
The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

a Wildfire Congregation

August 2023



**“GO IN
PEACE
AND SERVE
THE LORD!
THANKS BE
TO GOD!”**

Art credit: “Take This Bread,” by Sara Miles

WORSHIP WITH US!

Onsite – Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for worship in the sanctuary.

Online – 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 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 are posted to our website weekly as well.

We give thanks that the Spirit continues to guide, inspire, and enliven us in our worship, however you choose to take part!

THE LITURGY CONTINUES...

When we say the words above (or words like them) each week at the end of worship, it marks a beginning, not an ending. Read more on page 2 about how the rhythms of our liturgy on Sunday morning spill out of the sanctuary and into the ordinary stuff of our everyday lives.

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GATHERING, WORD, TABLE, SENDING

Since the early centuries of Christianity, the church has gathered for worship around a particular set of patterns, what we call the “liturgy”:

Gathering: “So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another” (Romans 12:5). We gather not as a hand-picked group of like-minded people but as people connected to each other as members of Christ’s body. We are gathered and held together as one body by God’s grace and love. We remind each other of this through sharing a welcome, confessing our sin and receiving God’s grace, singing, and praying.

Word: “Proclaim the good news to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15). This is what Jesus calls his disciples to do. But even before that, the rhythm of proclaiming scripture and responding in song was a central part of the Jewish tradition of which Jesus was a part. We continue this rhythm today. The literal words of our proclamation and song orient us to the living Word, Jesus Christ, who is present among us.

Table: “Take and eat, this is my body given for you” (Matthew 26:26). As Bishop Eaton puts it, “at the table, we are fed and forgiven, reconciled and released, crucified and raised. In the words of institution, we hear the story of Jesus, broken and shed, who gives himself for the life of the world.” Communing with each other is how we continue to “do this in remembrance of me.”

Sending: “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19). Gathered into one by the Spirit, bearing the word, and fed at God’s table, we are sent into the world, into “ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown,” to go--with God--and love the world God so loves.

These are the rhythms of our liturgy each Sunday morning, as they have been for people of faith for centuries. But they are not rhythms that end with the postlude. We’re called to a kind of liturgy that’s lived out both on Sunday mornings and the rest of the week, both at Cross of Glory and throughout the broader Brooklyn Center community. Where do you notice these rhythms in your own life, or where might you look for new ways to engage them? Where, when, how, and with whom do you **gather**? Where do you hear, listen for, speak of, share, embody God’s **Word**? What are the **tables** you find yourself breaking bread at? Into what kinds of “ventures, paths, perils” is God **sending** you?

For the gift of living this liturgy with you on Sundays--and the rest of the week too--I continue to say thanks be to God! -Pastor Ali

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 hours for pastoral care and conversation (onsite or online) 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 onsite at Cross of Glory, we would love to come visit you and bring you communion. Please reach out to schedule a time.



COG COMMUNITY GARDEN HARVEST
On Sundays, check out the CoG community garden harvest table located by the Welcome Desk and help yourself to some fresh fruits and

veggies grown in our church’s backyard. You’re welcome to bring any produce you grow at home as well to share.



FIRST SUNDAYS - We look forward to resuming our first Sunday activities with kids in September. Kids of all ages are invited into the fellowship hall during part of the worship on the first Sundays of the month for Godly Play--a questions-based and imaginative storytelling time led by our CoG Kids Leaders.

THANKS FROM WAPO CAMPERS - Thanks in large part to your generous support, eight campers from Cross of Glory got to go to Camp Wapo in Amery, WI at the end of June. Thank you so much for making this formative and fun experience possible for CoG youth!



CARDS BY CAMPERS - Hand-crafted greeting cards made by our CoG Wapo Campers continue to be available for purchase through our church office (\$5/5 cards - all proceeds go toward camp registration in summers ahead).



THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED LEAD VBS - A huge thanks to the adult leaders at Cross of Glory and our other Wildfire partner congregations for hosting a fabulous week of VBS in July. Kids had a blast learning about our call to “Mend God’s World!”

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ON SUMMER BREAK

Table Talks, our monthly education hour that takes place on 4th Sundays, will not be gathering during the summer months. We look forward to resuming again in September! If you have questions or ideas for topics, please reach out to Gordy Johnsrud. Weekly Bible Study is also taking our annual summer break until the fall. That said, we will gather once a month to check in with each other and explore the texts for the upcoming Sunday. Mark your calendars for August 8 at 9:30 am onsite and online. Note: the WELCA Gather Bible Study will continue through the summer, gathering on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 pm.



