

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Coffee Fellowship & Cookie Assembly** - Stick around after worship to share in food and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall, followed by assembling Christmas cookie plates that will be delivered to home-bound members and those living in senior care facilities. Note: If you're able to help with a couple deliveries this week, let Tom or Kris Simon know today!

**Christmas Services** - Mark your calendars: Christmas Eve worship will take place on Sat, Dec 24 at 4 pm, and Christmas morning worship will take place on Sun, Dec 25 at 9:30 am.

**Stewardship** - Thanks for your good courage in giving this stewardship season! If you haven't yet submitted your pledge card, please do so ASAP by sending it to the office or filling it out online at [www.crossofglory.us](http://www.crossofglory.us), as we are currently working to finalize our 2023 budget.

**Bible Study** - Join the COG Bible Study as we explore the texts for the upcoming Sunday on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am onsite and online. Note: This month, we will not gather on Tues 12/13 and 12/27.

**Last Call for Directory Photos** - If you haven't yet submitted a photo or updated contact info for the new church directory, please do so by the end of this week!

**Care & 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 ([office@crossofglory.us](mailto:office@crossofglory.us)).

**Pastoral Care** - Pastor Ali is out of town Dec 12-17. If you need emergency pastoral care assistance, please contact the church office to be connected with an on-call pastor.

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

**Thank you to all for supporting the Visitation Ministry Christmas Cookie Event!** We will gather following coffee fellowship and plate over 55 cookie plates for our members that have been visited by our Visitation Ministry Committee. Your efforts are extremely appreciated by those receiving the plates and those preparing for delivery. Joy is our mission, and smiles too.



**December 11, 2022**  
**Cross of Glory Lutheran Church**  
**Brooklyn Center, MN**

**December 11, 2022**  
**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT - “WE MAGNIFY OUR LORD”**  
*A Service of Readings, Songs, and Prayer*

**INTRODUCTION**

*The ancient name for this day is Gaudete, or "Rejoice Sunday". We rejoice in the anticipation and arrival of Jesus. We are calling this service “We Magnify Our Lord”.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME:**

**P:** Welcome! We are here today rejoicing in the combined stories of the prophecies of a Messiah and the celebration of the glorious night of Jesus’ birth. This is a time so filled with joy that angels could not stay in heaven but overflowed from heaven to earth. We anticipate the coming of the Lord. We magnify our Lord who fulfills the prophecies; freeing the oppressed and blanketing the earth in God’s love.

**ALL:** Lord, we sing of your coming. We join the prophets and angels anticipating and your presence among us. We thank you for including us in your love and light.

**NARRATION: Lighting of the Advent Candles**

*(as candles are being lit)*

**Reader #1:** What a glorious God, who loves us so much that Emmanuel, “God with us,” would come to earth as the promised Savior of all.

**Reader #2:** Amazing things that were foretold would come to pass—happening in a humble place, with the consent of a young woman whose soul magnified the Lord, and who had the faith to humbly say, “Yes.”

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

Pastor: Rev. Ali Tranvik  
Director of Choirs: Keith J. Williams  
Worship & Tech Director: Mark Trease  
Worship Team Vocalists: Shadlyn Bourne, Becca Floyd, Johnetta Freeman, Erik Haugland, Kim Jacobson, Laura McClanahan, Kris Simon, Eric Thompson  
Bass: Josh Smith  
Cross of Glory Choir: Abby Simon Kelley, Amanda Smith, Becca Floyd, Carol Stejskal, Deb Olson, Dennis Olson, Erik Haugland, Harriet Halvorson, Kathy

Swendiman, Kris Simon, Marcy Hartlage, Marie King, Merle Solie, Pam Gilbert, Ruth Brateng  
Greeters: Linda Knudsen, Tom Simon  
Readers: Kim Jacobson, Mike McClanahan, Kris Williams, Erik Haugland  
Ushers: Cheryl Anderson, Dick Mero, Don Halverson  
Technical Team: Ryan Bailey, Dawn Bailey & Bill Bailey  
Ministers: The people of Cross of Glory

*Today’s worship liturgy was written by Keith Williams and Mark Trease. A special thanks to each of them for crafting the service and leading the musical ensembles, and to all those who took part in reading and singing. The gift of your soulful music indeed magnified the Lord!*



**WEEKLY PRAYER LIST**

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

*Mavis Wold  
Shar Lauster  
Norma Gilbertson  
Audrey Swanberg  
Don and Karen Earnest  
Rachel Marquardt*

*Chet Janasz  
Ron Tollefsrud  
Jeannine Kuzmich  
Dale Anderson*

*To be added or removed from the weekly prayer list, please contact the church office ([office@crossofglory.us](mailto: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.*

