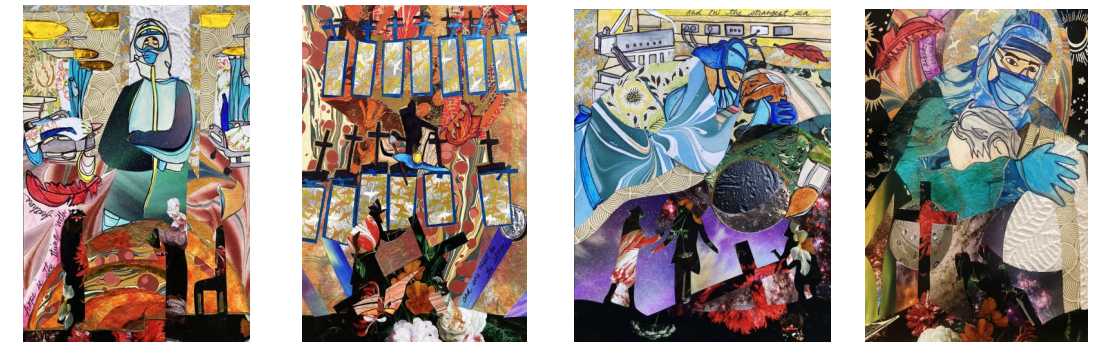
Last fall, a team of COG members began gathering to discuss and discern the work that God is calling Cross of Glory to do in this next chapter of our shared ministry. The group includes Kris Simon, Judy Lewis, Mike Edstrom, Kim Jacobson, Barbara Sahr, Nathan Paulson, and Rachel Marquardt, and Pastor Ali Tranvik. We've rooted our vocational discernment in stories from scripture, stories from the world that stir our imagination, 1:1 relational meetings, and prayer. We look forward to sharing more with you this spring as together we work to listen for--and live into--God's call!



**Stations of the Cross art exhibit with Wildfire churches
 Friday 4pm-6pm**

As we walk through Holy Week together, you're invited to a special gathering of Wildfire congregations for a self-guided time of prayer. The Faith Practices & Neighboring Practices learning community recently gifted Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church in Robbinsdale a set of 14 pieces of art in a collection titled "Stations of the Cross: Pandemic Hope." The stations outline Jesus' journey to the cross through the lens of the Covid-19 pandemic, lifting up images and stories of hope, resiliency, and relationship that took place even in the midst of grief, despair, and death. The pieces feature the dedicated work of healthcare, sanitation, and mortuary workers in moments of tenderness in the face of disease and death. Each station is paired with stanzas from Emily Dickinson's poem "Hope is the thing with feathers," as well as a prayer and questions for reflection. Faith Lilac Way has graciously invited the Wildfire community to stop by on Good Friday afternoon between 4-6 pm, during which you're invited to prayerfully walk through the exhibit. If you're interested in going with a group of fellow Cross of Glory folks, we invite you to meet in the Cross of Glory parking lot at 4 pm, and we'll carpool over to Faith Lilac Way together. You are also welcome to meet the COG group at Faith Lilac Way (5530 N 42nd Ave) shortly after 4 pm.

We look forward to gathering with fellow Wildfire churches and praying through these stations of the cross together as we journey through Holy Week.



Circles GATHER Bible Study will meet... Wednesday April 19th at 1pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Bring your own drink, snack and a friend. All women are welcome. Copies of the Bible Study will be available if needed. We will again be using a microphone. The microphone was a great success at the March Bible Study meeting and not difficult for us to use. There may be coffee available.

APRIL Bible Study will be the last of Rev. Mark Allan Powell's four part series...The kingdom of God: Looking into the future.

Focus Verse: "I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us."(Romans 8:18)

Session Four: Looking into the future, Life forever with God - Most of the time that Jesus talks about the kingdom of God or eternal life, he is referring to something we experience here and now--not later in heaven. But sometimes, he does talk about that future life and in this final session we will learn as much as we can about "the glory that awaits us." What will it be like to be perfect people in a perfect world, living forever with God and one another?

SPRING LUNCHEON will be April 30th. Watch the Glory Banner and Mini Happenings for further details.



This year's Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly theme is "Life Together." Just as Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrestled with what "life together" meant for Christians in Nazi Germany, we wonder what "life together" means in our world today. Keynote speaker is Dr. Eric Barreto, Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary, who will lead us in a study of the book of Acts. As Barreto says, Acts invites us to imagine the dazzling, surprising, and transformative ways God has drawn us--and continues to draw us--together. Synod Assembly will also include worship, the election of synod leaders, the celebration of our companion synod, messages from partner ministries, and voting on synod resolutions. The assembly is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th at Central Lutheran Church in downtown Minneapolis. Pastor Ali, Kim Jacobson, and Judy Lewis will serve as this year's voting delegates on behalf of Cross of Glory.



Please sign up for Easter Breakfast!

Call or stop in the church office M-W 10-2 or on the sign up sheet on the Usher station Sunday morning. Breakfast is a free-will offering Easter Sunday. Signing up ensures enough for all.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

We give thanks to be gathering again for a time of fellowship following worship each Sunday. Please join us! We are currently providing coffee and water, but in order to make food or drinks possible going forward, we need your help. While we have hands to pick up treats, we are looking for people to help with set-up and clean-up each week. If you are willing to sign up for a Sunday this spring--or a few!--please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the usher's table or contact the church office.