August Gather Bible Study:

Session Three: Needed Salvation Now—A World Wanting Wellness

Anyone who's been to a sports game knows John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." Lesser known is John 3:17, which states: "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved (σωθη̐ sōth, from the root soteria) through him." In this session, we'll explore John's commitment to service, how we as Christians see the needs of a hurting world, and how because Jesus is the bringer of salvation, we are compelled to follow Jesus into the need now.

Fall 2023 Bible study "Holy places" by the Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni

Physical places often shape our identities, relationships and faith. "Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it," Paul writes. Part of what this means is that faith doesn't just reside in our thoughts or emotions. Faith resides in our whole bodies, and how our bodies "live and move and have our being" in the sacred places where God encounters us. In this Fall 2023 Gather Bible study, written by an ELCA missionary living in Jerusalem, we'll explore what holy places mean, not only for the Holy Land of the Bible, but for each of us, wherever we may be. **Looking ahead to September 2023 Holy places: Home**

The WELCA board meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday August 22, 2023 at 1pm.**
Gather Bible Study will meet on WEDNESDAY August 16, 2023 at 1pm.
 Bring your own drink, snack and a friend. Everyone is welcome. Copies of the Bible Study will be available if needed. A microphone will be used



LIVING FAITH OUT LOUD: WHY RESURRECTION STILL MATTERS

This spring, Cross of Glory welcomed Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen, ELCA pastor and theologian out of Two Harbors, MN, to lead a Table Talks conversation exploring the topic of "life" (re being "called to life together"). WELCA also hosted a Bible Study written by Rev. Dr. Madsen in the Gather Magazine. If you enjoyed her work through either of those studies, check out this three-session Zoom course that explores our ongoing, every-season call to live as Easter people. The course, titled "Living Faith Out Loud: Why Resurrection Still Matters," is hosted by

the St. Olaf College Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community in conjunction with the school's Nourishing Vocation Project. The course will explore key terms, history, and future vision for how the good news empowers us to live faith out loud. Dates are Tuesday August 1, 8, and 15 from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. on Zoom. For more info and to register, visit <https://wp.stolaf.edu/lutherancenter/summer-education/>.

FRESH FOOD THURSDAYS - CAPI distributes FREE fresh produce on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month between 1-3 pm. Distribution Dates for 2023 are July 13th, July 27th, Aug 10th, Aug 24th, Sept 14th, and Oct 12th at 5930 Brooklyn Blvd. To sign up to help with distribution, visit www.capiusa.org/get-involved.

FARM FRESH FEST - You're invited to take part in CEAP's free outdoor produce market and community celebration on Wednesdays from 3pm-5pm, July 12 through August 30. Produce packing will be 1pm-3pm and distribution shifts will be 2:30pm-5:30pm. To sign up to help, visit www.ceap.org/get-involved/.

BC FARMERS MARKET - Every Thursday from 2-7 pm between June 29-Oct 26, visit the Brooklyn Center Farmer's Market, located at 7200 Brooklyn Blvd.



WORSHIP AT CROSS OF GLORY

This year, we are working to listen for and live into God's call to life together. Here's what that looks like in our worship life...



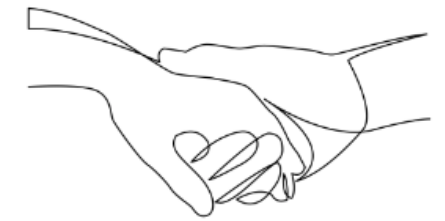
LENT

Stories of Call:
 A Season of Prayerful Listening



EASTER

Stories of Life:
 A Season of Proclaiming Life Amidst Death



PENTECOST

Stories of Togetherness:
 A Season of Exploring Life Shared Together

AN INVITATION FROM THE VISION + VOCATION TEAM

Thanks to all who shared your "dreams and visions" (Acts 2:17) as we imagined God's call at our Pentecost Potluck Picnic on June 4. Drawing on the stories you shared, the Vision + Vocation Team has been working to put God's call into words in what we're calling a "Community Liturgy." We'd love to share a draft of it with you and hear what you think! Join us for a short Discernment Dialogue in the coming weeks to share your thoughts, questions, and ideas. *Note: all are welcome to take part! Even if you haven't taken part in previous pieces of our Vision + Vocational discernment process, please do join in on one of the sessions below:

