

teams: The WMA team gathers today after worship, and Council gathers next week after worship.

•**Youth Camp Fundraiser** - Look for a youth table near the fellowship hall. Kids going to camp will be there to help you with your cinnamon/ caramel roll orders along with information for the spring plant fundraiser.

•**Visitation** - If you're interested in receiving a visit from Pastor Ali or a CoG friend, or would be willing to serve as a visitor (who makes either in-person or phone call visits to homebound members), let Rachel in the office know.

•**Want to Know More About COG?** - We're so glad you're worshipping with us! Welcome. If you're interested in learning more about life together at COG, reach out to Pastor Ali (atranvik@crossofglory.us).



Please join us in lifting up these brothers and sisters in prayer:

*Mavis Wold
Norma Gilbertson
Audrey Swanberg
Jeannie Kuzmich
Eric Thompson & family*

*Dick Mero
Martha Krueger
Dolores Narey
Julie Aulwes
Audrey Pederson*

*Joe Balzer
Maggie Johnsrud
The Hengel family
Cheryl Anderson*

To be added or removed from the weekly prayer list, please contact the church office (office@crossofglory.us) or call 763-533-8602.

You are welcome to stop at our community prayer wall just outside the sanctuary to place a written prayer in the wall. Further instructions are at the prayer wall.

The Fourth Sunday in Lent



Rock of Horeb Ted Larson

March 10, 2024
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church,
Brooklyn Center, MN



Lent is a wilderness season—a season of wandering and journeying, fasting and praying, confronting sin and struggle and embracing uncertainty. And yet the wilderness, despite its appearances, is not empty. It's a place where God dwells. It's a place where we are invited to be led by the wild stirring of the Spirit. It's a place where life together can happen. This Lent, we are grateful you're here we journey through scriptural stories of wilderness and through practices of prayer that invite us to encounter anew the God who meets us on the way.

Feb 18– God Forms us in the Wilderness

Feb. 25– God Provides in the Wilderness

March 3– God Makes a way out of now Way in the Wilderness

March 10- God Brings about New Life in the Wilderness

March 17– God Calls Us to Life Together in the Wilderness

***If you're new to Cross of Glory, welcome! To learn more about our life together here, please fill out a Welcome Card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate located in the center aisle on your way out of worship so we can be in touch!*

***Note to all worshippers: this season, offering plates will remain at a table in the center aisle and at the usher's table in the narthex. We invite you to share your offering there before or after the service. You may also give an online gift by scanning the QR code on page 6 of your bulletin. Thank you for your generosity!*

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who walks with us in the wilderness.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins before God and one another, trusting in the vastness of God's grace. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and repentance

MOTIO DIVINA

***While we're praying the Prayer of Confession, you're invited to explore Motio Divina ("divine movement"), a simple physical posture of prayer. This could include opening your hands, folding your hands, laying your hands across your heart, lifting your hands, bowing your head, lifting your eyes, closing your eyes, standing or using aisle space near you, kneeling.*

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

•**Coffee Hour** - All are welcome to a time of food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall following worship!

•**Lenten Midweek Prayer** - On Wednesday mornings at 9:30 during Lent, join us on Zoom for a short time of prayer, where we'll explore prayers that have sustained those in the wilderness. These materials will also be made available for those who cannot take part in live-time via Zoom.

•**Lenten Art Exhibit** - Throughout Lent, our gallery is hosting a new exhibit titled "Painted Prayer," which includes a variety of calligraphed prayers created by Gary Feyen, member at Faith Lilac Way in Robbinsdale. Stop by to view and pray through the exhibit before or after worship, or anytime during office hours (M-W 10-2).

•**Holy Week Worship** - Our wilderness journey continues as we walk toward the cross and empty tomb. Join us for worship on Palm Sunday (March 24) at 9:30, on Maundy Thurs (March 28) at 6:30 pm, Good Friday (March 29) at 6:30 pm, and Easter Sunday (March 31) at 9:30 am. All neighbors warmly welcome.