Worship Helpers

April 3
 Greeters: Judy Lewis and Luella Hinnenkamp
 Reader: Julie Aulwes
 Communion: Gayle Merritt, Carol Sjejskal, Dawn Bailey

April 10
 Greeters: Carol Stejskal, and Kathy Swendiman
 Reader: Carol Stejskal

April 17
 Greeters: Harriet Halverson and Steve Ferley
 Reader: Steve Ferley
 Communion:

April 24
 Greeters: Barb Thomson and Brenda Edstrom
 Reader: Kris Simon

May 1
 Greeters: Josephine Cook and Judy Olson
 Reader: Julie Aulwes
 Communion: Judy Olson, Bruce and Sue Vukelich

AID TO UKRAINE

A few folks have asked about ways to support neighbors in Ukraine. Donations--which go toward food, basic supplies, and other emergency needs--can be given directly through Lutheran Disaster at www.elca.org/disaster. You may also write a check to Cross of Glory and mark it as "Ukraine Aid" and we will direct those funds toward these efforts.



COG is now offering a special time for kids during part of

worship on the first Sunday of the month. On **April 3rd** our children's ministry leaders will have an activity prepared for kids during part of the service. From singing songs to baking communion bread, planting a garden to storytelling, crafts to games, we look forward to worshipping with you and for our time together on first Sundays!

FELLOW WILDFIRE CHURCH HIRING

"Jesus Loves the Little Children".....and so do we! All God's Children Learning Center is a ministry partner with Valley of Peace Lutheran Church in Golden Valley. We provide a positive community of learning and growth and are always looking to hire people who embody our mission. , we are currently seeking a Food Service Coordinator and Server (7-3 M-F), an Infant teacher (full-time), and substitute and/or flexible schedule classroom aides. For inquiries or to apply for any of these positions, please contact Ashley Brown, director (phone – 763-588-5437, email - Director@agclc.org, text – 763-204-5580).

April 2022 COVID Task Force Update



On February 25th, the CDC released updated guidelines regarding mask wearing and physical distancing. They also launched an online tool displaying their rating of each community's COVID-19 risk by county as "Low," "Medium," or "High." We are following this rating to determine our masking and social distancing guidelines.

Weekly ratings for Hennepin County will be determined each Thursday. We will be posting the risk rating at church each week and reacting with appropriate masking and distancing behaviors. Please see the [COVID-19](#)

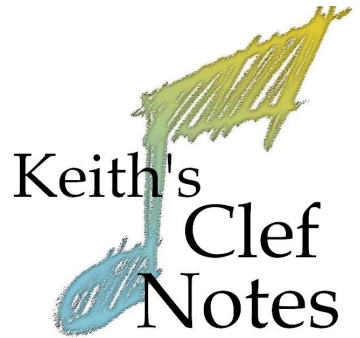
[Info](#) page at crossofglory.us for a chart and guidelines for how this rating will guide our actions each week. Some weeks we may wear masks in worship or throughout the building, and other weeks we may not, depending on the current CDC rating,

We are happy to report that the current rating for Hennepin County is "Low," therefore masking and physical distancing are currently optional at the church for services and anywhere in the building, for those who are vaccinated.

Per CDC guidance, we ask that those exhibiting Covid symptoms, those with a positive test, and those who have had exposure to someone with Covid, should refrain from taking part in in-person activities, and those who are unvaccinated should wear a mask, regardless of Hennepin County's risk level. We strongly encourage everyone who can to be fully vaccinated and boosted, for the safety of all.

We welcome your questions and are very thankful for the COG community for its ongoing graciousness, care-filled behavior, and prayers as we move into this next phase of the pandemic.

Faithfully working to be God's church together,
 The Cross of Glory COVID Task Force



There are those moments in life ... Those in my music groups, (and most of the rest of you), know that I follow politics closer than I should. Recently, I have read and watched for hours about the largest land war in Europe in the last 80 years. Then came a couple of those moments in life that somehow pierce through the rest of the noise...

I came across a mother in her bombed-out residence in Bila Tserkva, who sat down and played her piano... And a Ukrainian violinist played for Kharkiv citizens huddled in her shared bomb shelter during the shelling... And in the capital city of Kiev, (pronounced Keev, I've learned), an orchestra played a 45 minute outdoor concert in defiance of the onslaught. Despite the danger people stopped and listened – and shared with the musicians in that moment of music..., in that moment of humanity..., in that moment in the presence of one of God's greatest gifts. Music simply brought them together.

Tears are common for me. I felt deeply grateful, knowing the privilege I have of worshipping with music, of participating collaboratively with our church musicians to builds community, and trust, and shared love and respect. How I have taken it for granted over my years. But there are those moments in life that slow me down and make me aware of my privilege in the COG Lutheran musical community.

Cross of Glory Activities by COVID-19 Risk Level

(updated March 11, 2022)

HENNEPIN COUNTY RISK* ---->	LOW	MEDIUM		HIGH
		Worship	Non-Worship	
ACTIVITY				
Masking	Optional	Required	Optional	Required
Distancing	Optional	Required	Optional	Required
Meals **	YES-no restrictions	YES - per Nov 2021 Meals policy		Pause
Musical ensembles	YES	YES - per Dec 2021 Musical Ensembles Guidelines		Pause
Communion	YES -per Feb 2022 Communion Guidelines	YES - per Feb 2022 Communion Guidelines		YES - per Feb 2022 Communion Guidelines
Sharing the Peace	Greet others at your own comfort level	Distanced gesture of peace		Distanced gesture of peace
Children's Activities	Masks are optional	Masks required	Masks required	Masks required

* as determined by the CDC

** includes all food sharing, such as Coffee Fellowship, funeral lunches, meeting snacks, etc.