- Date and time TBD - Led by Mike Edstrom and Judy Lewis
- Wednesday September 6th at 6pm - Led by Rachel Marquardt and Kim Jacobson
- Sunday September 17th at 10:45 - Led by Kris Simon and Nathan Paulson

You can sign up by clicking on the Discernment Dialogue button on the home page of our website (www.crossofglory.us), by calling the church office (763-533-8602), or by adding your name to the sign-up at the Welcome Desk at church. If you're unable to be there in-person and need a virtual option, or these dates don't work for you, let us know and we'll be happy to arrange for an alternative option to ensure your voice is heard!

LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE TWINS (...because "in the big inning was the word")

The long tradition of Lutheran Night at the Twins continues. Congregations, youth groups, and mutual aid chapters are all invited to take advantage of group discounts (for groups of 20 or more) and enjoy a game against the Detroit Tigers on Tuesday, August 15; 6:40 pm at Target Field. Other perks that evening include "Dollar Dog Night" and Family Value Concessions in certain sections. Groups of 20 or more can reserve tickets by contacting Ryan Thomson at (612) 659-3582 or ryanthomson@twins.com. Groups with fewer than 20 people can make arrangements at [FEVO GM - Ticket Sales](#).

***Calling all passionate voices** - Join the harmonious celebration on Lutheran Night with the Twins by singing the national anthem. Members of local church choirs are welcome! Singers need to be at the field by 5:30 p.m. for the pre-game rehearsal. Contact Walt at (651) 332-9113 or rajaw@aol.com to add your name to the list of choir participants.



COG CARE MINISTRY

Are you interested in having a Cross of Glory friend come and visit your home for some conversation and company? Do you need a hand with errands, or a ride to church on Sundays? Are you a care-giver in need of a little break? Are you

interested in having communion brought to your home? OR, do you have gifts for caring for others? Are you interested in good conversation and company? Do you have a little time this summer to make some phone calls or a few visits? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, let Pastor Ali know, and we'd love to arrange for you to be a visitor!



Our **MILESTONE** birthday for the month of August is:

Merle Solie

Many blessings for a happy and wonderful birthday month!

SUMMER COMMUNITY MEALS

The 5929 community, friends, and neighbors are invited to a community meal on the last Wednesday of the month throughout the summer. This month's meal, scheduled for Aug 30th, will be a potluck. Bring a dish that represents "comfort food" to you, and come ready to try each other's dishes! We'll plan to gather in the courtyard, weather permitting. Kids are warmly welcome.



Wildfire Resources

• **Respite Care** - Do you know someone who is a caregiver and needs a little break? Tell them about Respite Care, a collaborative Wildfire ministry that meets at House of Hope in New Hope on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month from 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Contact Debbie Haney (612) 408-2049 for more info.

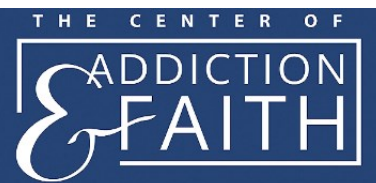
• **Caregiver Support Group** - On the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. at House of Hope, Wildfire also hosts a caregiver support group that aims to enhance a caregiver's coping skills through mutual support and informational sharing. There is no need to register for this, just come. Contact Debbie Haney (612) 408-2049 or Mary Ann Pukal (763) 533-8333 if you have questions.

• **Household Helpers** - Need a hand with non-professionalized household tasks? First Lutheran of Crystal, one of our Wildfire partners, has a pool of helpers ready to assist anyone needing a hand with household chores, and one to help with personal needs. Call Jackie at 763-535-2797 to schedule a time for them to come lend a hand at your home!

SAVE THE DATE: GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY 2023



"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



ADDICTION AND FAITH CONFERENCE

Hosted by the Center of Addiction & Faith, this

hybrid (in-person and online) conference is intended to equip the church to faithfully think about the ways it can walk with folks through the struggles of addiction and substance use. The event brings together science, spirituality, and personal stories as participants learn about addiction in its many forms. The conference is open to all, and will take place

Thurs, Oct 5 – Sat, Oct 7, 2023 at the Airport Hilton in Bloomington.

For more info, visit

<https://addictionandfaithconference.com>.