•**Funeral Pre-Planning Follow-Up** - If you didn't have the chance to take part in the funeral pre-planning workshop last week, we invite you to grab some materials from the church bulletin board and/or meet with Pastor Ali to review them. This is an opportunity to reflect on your own funeral, and having these plans at the church will assist loved ones in honoring your wishes.

•**Neighborhood Listening Session** - As we work to discern what God's call to life together looks like at CoG, we've spent the past few months breaking bread with and listening to neighbors across the BC community. Join us for our last meal and conversation on Wed, March 20 from 5:30-6:30 pm. This month's session will feature BC city staff. Please come as you're able, and RSVP to Isak by March 18.

•**MN FoodShare March Food Collection** - This month, we're collecting non-perishable food items to share with our neighboring food shelves at CAPI and CEAP here in BC. All donations can be dropped off in the grocery cart near the Welcome Desk. *Please note, CEAP's food shelf is also in need of paper grocery bags with handles.* If you'd like to give a monetary donation, you're welcome to do so using the envelopes at the Welcome Desk.

•**Upcoming Meetings** - Mark your calendars if you're part of these

(continued)

DISMISSAL BLESSING

L: Go in peace...God brings about new life in the wilderness.

A: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

CREDITS

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WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik

Guest Preacher: Rev. Mary Halvorson

Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams

Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease

Vocalists: Becca Floyd, Laura

McClanahan, Kris Simon

Guitars: Steve Sebald, Josh Smith

Technical Team: The Bailey Family

Greeters: Janet Parrish & Sharon Quick

Reader: Steve Ferley

Prayers of the People: Abby Simon

Ushers: Gayle Merritt, Cheryl Anderson,

Don Halverson, Josh Day

Fellowship: Arlene Kosek, Wilma Frantz

Ministers: The People of Cross of Glory

P: Most merciful God,

A: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, who is abundant in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. May God strengthen and sustain us with the power of the Holy Spirit to journey onward together, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.

A: Amen.

*** Please stand as you are able ***

MUSIC

Living Waters

Getty/Cash

Verse 1

Are you thirsty?

Are you empty?

Come and drink these living waters.

Tired and broken,

Peace unspoken,

Rest beside these living waters

Verse 2

Christ is calling,

Find refreshing

At the cross of living waters.

Lay your life down,

All the old gone,

Rise up in these living waters.

Chorus

There's a river that flows

With mercy and love,

Bringing joy to the city of our God.

There our hope is secure.

Do not fear anymore.

Praise the Lord of living waters.

Verse 3

Spirit moving,

Mercy washing,

Healing in these living waters.

Lead your children

To the shoreline,

Life is in these living waters (*Chorus*)

Verse 4

Are you thirsty?

Are you empty?

Come and drink these living waters.

Love, forgiveness,

Vast and boundless,

Christ He is our living waters. (*Chorus*)

Ending

There our hope is secure,

Do not fear anymore.

Praise the Lord of living waters.

*** Please be seated ***

GREETING

Pastor: May the grace of our † Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray...

A: O God, you make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. Draw us toward you, our Living Water, and quench our deepest thirsts, that we may be sustained for our journeys. In the name of the Holy Spirit we pray, Amen.

MUSIC

Let the River Flow

Evans

Verse

Let the poor man say,
"I am rich in Him."
Let the lost man say,
"I am found in Him."
Let the river flow.
Let the blind man say,
"I can see again."
Let the dead man say,
"I am born again."
Let the river flow.
Let the river flow.

Chorus

Let the river flow.
Let the river flow.
Holy Spirit, come.
Move in power.
Let the river flow. (Verse)(Chorus)

Bridge

Let the river flow.
Let the river flow.
Let the river flow.
Let the river flow.

Word

LECTIO DIVINA

***Lectio divina ("divine reading") is an ancient prayer practice that invites us to listen for how God may be speaking through the Living Word. Today we practice a condensed version of the practice. As the passages are read, pay attention to a word, image, or phrase that jumps out at you. Afterwards, you'll be invited during a few moments of extended silence to prayerfully ponder what God might be speaking to you through this word, image, or phrase, and to respond to God in prayer.*

and all ways:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.

