

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
5929 Brooklyn Boulevard
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429-2583
Change Service Requested



Sunday April 2

Palm Sunday
9:30am worship

Thursday April 6

Maundy Thursday
Community
Health Fest
4pm-7pm
7pm worship

Friday April 7

Good Friday
6pm worship

Sunday April 9

Easter Sunday
9:30am worship

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!

Cross of Glory Staff:

Pastor:
Rev. Ali Tranvik
atranvik@crossofglory.us

Bookkeeper:
Mike Edstrom
medstrom@crossofglory.us

Tech Director:
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

The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

a Wildfire Congregation

March 2023

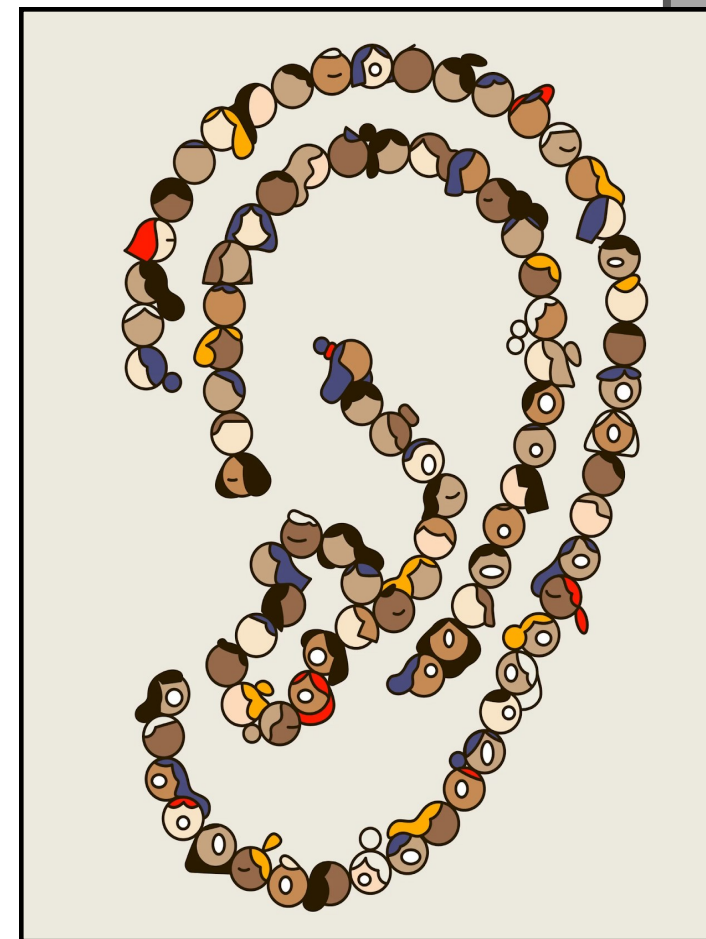


Image credit: The New Yorker

“In the stillness of the quiet, if we listen, we can hear the whisper of the heart giving strength to weakness, courage to fear, hope to despair.”

-Howard Thurman

To learn more about Howard Thurman, see page 6.

Lent is an invitation into a kind of stillness and quiet, and an invitation to a kind of listening within it. Join us this Lent in listening to God and to one another, as we open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts to the God who is speaking to us here at Cross of Glory!



LENT 2023 STORIES OF CALL: A SEASON OF PRAYERFUL LISTENING

As we continue to listen for God’s call at Cross of Glory, we look to stories of call in scripture--and to prayer practices that invite us to engage with them. Each Sunday in Lenten worship, we’re exploring a different call story from the Bible. During a portion of the service, there will be various prayer stations set up throughout the sanctuary that you’ll be invited to visit as the Spirit leads (we’ll also have an online version available for folks worshipping online, and a stationary version available for folks worshipping onsite who prefer to remain seated). I look forward to engaging in various practices of prayer together with you this Lent as we listen for God’s voice! -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.