**RESPONSIVE NARRATION:**

**Reader #1:** Please join in reading responsively:  
We adore this one in the manger.  
A child has been born for us.

**All: God’s grace has been given to us.**

**Reader #2:** Our Savior has come.  
We have seen the glory of the Lord,

**All: Revealed in the face of the Christ child.  
He is amazing to behold, He is God.**

**Reader #3:** Tell the world. Treasure the story.  
Ponder it in your heart.

**All: We worship and praise God,  
For all we have heard and seen!**

**Reader #4:** We rejoice!

**All: We rejoice and magnify the Lord!**

*Adapted from <http://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/4459/worship-elements-option-1-christmas-eve-2013>*

**SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 1:46-49**

**P:** And Mary said: “My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me. Holy is his name.”

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

**MUSIC CREDITS**

The Order of Service is from Evangelical Lutheran Worship which is commended for use in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

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**WORSHIP TEAM: My Soul Magnifies the Lord Tomlin/Carlson**

Good news of great joy  
For ev'ry woman, ev'ry man.  
This will be a sign to you:  
A baby born in Bethlehem.  
Come and worship.  
Do not be afraid.

A company of angels,  
Glory in the highest,  
And on the earth a peace among  
Those on whom His favor rests.  
Come and worship.  
Do not be afraid.

My soul, my soul,  
magnifies the Lord.  
My soul magnifies the Lord.  
He has done great things for me,  
Great things for me.

Unto you a child is born.  
Unto us a Son is giv'n.  
Let ev'ry heart  
prepare His throne.

Let ev'ry nation under Heav'n  
Come and worship.  
Do not be afraid.

Of His government  
there will be no end.  
He'll establish it  
with His righteousness,  
And He shall reign  
on David's throne,  
And His name shall be  
from this day on

Wonderful, Counselor,  
Everlasting Father,  
Wonderful, Counselor,  
and His name shall be  
Everlasting Father.

My soul, my soul magnifies the  
Lord!

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

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**Reader #3:** We gather in the name of the Creator, and of the Son who came to live with us, and of the Holy Spirit with us now.

**All: Amen**

**Reader #4:** As we await the fullness of Christ's coming, we confess our need for God's presence in our lives.

*\*\*Silence for reflection and repentance\*\**

**ALL:** Lord, we are not the people you created us to be in your world. We confess our need for the gift of your coming. We ask that you come to us quickly and return daily because we cannot live fully and free of sin without your presence in our lives.

**P:** Through God's grace and promise, fulfilled in Jesus, we receive the entire forgiveness of all our sins. We rejoice in the freedom brought by our Savior's coming.

**All: Amen**

*\*\*Please be seated\*\**

**HYMN #263 Savior of the Nations, Come verses 1 & 2**

Savior of the nations, come;	Not by human flesh and blood,
Virgin's son, make here your home.	but the mystic Breath of God.
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth:	Was the Word of God made flesh,
God has chosen such a birth.	Fruit of woman, blossom fresh.

**FIRST READING - Psalm 146**

**Reader #1:** Halleluiah. Praise the LORD, my soul.

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD all my life;  
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

<sup>3</sup>Do not put your trust in princes,  
in human beings, who cannot save.

**Reader #2:** We don't deserve the Love of God. We search after everything but God, and God still comes after us, chasing us, pursuing us with unending love.

**Reader #3:** God's love was born as a baby in a manger. This baby, Jesus, left heaven and grew and lived among us to show what real love, God's love, looks and feels like. To show us a love that never leaves, love that never disappoints.

**Reader #4:** In this time, in this place, let us dwell on that love. Let us put aside thoughts of trees and presents and malls and meals and focus on God's pursuing love.

**Pastor:** God is with us right now. God knows us, knows our thoughts, and our actions. God is close to us, dwelling with us, delighting in us, and loving us. Today is one more reminder of that love. No matter where we come from, no matter what is going on in our lives, God has sought us out, and brought us here to say, "I love you. I am with you. You are mine."

*Adapted from <http://www.nailscars.com/drama/dramatic-readings/a-reading-for-christmas/>*

**HYMN 257 O Come, O Come Emmanuel verses 6, 7 & 8**

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer; O Sun of justice, now draw near Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadow put to flight	O come, O King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one: Refresh the hearts that long for you; Restore the broken, make us new. <i>(Refrain)</i>
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**Refrain**  
Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel shall come to you,  
O Israel.