Petition 5

Verse 5

Christ in the eyes of all
who see me,

Christ in the ears that
hear my voice,
Christ in the hearts
of all who know me:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.

Table

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Sending

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSIC

Prayer of Good Courage

(Gustavson)

Please rise as you're able. You're invited to join hands with or put your hand on a neighbor near you as a reminder that we do not go forth alone.

*** Kids are invited to grab a musical instrument from the basket in the back and make a joyful noise as we sing! ***

O God, you have called us to
ventures where we
cannot see the end.
By paths never yet taken
Through perils unknown.
Give us good courage.

Not knowing where we go,
To know that your hand
is leading us
wherever we might go. (Repeat)
Amen!

aspects of the story are most prominently depicted? What emotions, memories, reactions does the image evoke in you? What might the Holy Spirit be communicating to you through this piece? After reflecting on the image, you may conclude with a prayer, giving thanks for God's presence, and for artists who help make it come alive in the world. ***Kids are invited to come forward during this time to get a closer look at the image*

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: **And also with you.**

P: Let's share a sign of God's peace with one another.

*** Please be seated ***

OFFERING

This season, we invite you to place your offering in the offering plate in the center aisle before or after the service, or to make a gift using the QR code provided here. Thank you for your generous giving, which empowers us to share God's gift of life together, even in the wilderness.



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sung between each petition

O Christ Surround Me #1084

Petition 1

Verse 1

God, be the love to search
and keep me;
God, be the prayer to
move my voice;
God, be the strength to
now uphold me
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.

Petition 2

Verse 2

Bind to myself the name of Holy,
great cloud of witnesses enfold;
prophets, apostles, angels witness:
O Christ, surround me;

O Christ, surround me.

Petition 3

Verse 3

Brightness of sun and
glow of moonlight,
flashing of lightning,
strength of wind,
depth of the sea to
soil of planet:
O Christ, surround me;
O Christ, surround me.

Petition 4

Verse 4

Walking behind to hem my journey,
going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above,

FIRST READING

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Isaiah 43:18-21

Do not remember the former things,
or consider the things of old.
I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness
and rivers in the desert.
The wild animals will honour me,
the jackals and the ostriches;
for I give water in the wilderness,
rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

THIRD READING

Acts 8:26-40

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter,
and like a lamb silent before its shearer,
so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Leader: The word of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

*** At this time you're invited into a time of silent prayerful reflection as part of our lectio divina practice. ***

CHOIR ANTHEM

All To Christ

Chao

*All for Christ I have forsaken and have taken up my cross;
Worldly joy, its fame and fortune, now I count as worthless dross.
Who is sweeter than Christ Jesus? No good thing in Him I lack!
Hand to plow, at peace I follow where he leads me. Why look back?
Gone the past, unknown the future grace supplies my daily breath;
Strong in Christ through death's dark valley, firm and faithful unto death.
Though the road ahead be thorny, though dark clouds all light obscure,
Though my cross-shaped path grows steeper, with the Lord, I am secure.*

REFLECTION

Rev. Mary Halvorson

MUSIC

Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty

#777

Verse 1

"Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty;
drink the water I will give.
If you knew what gift I offer,
you would come to me and live."

Refrain

Jesus, ever flowing fountain,
give us water from your well.
In the gracious gift you offer
there is joy no tongue can tell.

Verse 2

"Come to me, all trav'lers weary;
come that I may give you rest.
Drink the cup of life I offer;
at this table be my guest." *Refrain*

Verse 3

"Come to me, believers burdened;
find refreshment in this place.
Come, receive the gift I offer,
turn to me and seek my face."

Refrain

Verse 4

"Come to me, repentant sinners;
leave behind your guilt and shame.
Come and know divine compassion,
turn to me, I call your name."

Refrain

VISIO DIVINA

***Visio Divina ("sacred seeing") is an ancient prayer practice that invites us to meditate on God's Word through an artistic depiction of it. As the music is playing, you're invited to ponder the image on the screen and prayerfully reflect: What catches your eye? What, if anything, surprises you about the piece? What*