- Feb 26** - God Calls Moses
- March 5** - God Calls Samuel
- March 12** - God Calls Esther
- March 19** - God Calls Mary
- March 26** - God Calls Paul



Lenten Midweek Prayer

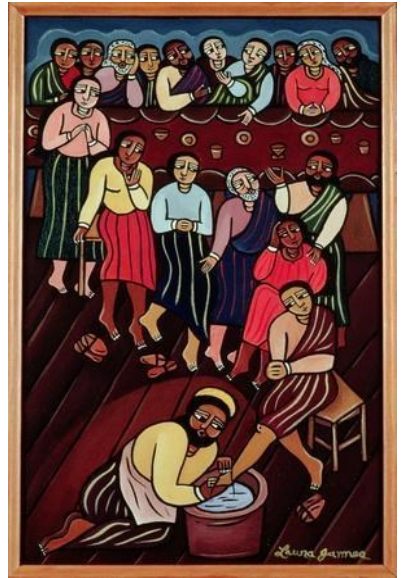
Join the COG community for a time of Lenten prayer each Wednesday at noon. We’ll be gathering on Zoom for 15-20 minutes of Lectio Divina, an ancient prayer practice that entails reading and reflection on God’s word. A recording of the midweek prayer will also be available each week, so that you can be guided through the prayer on your own time as well.



COMMUNITY HEALTH FEST MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 6TH FROM 4-7 PM

“Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples’ feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. [...] ‘I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.’” -John 13:3-5

Through healing the sick, feeding the hungry, embracing the grieving, Jesus cared not only for people’s souls but also their bodies. There is perhaps no story that more powerfully attests to this than the one we read each year on Maundy Thursday, when Jesus shared a meal with his disciples and then washed their feet (“soles” of another kind!). This Maundy Thursday, before we gather in worship to retell this story and share in a meal of holy communion, Cross of Glory is hosting Community Health Fest, a neighborhood gathering that includes various community health resources--including professional foot care, dental care, vision care, health screenings, and a covid vaccination clinic. There will also be mental health and community health resources available, as well as a shoe and sock distribution. Drawing on the story of Maundy Thursday, a meal will also be provided. Hosted in conjunction with CAPI, this gathering is open to all neighbors of all faith traditions, and the CoG community is warmly welcome to take part! Here are a few ways to do so:



Donate Socks and Shoes - We’re collecting socks and shoes ahead of time to share with neighbors on Maundy Thursday. Socks (all sizes) must be new, shoes may be new or gently used. All donations can be directed to the bin located near the Welcome Desk.



Lend a Hand the Day Of - If you’re interested in helping out the day off (welcoming folks, directing them to resources, etc.), you can sign up at the link on our website (www.crossofglory.us).



Show up! - Health resources are open to all, CoG members included. Stop by for a screening vaccine, foot clinic, etc., or simply come early before the worship service for a time of fellowship and food!

SPOTLIGHT ON SOLE CARE

One of the organizations that will be joining us at Community Health Fest is SoleCare for Souls, a medical outreach program that provides free medical foot care to over 2,000 elderly, unsheltered, and people in high-risk circumstances every year. During the hands-on work of cleaning, trimming, and filing, SoleCare volunteers and staff--all of whom are licensed medical professionals--listen to those who entrust their feet to their care. With dignity and respect, Sole Care tends to outer “soles” while nourishing inner “souls” with friendship, encouragement, and kindness. At the Community Health Fest, foot care will be open to all on a first-come first-serve basis.



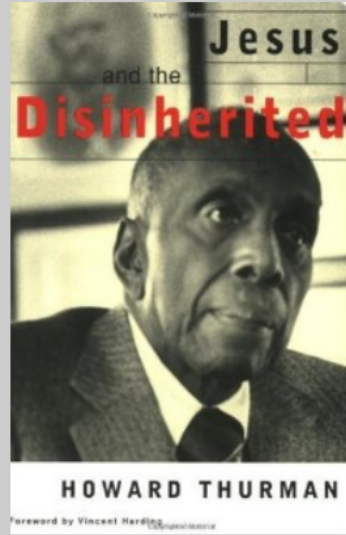
WELCA plans discussion of Howard Thurman book

The Minneapolis Area Synod Synodical Women's Organization (WELCA) is hosting a book discussion on *Jesus and the Disinherited*, a popular book by the Rev. Dr. Howard Thurman

Participants will meet five times beginning **Wednesday March 21, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

Jesus and the Disinherited was first published in 1949 but is still relevant today. With discussions of poverty, racism, and spiritual disengagement, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. used this book to shape the civil rights movement and change the nation's history forever. It has been said that King carried this book with him all the time. Historian Vincent Harding has said, "So Thurman must be taken very seriously when he still offers this work for those who need profound succor and strength to enable them to live in the present with dignity and creativity." This book is 122 pages but packed with lots of challenging thoughts, and potential actions.