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
*(Refrain)*

**P:** To feed the hungry,  
to release the oppressed, to rebuild the nations,  
**All: To bring peace, in your name, to all peoples,  
to make music with all hearts and voices...**  
**P:** And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day,  
in all that we do and say.  
Then the work of Christmas begins.  
**All: Lord, help us be your light to those around us, those we love  
and those we encounter, to those with whom we work,  
worship and live, to those in our city, our nation and our  
world. Amen.**

-- Adapted from quote by Howard Thurman, from <http://godweb.org/christmasprayers.htm>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: We also offer and lift up the Church’s Work**

**WORSHIP TEAM:                      Your Name                      Baloché/Packiam**

Humbly to the earth You came, Born into this world to save. God with us, Emmanuel, Now we adore Your Name.	Jesus, in Your Name we pray, Come and fill our hearts today. Lord, give us strength to live for You And glorify Your Name.
Your Name is a strong and mighty tower. Your Name is a shelter like no other.	Wonderful, Counselor, Prince of Peace.
Your Name, let the nations sing it louder For nothing has the power to save But Your Name.	God with us, Emmanuel. God with us, Emmanuel. God with us, Emmanuel, Now, we adore Your Name.

**NARRATION:**

**Reader #1:** This child was born before we had anything to offer him,  
before we lifted our voices in praise or our hands to His work, before we  
even thought to worship Him- in fact, even before we were ever created,  
God was pursuing us out of love.

<sup>4</sup>When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;  
on that very day their plans come to nothing.  
<sup>5</sup>Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God.  
<sup>6</sup>God is the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the sea, and everything in them—  
he remains faithful forever.  
<sup>7</sup>God upholds the cause of the oppressed  
and gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets prisoners free,  
<sup>8</sup>the LORD gives sight to the blind,  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,  
the LORD loves the righteous.  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the foreigner  
and sustains the fatherless and the widow,  
but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.  
Halleluiah.

**NARRATION:**

**Reader #2:** There would come a new “Light of the World” to raise the  
lowly; to make straight what was crooked; to bring glory to every  
created valley, mountain, sea and plain.

**CHOIR:                      Every Valley (Isaiah 40:4-5)                      Drennan**

Ev’ry valley shall be exalted, ev’ry mountain & hill made low.  
The crooked straight and the rough places plain;  
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed;  
And all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord -  
Has spoken it.

**SECOND READING - Isaiah 11:1-10**

**Reader #3:** A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his  
roots a Branch will bear fruit. <sup>2</sup>The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him  
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of

might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD <sup>3</sup> and he will delight in the fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes or decide by what he hears with his ears; <sup>4</sup> but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth. He will strike the earth with the rod of his mouth; with the breath of his lips he will slay the wicked.

**Reader #4:** <sup>5</sup> Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist. <sup>6</sup> The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. <sup>7</sup> The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup> The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. <sup>9</sup> They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. <sup>10</sup> In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

**HYMN #272      Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming      verses 1, 2 & 4**

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung. Of Jesse's lineage coming As seers of old have sung, It came a flow'r so bright, Amid the cold of winter, When half-spent was the night.	She bore to us a Savior, When half-spent was the night.  O Savior, child of Mary, Who felt our human woe; O Savior, king of glory, Who doest our weakness know: Bring us at length, we pray, To the bright courts of heaven And into endless day.
Isaiah had foretold it, The rose I have in mind; With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind. To show God's love aright,	

told them exactly how to find this new extraordinary baby. They were given this good news by an amazing assembly of heavenly beings in order to seek him out.

**Reader #3:** Once the host of angels left, the shepherds knew what they had to do. They said "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." And they hurried to see Him.

**Reader #4:** My friends, the message of the season is not, "Let it snow" or even, "Let us shop." The message of Christmas is, "Come! Let us worship." And "Let there be God's peace in the world." That is why the shepherds went with haste and excitement...They longed to magnify their Lord and experience a peace and wholeness that passes our understanding. And that is what we are compelled to do.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**All: And always with you.**  
**P:** Let's share a sign of God's peace with one another.

**OFFERING Hymn #289    Angels We Have Heard on High    vss. 1 & 2**

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.	Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.
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**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:**

**P:** Let's pray responsively:  
Lord, "When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
**All: When the kings and leaders are home,  
when the shepherds are back with the flocks,**  
**P:** Then the joy and the work of Christmas begins:  
**All: To find the lost,  
to heal those broken in spirit,**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**P:** ...We pray to You, O God,

**All:** Come among us.

**All:** ...and our souls magnify you as we say... Our father in heaven, holy is 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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**WORSHIP TEAM:**                      **We Have a Savior**                      **Morgan/Glover**

A child has been given, the King of our freedom.  
Sing for the light has come, this is Christmas.  
Come and adore Him and bring gifts before Him.  
Joy to the world, worship the Son, this is Christmas.

This is Jesus, Emmanuel, here with us.  
Tell all the world we have a Savior, we have a Savior.  
We are no longer lost 'cause He has come down for us.  
We have a Savior, we have a Savior.