To join, please contact womenoftheelca.mas@gmail.com.



We are so excited to be sending nine kids to Camp Wapo this summer! Haven't registered your child or grandchild for summer camp yet? It's not too late—

use the QR code or go to <http://lwlbc.com/cog-bc> to register today! Contact Rachel in the office if you have any questions about how to register!

Kids that have finished 1st-3rd grade attend a weekend camp called Seeds. They attend June 23-25.

Kids that have completed 4th -8th grade attend Camp Wapo week long camp that is June 25-30. Scholarships and fundraising opportunities are available. Contact Pastor Ali for details!



First Sundays - We continue to invite kids of all ages to join us on the first Sundays of the month. On first Sundays during part of the worship service, kids are invited to take part in "Godly Play" with our children's ministry leaders--a time of imaginative and question-filled storytelling. And as always, kids are invited to play musical instruments on the last song in worship!

Confirmation - Confirmation continues to meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 7 pm (come early for pizza!).

Listening to God's Call--Together! Join the Vision + Vocation Team for Discernment Dialogues

After having met together for over a year to begin discerning God's call for this next season chapter of our life together at Cross of Glory, the Vision + Vocation Team is excited to invite you to take part in this holy work! We invite you to attend **TWO** Discernment Dialogues in the coming months--one in the season of Lent, and one in the season of Easter. These dialogues are an opportunity for the Vision + Vocation Team to share some of the work we've done together thus far, for us to listen to the Word and to the world together, and for you to share your voice in the conversation. Everyone is encouraged to take part!

Please plan on attending ***both*** sessions with the same leaders, if possible. All dialogues will take in-person at the church. Food and drinks will be provided!



- Sat, March 18 and Sat, April 22 from 2-3:30 pm -
⇒ Led by Mike Edstrom and Judy Lewis
- Wed, March 22 and Wed, May 10 from 5:30-7 pm -
⇒ Led by Rachel Marquardt and Kim Jacobson
- Sun, March 26 and Sun, May 7 from 11:45-1:15 -
⇒ Led by Kris Simon and Nathan Paulson

Sign up by clicking on the Discernment Dialogues button on the home page of our website (www.crossofglory.us), or call the church office (763-533-8602).

If you are unable to be there in-person and need a virtual option, or if you're going to miss a date, please contact Pastor Ali and we'll be happy to arrange for an alternative option.



SUPPORT COG WITH YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

The Thrivent Choice program encourages Thrivent members to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes a portion of its charitable grant funds. Members make this recommendation by directing Choice Dollars to enrolled nonprofit organizations and churches, including Cross of Glory. Thrivent no longer sends reminders to members to donate these dollars, so many of them end up expiring. The deadline for these free dollars to be directed to the non-profit of your choice for the preceding year is March 31. We invite you to consider directing your Choice Dollars to Cross of Glory. To do so, log on to Thrivent (www.thrivent.com) and click on My Thrivent - Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars. For further assistance, call Thrivent at 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted. Thanks for your consideration!



I want to thank everyone for all the beautiful cards I have gotten over the last year. They do brighten up your day a lot!!! Also, thank you for the lovely cookie plate. It is so nice to have such wonderful friends at Cross of Glory. A special thank you to the children who make the beautiful angels for the cookie plate at Christmas.—Nancy Hengel



Cross of Glory friends and family, A special thanks for all the caring hands that made Lorraine Clinton's celebration of life so memorable and wonderful. Thanks to Pastor Ali for the hospital visits and funeral preparations, Carol and WELCA for the meal. It all was most meaningful for all our friends and family. — The family of Lorraine Clinton

Worship

- March 5—
Greeters Angela Dahl, DeLores Olso
Reader: Kim Jacobson
Communion: Kris Simon, Judy Lewis, and Marcy Hartlage
- March 12—
Greeters: Audrey Retrum, Sharon Quick
Reader: Mike McClanahan
- March 19—
Greeters: Bob Wertz, Judy Lewis
Reader: Gayle Merritt
Communion: Dawn Bailey, Chad Bailey, Bob Wertz
- March 26—
Greeters: Tom Simon, Arlene Kosek
Reader: Joe Balzer
- April 2—
Greeter: Sharon Quick, Harriet Halverson
Reader: Merle Solie
Communion: Gayle Merritt, Sharon Quick, Merle Solie

Council Notes

The next council meeting is scheduled for Sunday March 19th after service. Council is moving to quarterly meetings, look for council updates quarterly in 2023.

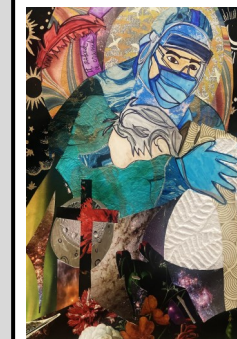
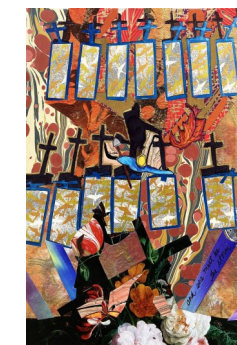


STATIONS OF THE CROSS: PANDEMIC HOPE

The Worship, Music, and Arts Team is excited to share that the hallway between the sanctuary and offices is being transformed into an art gallery, with the hopes of having a variety of community pieces exhibited in the months and years to come. The gallery will first host a stations-of-the-cross exhibit by Mary Button titled “Pandemic Hope.” This collection was gifted by the Faith Practices & Neighboring Practices learning community, and is being shared among Wildfire churches.

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.

You are invited to pray through the stations yourself at any time during the season of Lent. We also invite you to this month’s Table Talks education hour after worship at **11 am on March 26th**, when Keith Williams will be putting on his artist- and art historian-hats, and leading us through the stations.



Easter

Worship service 9:30 am

Youth attending camp will be fundraising with refreshments during fellowship hour.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

As a way of celebrating the lives of those in this community of faith, we are hoping to more regularly recognize birthdays on Sunday mornings. On the first Sunday of the month during announcement time, we’ll honor all those celebrating birthdays that month and sing “happy birthday.” Additionally, for those celebrating milestone birthdays, we’ll invite you to enjoy a special treat during fellowship hour if you’re open to that. We give God thanks for each person in this community, and look forward to celebrating them!



Last month, we recently Don Halverson, who turned 100

-Marcy Hartlage

HAPPY Birthday

Keith's Clef Notes

It has been a while since I’ve thought I’ve had something worth saying or hearing in the Glory Banner, but this time through I have two short items. In my music position, I have duties that go beyond simply directing. I am also coordinator of Special Musicians and I am really trying to have more opportunities for people to participate musically in our worship life. I am reaching out to folks on my list, but I should also note that in Lent this year we will have lots of opportunities for folks to participate. I have served on the Worship, Music and Arts Committee since the 90s, and I am thrilled to report that COG is making an effort to feature more visual art in our space going forward. We will have an exhibition of images up through Lent and educational opportunities associated with that, (see above) but there will be more to come. Stay tuned! —Keith Williams, Director of Choirs

CEAP Community Challenge: March of a Million Meals



-----CEAP-----
 The CEAP grocery cart, located next to the Welcome Table, continues to be a collection site for food that goes to CEAP, the Community Emergency Assistance Program in Brooklyn Center. During the month of March, CEAP is hosting “March of a Million Meals,” a food drive with a goal of collecting 150,000 pounds of food, which will support one month of CEAP food assistance program. From Feb 27-Apr 9, MN FoodShare provides a proportional match for every pound of food or dollar donated to CEAP as part of the March FoodShare campaign. Feel free to drop off food throughout the month and we’ll take it over to our neighbors at CEAP!