Sing with the angels and lift your voices.  
Join in the song of hope, this is Christmas.  
This is Jesus, Emmanuel, here with us.  
Tell all the world we have a Savior, we have a Savior.  
We are no longer lost 'cause He has come down for us.  
We have a Savior, we have a Savior.

His love will reign forever. His love will reign forever...

## NARRATION:

**Reader #1:** Christ's humble beginnings made him accessible. Going into a throne room to see a king would be intimidating, but there's nothing intimidating about going into a stable and approaching a feeding trough. You don't need special credentials; you don't need to have an appointment. The shepherds could just come in.

**Reader #2:** In fact, an angel appeared to that group of shepherds and

## NARRATION:

**Reader #1:** We anticipate and celebrate the coming of the Savior at a time of year when the days are short and the nights are long.

**Reader #2:** And here, in this Minnesota winter, we anticipate and celebrate the coming of the Savior at a time of the year when the air stings with cold, when the length of winter begins to set in.

**Reader #3:** Yet, it is into this holy darkness that Christ will come to dwell among us and rescue us from the cold of sin.

**Reader #4:** In the least expected and least obvious place, the Son of God will be born. Born as a child to the humblest of women, a king whose throne was a bed of hay. His birth will give the world unspeakable joy.

*Inspired by a quote from Frederick Borsch & David Napier at <http://godweb.org/christmasprayers.htm>*

**CHOIR:**    **Mary, How Could You Have Known**    **Albrecht/Althouse**

Mary, how could you have known  
That an angel would come and proclaim the holy birth,  
And you would be chosen to bring God's son to earth?  
Mary, how could you have known?  
Mary, how could you have known that your child  
Would be the Savior just as the prophets said,  
And that he would be born in a lowly manger bed?  
Mary, how could you have known?  
Were you not bewildered? Was it very strange?  
Did you ever wonder how your life would change?  
How could you be ready? How could you prepare?  
How could you imagine? Did you say a prayer?  
Mary, how could you have known that your son  
Would be Messiah, and all the world behold  
that you would name Him Jesus as angels had foretold?  
Mary, how could you have known?



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

**GOSPEL READING     Matthew 1:18-24**

**Pastor:** The Gospel according to Matthew, the first chapter.

**All: Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about<sup>[a]</sup>: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet <sup>[b]</sup> did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHOIR:**                      **Sing of Mary, Pure and Lowly**                      **Eggert**

Sing of Mary, pure and lowly, Virgin mother undefiled,  
Sing of God’s own Son most holy, who became her little child.  
Fairest child of fairest mother, God the Lord who came to earth,  
Word-made-flesh, our very brother, Takes our nature by his birth.

Sing of Jesus, son of Mary, in the home at Nazareth.  
Toil and labor cannot weary, love enduring unto death.  
Constant was the love he gave her, tho he went forth from her side,  
Forth to preach, and heal, and suffer, till on Calvary he died.  
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son;

Glory be to God the Spirit, Glory to the Three in One.  
From the heart of blessed Mary, from all saints the song ascends,  
And the church the strain re-echoes unto earth’s remotest end.

**NARRATION:**

**Reader #1:** And so God’s Son became human and came to earth to save us. God had promised to send a Messiah, one who would save His people.

**Reader #2:** He could have easily burst on the scene as a full grown man, a tall warrior with fiery eyes and arms of steel. This was what many people were looking for, but it wasn’t how God did it.

**Reader #3:** He came humbly. His mother wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, like any peasant of the time. This great gift came in simple wrapping. The one who would be called "Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father" —the Creator—came down to be born as a baby. It's amazing, and the more you think about it, the more staggering it becomes.

**Reader #4:** On that night, God sent a Savior. He arrived in the arms of a young girl. He was “a very small package, wrapped in rags, given from the heart of God. The perfect gift.” God gave His only Son so that we, in all our brokenness, could know forgiveness. God sent His Son to bring us hope. God sent His Son to be with us and to save us.

*Adapted from <http://thoughts-about-god.com/christmas/christmas-story> and <https://www.crosswalk.com/devotionals/christmas-devotionals/why-a-manger-christmas-devotional-november-26.html>*

**HYMN #295                      Of the Father’s Love Begotten                      verses 1, 2 & 3**

Of the Father’s love begotten ere the worlds began to be, He is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he, Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see, Evermore and evermore.	bore the Savior of our race, And the babe, the world’s redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, Evermore and evermore.
Oh, that birth forever blessed, when the virgin, full of grace, By the Holy Ghost conceiving,	This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord, Whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word; Now he shines, the long expected; let creation praise its Lord Evermore and evermore.